Anti – Corruption Cameroon (AC - Cameroon)
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ANTI-CORRUPTION ORGANISATION

February 2019 Report

Highlights

- Two (02) new complaint files opened this month
- AC hotline received 26 calls this month
- Health Corruption hotline received 06 calls this month
- A total of 34 posters pasted and 60 brochures distributed in Yaounde

General

In the month of February 2019, the AC hotline phone received 26 calls, seven (07) corruption and corruption assimilated offences and four (04) non-corruption related offences were registered.

One jurist was retained for testing this month.

02 new case files were opened this month

A new case on land corruption was opened this month. The complainant reported that his neighbor who is a State Counsel wants to evict him from their family inherited land using his position. According to him, the State Counsel bought a part of their family property, built a fence round the property but when his father passed away some years later, the State Counsel started infringing on their own land and extended his fence from the back claiming that he had an arrangement with their late father to grasp more property in the case where need arises. Interestingly, he is not proposing any money for more land and when he complained, he told him he cannot take him to any court because he himself is a State Counsel. Investigations are ongoing.

Another new complaint file on corruption was opened this month. The complainant reported the treasurer of the Departmental Delegation of Public Works of Logone and Chari in Kousseri for acts of corruption. He reported that the treasurer expects him to pay 10% from every contract he wins as kickbacks, and says it is common knowledge as every contractor pays the 10% solicited before entering into possession of the contract. In case where you do not collaborate, you will not be offered the contract at all. AC intends to contact the departmental head to straighten out this complaint.
The distribution of brochures and pasting of posters continued to be the major activity carried out in corruption hotspots in Yaounde in a bid to recruit more victims of corruption. 34 posters were pasted and 60 brochures distributed in the Mfoundi market and its environs. As a result, two complaints on bribery and corruption were gathered on the field.

Case follow-up continued this month in the corruption case involving many counts with about three hundred victims deposited at the Yaoundé court of First Instance in the month of August 2017. The case was relaunched after a failed attempt to disappear the case file in the court system. It is pending treatment at the services of the State Counsel at the Yaounde administrative center.

**AC Hotline Phone**

In the month of February 2019, the AC hotline phone received 26 calls. A total of eleven (11) complaints were registered, 7 being corruption and corruption related offences while 4 complaints were not corruption related. The data has been analyzed and represented on charts as seen below;

79% of calls were responsive this month while 21% of callers were unreachable after their initial attempt to reach AC.
Corruption complaints registered 64% of total complaints while non-corruption complaints registered 36% of complaints

Bribery and corruption were the highest corruption complaints reported this month of February 2019 representing 57% of total corruption complaints, followed by complaints of fraud with 15% while complaints of abuse of power and oppression both registered 14% from the total complaints
Complaints of persistent neglect, non-execution of court judgement, land dispute and private problems were the non-corruption complaints registered this month of February all representing 25% each.

Gender

As is the trend with AC hotline calls, the male gender participated with the highest number of complaints representing 91% of total calls while the female gender represented just 9% of callers.
Age Range of Callers

The adult age range participated with the highest number of calls representing 47%, followed by the youth age range with 33% and lastly, the elderly age range with 20% of calls.

Regional representation

The Centre region registered the highest number of calls representing 56% of total calls. This is obvious for the sole reason that it is in Yaounde that AC field work is constantly carried out. The Littoral region seconded with 22% of calls, and then the North West and Far North regions with 11% of callers each.
Investigations

AC had to intervene in a new case on land corruption opened this month. A young man who felt threatened by his neighbor, a State Counsel, called AC for support. His neighbor, the State Counsel had called police officers to arrest him wrongfully after they had an exchange regarding a land matter.

According to him, the State Counsel bought a parcel of land from his deceased father and a few years after his father’s death, he started infringing on their family land which is close to his, claiming he needed more space for a pool and an outdoor garden while the complainant tried to reason out with him in vain. The State Counsel claimed he had an arrangement with their late father to take on more land if he ever needed to. The actual problem stemmed from the fact that he did not propose to acquire more of their land or to pay for a little portion that will permit him to carry on the investments he wanted. He was instead using force and threats, telling the complainant he can detain him for a long time because he is a State Counsel. So after a heated argument, he called law enforcement officers to pick up the complainant.

During investigations, AC noticed that the complainant did not have a land title for the landed property in question but somehow, the State Counsel had a copy of documents showing the complainant’s father had received money for the extra expanse of land. Though the complainant referred to the documents as being fraudulent, accusing him of working in complicity with a fake notary, AC had no means to proof that because the documents were official.

Investigations were also carried out in a new corruption complaint opened this month. The complainant, a contractor in Kousseri in the Far North deposited a case against the treasurer of the Departmental Delegation of Public Works for acts of corruption.

He complained that the treasurer has made it difficult for him to win contracts because he has to agree to part with 10% of the sum of any contract he wins. In the case where he refuses to pay the 10% kickbacks, the contract is offered to the next bidder who agrees to pay 10% of the tender solicited. He explained that this attitude has sent some contractors out of the market because they refused to pay the 10%. He complained that with the 10% deducted, it becomes difficult to provide quality work since he is also trying to make benefit from the contract due to the reduced funds. He also complained that the treasurer sometimes creates artificial scarcity of bonds so that he can sell them to the highest bidder.

AC plans on petitioning the Minister of Public Works regarding this complaint so that it can be treated in all its deconcentrated services.
Legal follow-up
Case follow-up continued this month in the corruption case involving many counts with about three hundred victims deposited at the Yaoundé court of First Instance in the month of August 2017. The case was relaunched after a failed attempt to disappear the case file in the court system. It is presently pending treatment at the services of the State Counsel at the Yaounde administrative center.

Management
One jurist on test in AC

Health Corruption Hotline
This month of February 2019 saw a slight increase of calls registered last month through the Health Corruption hotline phone. The Health Corruption hotline phone received a total of six (06) calls, registering no complaint. The lack of calls is explained by the lack of field work in the project.

The calls have been analyzed and represented on charts as seen below;

Responsive calls were at 67% while non responsive 33% of callers were unreachable after they had created the first contact with AC
Gender

The female gender participated with the highest number of calls representing 75% of total calls while the male gender participated with just 25% of calls. The phenomenon where more female folks participate in Health Corruption calls can be explained by the fact more women visit the hospitals either for themselves or for their children rather than the male folk.

Age range of callers

This month of February 2019, just two age range participated in calls. The adult age range showing 67% of calls and the youth age range showing 33% of calls.
Regional representation

Just the Adamawa and the North region participated in health corruption calls this month. The Adamawa region represented 75% of total calls while the North region participated with 23% of calls. The northern regions are still very active in health corruption because it was the last region where field work was carried out in mass and at length.
Finance
AC received funds this month from NEU FOUNDATION

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<th>Amount in Francs CFA</th>
<th>Use</th>
<th>Details</th>
<th>Amount in USD</th>
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<td>20,000</td>
<td>AC Hotline</td>
<td>26 calls received</td>
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<td>7,500</td>
<td>HC Hotline</td>
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<td>Legal</td>
<td>02 case follow-up</td>
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<td>TOTAL Expenditure</td>
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Donor Financial Report February 2019

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<td>143,925</td>
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<td>Carried forward to March</td>
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