



## COMMONWEALTH CARIBBEAN ASSOCIATION OF INTEGRITY COMMISSIONS & ANTI-CORRUPTION BODIES

### **Fourth Annual Regional Conference of the Commonwealth Caribbean Association of Integrity Commissions and Anti-Corruption Bodies (CCAICACB) at the Beaches Resort, Providenciales, Turks and Caicos Islands, From 4<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> June 2018**

## **CONFERENCE COMMUNIQUÉ**

- 1) We, the Commonwealth Caribbean Association of Integrity Commissions and Anti-Corruption Bodies (“the Association”), meeting at our Fourth Annual Regional Conference convened under the auspices of the Commonwealth Secretariat and hosted by the Turks and Caicos Islands Integrity Commission from June 4 - 8, 2018 under the theme: **“Counting the Real Cost of Corruption - Engaging Everyone in the Fight”**
- 2) **NOTING** with deep gratitude the invaluable support and warm hospitality provided by the Government and people of Turks and Caicos Islands(TCI) and the TCI Integrity Commission; the opening remarks by Her Excellency, Hon. Anya Williams, Acting Governor and for declaring the Conference open; the Honourable Sharlene Cartwright-Robinson, Premier of TCI for her opening remarks; Dr Roger Koranteng, Interim Adviser and Head, Public Sector Governance, Commonwealth Secretariat, for bringing remarks and sharing the message of the Commonwealth Secretary-General, Rt. Honourable Patricia Scotland, Q.C. to the Conference; Professor Trevor Munroe, Executive Director, National Integrity Action, Jamaica, for the delivery of the feature address;
- 3) **RECOGNISING** also the need to continue to use this regional platform for the sharing and implementation of best practices and strategies for combating corruption and the promotion of good governance;
- 4) **HAVING** extensively discussed the theme of the conference and its programme content, with a full exchange of views of participants;
- 5) **AGREED AND ADOPTED** the following resolutions: -



It is hereby resolved that we:

- a. Reiterate that regional Integrity Commissions and Anti-Corruption Bodies must continue to maintain their independence, impartiality and professionalism, to further enhance their effectiveness;
- b. Urge the Integrity Commissions and Anti-Corruption Bodies to harness and put to maximum and innovative use, all resources available to them, to engage everybody in the fight against corruption;
- c. Urge Integrity Commissions and Anti-Corruption Bodies to make recommendations to their Governments with a view to realizing reinvigorated political will, public sector and nationwide commitments, to continuously combat corruption;
- d. Urge regional Governments to enact, expand and implement national legislative frameworks and strategies for improved effectiveness, so that there are no legislative silos which deter holistic anti-corruption work in the region;
- e. Urge the Integrity Commissions and Anti-Corruption Bodies to secure at national and regional levels, statistical information on the real cost of corruption and make the information available to the ordinary person;
- f. Must encourage Integrity Commissions and Anti-Corruption Bodies to develop harmonised benchmarking systems and protocols for the purposes of both internal and national systems and institutions, statutory corporations and agencies, for which they have oversight;
- g. Must implement effective organisational risk management strategies and gather to achieve meaningful inter-agency collaboration, locally, regionally and internationally;
- h. Continue our calls on member Governments to:
  - (i) provide adequate financial, technical and human resources to the Integrity Commissions and Anti-Corruption Bodies;
  - (ii) give encouragement and support in their prompt and efficient discharge of their statutory functions in their sustainable fight against and in the eradication of corruption;
- i. Agree that Integrity Commissions and Anti-Corruption Bodies should further intensify their public education and citizens' engagement and initiatives, surveys and data gathering, and in particular continue the deeper mobilization with children, youth, civil society organizations and religious bodies, in the fight against corruption across the region;



- j. Agree that as part of their efforts to engage everyone in the fight against Corruption, and for optimal utilization of resources available for anti-corruption and good governance efforts, the Integrity Commissions and Anti-Corruption Bodies should robustly embark on national Stake-Holders Conferences, Inter-Agency collaboration, sector-wide training and capacity building programmes.
  - k. Must encourage Integrity Commissions and Anti-Corruption Bodies to develop harmonised strategies and practices for strengthening cooperation and the sharing of data, information and lists of persons of interest among themselves;
  - l. Must encourage CARICOM to place on its Agenda the discussion of anti-corruption efforts;
  - m. Must encourage Governments, Integrity Commissions and Anti-Corruption Bodies to acknowledge corruption perception indices, and engage independent integrity agencies to work regionally to determine strengths and challenges so that the Association can share more objective corruption indicators and recommendations for improving the fight against corruption across the region;
- 6) Having regard to the diverse experiences of members of the Association it was further agreed that the Integrity Commissions and Anti-Corruption Bodies should:
- a) Continue to pursue the development and implementation of regional anti-corruption model legislation in keeping with the requirements of the UNCAC and the constitutional and legislative frameworks of their respective countries, to achieve effective reduction and eradication of corruption in the Commonwealth Caribbean;
  - b) Continue to support and encourage each other through bench marking and practitioners' exchange, and thereby enhance the sharing of their experiences, best practices, information and solutions among themselves and the monitoring of the impact of the Association's interventions;
  - c) Be innovative, and seek to secure the best results, in their anti-corruption and good governance efforts, taking into account the social, cultural, economic and political circumstances of their local environment.
- 10) The Association commends highly, and expresses its gratitude to the Commonwealth Secretariat for their continuing leadership, guidance, financial assistance and for organising the Annual Conferences of the Association in collaboration with the Integrity Commissions and Anti-Corruption Bodies of the Association's network;



- 11) The Association AGREED to:
- a) Accept the offer of the Government of Grenada to provide facilities for capacity building programmes of the Association, in collaboration with the Government of India and the Commonwealth Secretariat;
  - b) Accept the tentative offer of Cayman Islands to host the next Conference in 2019;
- 12) The Conference noted that the current Chairman, Mr. Eugene Otuonye QC, of the Association will demit office as the Director of the TCI Integrity Commission and consequently step down as the Chairman of the Association with effect from 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2018. The new Executive Members, subsequent to election, are as follows: -
- **Chairman:** Jamaica - Mr. Dirk Harrison (By operation of the Constitution with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2018);
  - **Vice Chairperson:** Cayman Islands - Rosie Whittaker-Myles (By election with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2018);
  - **Secretary:** Jamaica - Joy Powell (By election, with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2018);
  - **Treasurer:** Saint Lucia, Cleophas Regobert (By election, with immediate effect);
  - **Three Country Executive Members:** Trinidad and Tobago, Dominica, and Belize (By election, with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2018);
  - **Immediate Past Chairman:** Grenada- Lady Anande Trotman-Joseph;
  - **Representative of the Commonwealth Secretariat:** Dr. Roger Koranteng.

***Dated the 8<sup>th</sup> Day of June 2018, at Providenciales, Turks and Caicos Islands***