ANTICORRUPTION ORGANISATION

March 2019 Report

Highlights

- Two (02) new complaint files opened this month
- AC hotline received 22 calls this month
- Health Corruption hotline received 04 calls this month
- A total of 116 posters pasted and 234 brochures distributed in Yaounde

General

The AC hotline phone received 22 calls this month of March 2019, registering 13 corruption complaints and 5 complaints not related to corruption.

02 new case files were opened this month

A new case file on corruption and corruption of employee was opened this month. The complainant reported that he paid an employee of the Ministry of Transport 50,000 francs CFA as advance fee to establish him a driver license. According to him, he met this lady working at the ministry and proposed her the money which makes both him and the receiver corrupt. He desisted from continuing with the follow-up of the case when he was made to understand that he was at fault for corrupting a civil servant and that they will be charges against him also.

Another new case file on undue demand was opened this month. The complainant reported Planette Media, a regulatory body controlling advertising billboards in the Mfoundi area for exorbitant prices levied against him illegally, as he made AC to understand. AC’s investigative findings proved that Planette Media’s prices were indeed legal but very high for small businesses as many startups and small businesses complained of the prices killing their business. Interestingly, there is a possibility for fee negotiations which was not presented to the complainant. Considering that the price range is negotiable which can make some businesses in the same category to pay more than others made Planette Media’s pricing policies discriminatory.

This month of March 2019, 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. 116 posters were pasted and 234 brochures distributed at the Mokolo and Etoudi
markets and, around the zone harboring most of the ministries. As a result, three complaints on corruption and corruption assimilated offences and one non-corruption complaint was 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 from the court system. The case, after having been examined by the state counsel’s services for three months, has been forwarded to the filing office of the attorney general for examination and forwarding to the president of the appeal court who will design a competent trial court for the case.

**AC Hotline Phone**

In the month of March 2019, the AC hotline phone received 22 calls. A total of eighteen (18) complaints were registered, 13 being corruption and corruption related offences while 5 complaints were not corruption related. The data has been analyzed and represented on charts as seen below;

This month of march 2019, 82% of calls were responsive while 18% of callers numbers was unavailable
45% of callers reported corruption and corruption assimilated offences this month, followed by 30% of callers who had no complaints while 25% of callers reported complaints not related to corruption.

As is the trend with corruption complaints, bribery and corruption top the list of complaints with 50%, followed by complaints of abuse of power with 20%, while, complaints of fraud, corruption of employee and undue demand each represented 10%.
40% of non-corruption complaints reported this month of March 2019 were private problems while, complaints of persistent neglect, abuse from forces of law and order and wrongful dismissal each represented 20% of non-corruption complaints registered.

**Gender**

The male gender represented 71% of callers this month of March 2019 while the female gender participated with 29% of calls.
Age Range of Callers

The adult age range participated with 53% of calls this month of March, followed by the youth age range with 35% and then the elderly age range which participated with 12% of calls.

Regional representation

Sparingly, this month of March 2019 saw just three regions participating in calls. The Centre region had the highest number of calls representing 82%, followed by the Littoral and East regions which each participated with 9% of calls.
Investigations
Investigations were carried out in a new case file on corruption and corruption of employee opened this month. The complainant reported that he paid an employee of the Ministry of Transport, 50,000 francs CFA as advance fee to establish him a driver license. According to him, he met this lady working at the ministry and proposed her the money which makes both him and the receiver corrupt.

AC got interested in this case because the minister of transport recently put in strict measures and changed the strategy for the application of driving licenses just to prevent corruption. Registration is done online through a licensing officer and a permit is obtained after sitting and passing both the theory and practical tests.

When the victim learnt that he would also be prosecuted for corrupting a public servant, he desisted from continuing with the follow-up of the case.

Interventions were also necessary in a new case file on undue demand opened which later turned out to be a simple problem of discriminatory policy which might open the gateway for corruption. The complainant, a small business owner at the Mfoundi market reported Planette Media, a regulatory body, that is working in collaboration with the Mfoundi council in controlling advertising billboards in the Mfoundi area. He explained that he has been billed exorbitantly for hosting a billboard advertising his business illegally.

AC’s investigative findings proved that Planette Media’s prices were indeed legal on paper but very costly for small businesses as many startups and small businesses complained of the prices weighing on their capital. Interestingly, there is a possibility for negotiations when you contact an insider which was not presented to the complainant. Considering that the price range is negotiable which can make some businesses in the same category to pay more than others, made their pricing policy discriminatory and open to corruption because a controller after collecting an amount on the field can claim to have collected less. AC advised the complainant to negotiate with a controller AC linked to the complainant and he succeeded in negotiating the price to a reasonable amount he was able to pay.

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. The case, after having been examined by the State Counsel’s services for three months,
has been forwarded to the filing office of the attorney general for examination and forwarding to the president of the Appeal Court who will design a competent trial court for the case.

Management
One jurist on test in AC

Health Corruption Hotline
This month of March 2019 saw a slight decrease of calls from the calls registered last month through the Health Corruption hotline phone. The Health Corruption hotline phone received a total of four (04) 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;

![Health Corruption Hotline Calls Split March 2019](chart)

75% of Health Corruption calls were responsive this month of march while 25% f callers’ number was unavailable.
Gender

The female gender participated with 75% of calls this month of March 2019 while the male gender participated with 25% of calls.

Age Range of Callers

Just two age groups participated in calls this month of March 2019, the youth age range representing 67% of calls and the adult age range representing 33% of callers.
Regional representation

The south west and Adamawa regions each participated with 50% of calls.
Finance
AC received funds this month from NEU FOUNDATION

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<tr>
<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>22 calls received</td>
<td>$34.10</td>
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<td>2,500</td>
<td>HC Hotline</td>
<td>4 calls received</td>
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<td>5,355</td>
<td>Investigations</td>
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<td>22,300</td>
<td>Legal</td>
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<td>457,355</td>
<td>TOTAL Expenditure March 2019</td>
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Donor Financial Report March 2019

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<td>Balance from February</td>
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<td>46,070</td>
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<td>Carried forward to April</td>
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