Anti-Corruption Initiatives Assessment

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What is AIA?

An annual comprehensive assessment of anti-corruption measures pursued by public-sector organizations conducted by ACRC (formerly KICAC) since 2002 under the ACRC Act and its Enforcement Decree

- To determine if they have put in place effective anti-corruption systems & mechanisms
- To examine how they have implemented anti-corruption measures according to ACRC’s policy guidelines

Target organizations

In principle, AIA targets all public sector organizations including central government organizations, local governments, public service agencies, and public companies.

- 2010: 193 organizations
I. Overview of Anti-Corruption Initiatives Assessment (2)

**Purpose**

- To create a transparent public service and society by encouraging public organizations to make greater efforts to counter corruption
- To enhance effectiveness of anti-corruption efforts made by public organizations and disseminate anti-corruption best practices

**Legal basis**

- Act on Anti-Corruption and the Establishment and Operation of the Anti-Corruption and Civil Rights Commission (Article 12, subparagraph 6: “Surveying the actual state and evaluating the progress of policy steps, which public organizations have taken to prevent corruption”)
- Enforcement Decree of the ACRC Act (Article 7: “The Commission may conduct an investigation of the current situation and evaluate a public organization for the implementation of anti-corruption policies by commissioning outside experts or research groups to conduct an analysis of data or by forming and operating an evaluation working group which includes members of the Commission and the public organization.”)
## Assessment Procedures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stage</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Responsible Party</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Establishment of an assessment plan &amp; distribution of guidelines/templates to public organizations</td>
<td>▶ Establishment of anti-corruption action plan &amp; submission of performance reports to ACRC</td>
<td>ACRC</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>▶ Assessment of performance (written &amp; onsite assessment)</td>
<td>ACRC &amp; Research Agency</td>
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<td></td>
<td>▶ Identification of best-practices</td>
<td>ACRC &amp; Research Agency</td>
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<td></td>
<td>▶ Production of comprehensive assessment reports &amp; selection of best performers</td>
<td>ACRC</td>
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<td></td>
<td>▶ Announcement of results &amp; Awarding of best performers</td>
<td>ACRC</td>
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Assessment Mechanism

ACRC

- Assess Common Initiatives
- Supervise research
- Produce comprehensive reports

Submit performance report & background documents
Request cooperation
Supervise research project
Submit assessment results

Public Organizations

- Implement anti-corruption measures
- Submit a performance report to ACRC
- Cooperate for ACRC’s preparation of analysis report

Cooperate with researchers
Onsite visit & data collection

Research Agency

- Assess action plans, Voluntary Initiatives & best practices
- Recommend follow-up measures
- Manage evaluation team
Components of Assessment

Anti-Corruption Initiatives Assessment

Common Initiatives  Voluntary Initiatives  Achievements
# Assessment Criteria (2010)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Major indicators</th>
<th>Score</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Anti-corruption systems</strong></td>
<td>Establishment of anti-corruption systems, public-private partnership, etc.</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Leader’s commitment</strong></td>
<td>Perception of employees, taking the initiative, etc.</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Institutional improvement</strong></td>
<td>Implementation of recommended improvements, identification of new improvement tasks</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Corruption Impact Assessment</strong></td>
<td>Acceptance of ACRC’s recommendation, autonomous assessment mechanism, etc.</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Compliance with Code of Conduct &amp; promotion of whistle-blowing</strong></td>
<td>Environment for implementation of Code of Conduct, will to comply with Code of Conduct, etc.</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Anti-corruption education and promotional activities</strong></td>
<td>Completion of anti-corruption training course, efforts to raise awareness, etc.</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Voluntary initiatives</strong></td>
<td>Relevance and effectiveness of anti-corruption measures, etc.</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Achievements</strong></td>
<td>Integrity Index, effectiveness of anti-corruption efforts</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
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Assessment Factors & Score Calculation (2010)

3 factors: Common Initiatives, Voluntary Initiatives & Achievements

- Common Initiatives: Assess key anti-corruption measures applicable to all organizations by using a minimum of indicators
- Voluntary Initiatives: Assess anti-corruption measures autonomously taken by each organization using qualitative indicators
- Achievements: Use the results of Integrity Assessment and assess effectiveness of anti-corruption measures

Get the final score by getting an average from the sum of each indicator’s scores (highest score: 100)

- Results grouped into 5 categories (Very Excellent, Excellent, Average, Poor, Very Poor)
Assessment Methodology

- Combine written & onsite assessments
  - Written assessment based on the comprehensive performance report submitted by each public organization
  - On-site review when thorough examination and confirmation is necessary

- Conduct qualitative and quantitative assessments considering each initiative’s characteristics
  - Common Initiatives: Conduct quantitative evaluation by using measurable indicators
  - Voluntary Initiatives: Conduct qualitative evaluation for immeasurable indicators
  - Qualitative evaluation conducted by a group of at least 5 experts
Assessment of “Common Initiatives”

- Anti-corruption system
- Corruption Impact Assessment
- Leader’s commitment
- Code of Conduct & whistle-blowing
- Institutional improvement
- Anti-corruption education & promotion
Assessment of “Voluntary Initiatives”

- Assess anti-corruption activities that are not covered by “Common Initiatives” in order to promote implementation of measures tailored to each organization’s level of integrity and conditions.

- Reflect each organization’s anti-corruption activities and efforts in the assessment in order to improve corruption-prone areas and prevent recurrence of corruption.

- Various measures such as improvement of corruption-prone areas, enhancement of transparency in the performance of duties & promotion of public officials’ integrity.
Assessment of “Anti-Corruption Achievements”

- Produce a score by putting Comprehensive Integrity Score into a formula.

- Get a score by conducting a survey of employees on effectiveness of their organization’s anti-corruption measures.
Utilization of Assessment Results

- Award best-performing organizations and persons of merit

- Publicize anti-corruption best-practices through ACRC Annual Report, the media, presentation during various meetings, etc.

- Encourage public organizations’ voluntary efforts to improve their performance by providing a comprehensive report and an analysis of best performing organizations.
Achievements & Challenges

Since the introduction of AIA, it has been established as one of the most effective corruption-prevention tools, and the integrity levels of target public organizations are on the rise.

Despite the overall improvement of integrity levels, assessment results vary significantly among organizations.

Each organization’s greater commitments and more active role of the ACRC are needed.

More efforts are needed to strengthen the linkage between AIA and improvement of national integrity and international confidence.