ANTI-CORRUPTION ORGANISATION

February 2015 Report



<u>Highlights</u>

- Six (06) new complaint files opened this month
- AC hotline receives **47** calls this month
- Health Corruption hotline receives **27** calls this month
- Two jurist retained for testing from a total of 6 interviewed
- AC admitted as a member of the UNCAC Coalition this month
- A total of 300 AC brochures distributed and 200 AC posters pasted in Yaounde

General

The AC hotline phone registered 47 calls this month with 16 corruption complaints and corruption assimilated offences, as well as 6 non-corruption related complaints.

From a total of 6 interviews, two jurists were retained for testing. The two jurists retained for test this month made several investigative trips following complaints received from the field and some that came in through the AC hotline phone.

Six (06) new case files were opened this month.

A new case on fraud and embezzlement was opened this month. The victim complained that the headmaster forges his signature and collects his bonus. AC's investigations could not establish corruption in this complaint.

A corrupt education official exposed for a few francs.

The victim was asked to pay 5000 FCFA instead of the standard 1000 FCFA paid to collect his secondary school education transcripts. AC intervened and the student's transcripts were given to him without him paying a franc.

Another case file on fraud was opened this month. The victims complained that they were being asked to prepare documents and pay money to compile files for the General Certificate of

Anti – Corruption Cameroon (AC - Cameroon) Website: <u>www.kick-corruption.org</u> ac.cameroon@yahoo.com Education (GCE), Ordinary Level when they had already done so. This means they were going to pay for a service they had already paid for and they risk not writing the 2015 session because the closing dates for the receipt of documents was long overdue. The complaint is currently being investigated at the Government High school Mbalmayo and at the GCE board main office in Buea.

An officer of police denied the opportunity to collect bribe by AC.

The victim complained against a police officer who wanted to collect 2000 FCFA as bribe before signing the victim's lost certificate. AC intervened and the victim's certificate was signed free of charge.

Another complaint file on fraud was opened this month. The victim complained that he was laid off his job because he refused to comply with fraud orchestrated by his employers. The victim was advised to report his dismissal to the labor office while AC's investigations are ongoing to uncover the fraud led by the company owners.

Investigations are ongoing on a denunciation regarding fraud this month. The complainant reported 5 Cameroonians working with Plan-Cameroon who used fake certificates to apply for their various positions. Investigations are ongoing.

A new complaint file on bribery and corruption was also opened this month. The victim complained that he was tried in absentia and sentenced. According to him, the plaintiff had bribed the magistrate of the court which is why he was not given a chance to be heard. Investigations are currently ongoing.

Brochure distribution and poster pasting have been the major activities carried out this month in order to recruit victims of corruption. Posters were pasted and brochures distributed in corruption hotspots in the Mvog-Mbi market, Ecole departementale, Mballa II and Etoudi quarters in Yaounde.

Case follow-up this month continues with the old case of motor bike riders against the head of the Nkolbisson municipal storeroom still at the level of hearings in the high court in Yaounde. The defendant does not attend hearings making it difficult for the case to advance. AC is pushing for the defendant to be tried in absentia.

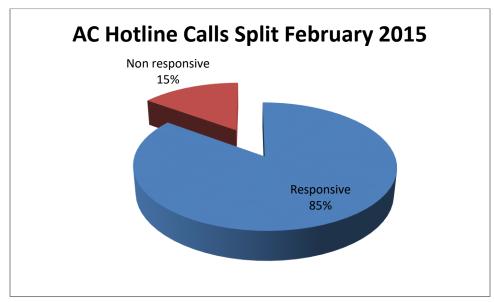
AC is still waiting to hear the results of the decisions reached at in the case of the concrete dealer against the Sheriff of the civil engineering unit of the military base located at Olembe being resolved following military rules. The colonel in charge of the case had asked AC to wait as deliberations are still ongoing.

AC was able to conclude investigations on the case of extortion opened last month where some six headmasters complained against the Senior Divisional Officer (SDO) of Meme division for soliciting 20,000 FCFA for youth day celebrations. The SDO explained to AC that it was a new decision brought out by the Delegate of Basic Education in the South West region. This was confirmed by sending a copy of the decision to AC.

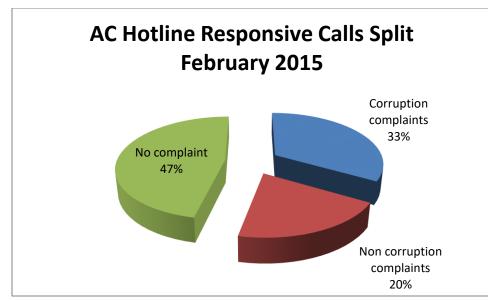
AC is closely following the court proceedings of the case opened last month on extortion. The victim was extorted 400,000 FCFA by a supposed journalist while trying to buy a piece of land.

