



# **Domestic Cooperation Between Corruption Prevention and Law Enforcement Authorities - Republic of Korea**

Supreme Prosecutors' Office,  
Republic of Korea

# Table of Contents

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- Anti-Corruption Organizations in Korea**
- Cooperation Mechanism Between  
Prevention & Enforcement Authorities**
- Best Practices of Cooperation**
- Challenges in Cooperation**

# **Anti-Corruption Organizations in Korea**



- Responsible for prevention and deterrence of corruption in public sector
  - Coordinates national anti-corruption initiatives
  - Enforces legislations related to integrity of public servants (e.g. Act on Prevention of Conflict of Interest)
  - Receives reports from various sectors regarding public corruption
  - Protects and rewards whistleblowers



Korean Prosecution Service (KPS)

- Responsible for investigation & prosecution of crimes, and enforcement of sentences
  - Primarily responsible for investigating and prosecuting major anti-corruption cases
  - Major cases include bribery, embezzlement, abuse of functions, money laundering, etc.



경찰청

KOREAN NATIONAL POLICE AGENCY

Korean National Police Agency (KNPA)

- Responsible for maintaining public order and investigating of crimes
  - May initiate anti-corruption investigations upon receiving complaint, or on own initiative
  - Cooperates with the KPS during investigations



고위공직자범죄  
수사처

Corruption Investigation Office for  
High-ranking Officials (CIO)

- Newly established law enforcement body against high-ranking officials
  - Established in January 2021 to investigate high-ranking officials
  - Jurisdiction limited to crimes related to public officials' duties (e.g. bribery, abuse of power, etc.)
  - May independently prosecute cases against judges, prosecutors and high-ranking police officers

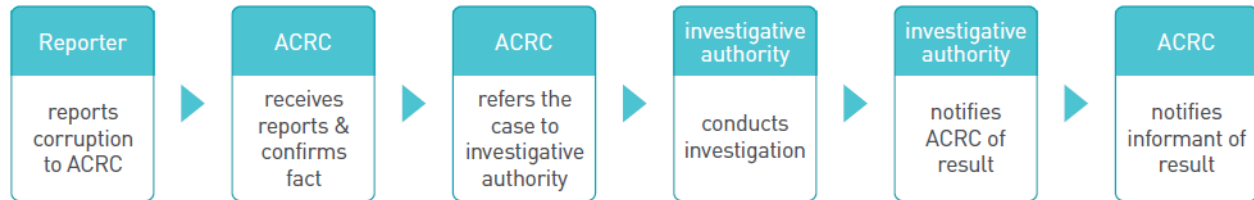
# **Cooperation Mechanism Between Prevention & Enforcement Authorities**



# Cooperation Mechanism



## How Corruption Reports are Processed



## Corruption Report Cases

Year	Received	Handled	Referred	Notified as violations of the code of conduct
2009	2,693	2,695	106	47
2010	3,099	3,066	81	73
2011	2,529	2,546	73	80
2012	2,527	2,529	74	79
2013	3,735	3,670	139	43
2014	4,510	4,481	236	53
2015	3,885	3,904	296	75
2016	3,758	3,735	324	67
2017	4,066	3,966	221	48
2018	7,328	7,224	306	78
2019	9,435	8,718	415	190
2020	6,103	6,355	446	252
2021	9,690	10,176	128	361



- Cooperation between KPS and ACRC
  - Began cooperation in June 2013 by concluding MOU between two agencies
  - Agreed to mutually cooperate through information sharing, whistleblower protection, etc.

# Cooperation Mechanism



MOU Signing Ceremony Between the Supreme Prosecutors' Office (R) and the ACRC (L)

# **Best Practices of Cooperation**



- Case 1
  - Defendant : marketing manager of company responsible for supplying generator parts to a power plant SOE
  - ACRC : referred the case to the Supreme Prosecutors' Office alleging that D bribed SOE employee through generating slush fund from supplying fake parts
  - SPO : directed Busan DPO to conduct investigation



- Case 1
  - Result of Investigation and Trial
    - D bribed SOE employee 4K USD in return for SOE's favor towards his company
    - D also received commercial bribe from subcontractor to fabricate the transaction between entities (total 107K USD)
    - D sentenced to 4 years of imprisonment + 112K USD forfeiture
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- Case 2
  - Defendant : official at municipal government of City A
  - ACRC : referred the case to the Supreme Prosecutors' Office alleging that D engaged in inappropriate transaction
  - SPO : directed Tongyeong Branch office to conduct investigation



- Case 2
- Result of Investigation and Trial
  - D received total 35K USD from 3 contractors
  - D laundered his bribes through using bank account under his friend's name
  - D convicted, sentenced with 2 years of imprisonment + forfeiture of his illegal proceeds



# **Challenges in Cooperation**



- Enhanced Cooperation during Investigation / Trial Needed
  - ACRC's role is usually limited to referring / filing complaint to law enforcement authorities
- ACRC's Active Use of Information from Law Enforcement Authorities Needed
  - Valuable Information to set Anti-Corruption Policy

**Thank You**