AC Hotline Phone

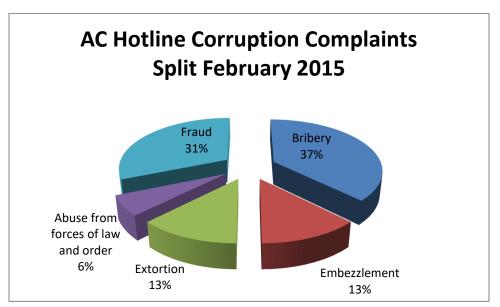
The AC hotline phone registered 47 calls this month with 16 corruption complaints and corruption assimilated offences, as well as 6 non-corruption related complaints as represented below.



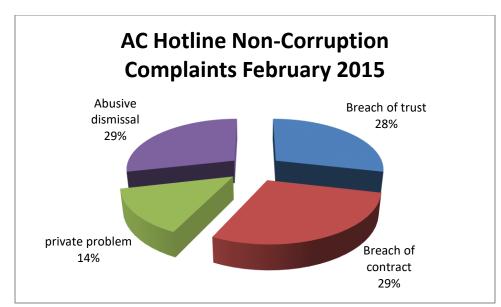
85% of calls were responsive this month while 15% of callers' number were either unavailable or they did not respond to calls.



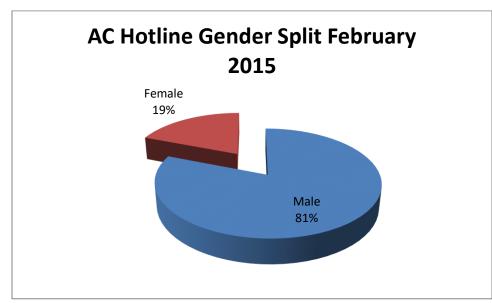
47% of callers this month did not report any complaint, 33% of callers deposited corruption complaints while 20% of calls were non-corruption related.



Bribery has the highest complaints with 37%, followed by complaints on fraud with 31%. Embezzlement and extortion complaints both have 13% each and abuse from forces of law and order has 6%.



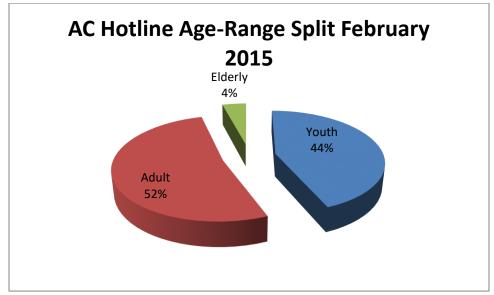
This month of February, abusive dismissal and breach of contract complaints both have 29% each of calls, followed by breach of trust complaints with 28% and private problem complaints which has 14%.



Gender

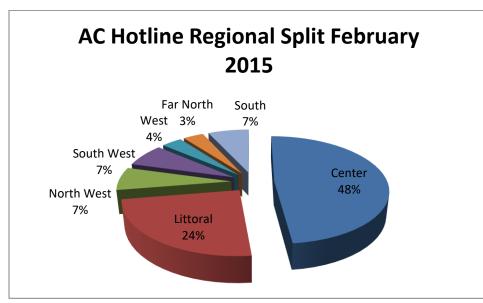
The male gender as usual participated highest representing 81% of callers while the female gender is just at 19% of calls.

Age-range of callers



The adult age-range is highest with 52% of calls, followed by the youth category with 44% of calls and last the elderly age group with just 4% of calls.

Regional Representation



The highest number of calls registered this month came from Center region with 48%, followed by the Littoral region with 24% of calls, then the North West, South and South West regions which all have 7% each, the West region with 4% and lastly the Far North with 3% of calls.

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Investigations

Investigations were carried out on a new case file on fraud and embezzlement opened this month. The victim complained that the headmaster forges his signature and collects his bonus. AC's investigations could not establish a constituted act of corruption in this case. During investigations, AC discovered that the victim is not a teacher employed by the government and as such he does not have any bonus entitlements. The bonus in question is the headmasters' bonus which he shares at the end of the semester with other teachers employed by the Parents Teachers Association (PTA).

Investigations were also carried out on another case of fraud opened this month. The victims, form five students in the Government High School Mbalmayo complained that they were being asked to prepare documents and pay money to compile files for the General Certificate of Education (GCE), Ordinary Level when they had already done so. This means they were going to pay for a service they had already paid for and they risk not writing the 2015 session of the Ordinary Levels examinations because the closing dates for the receipt of documents was long overdue. AC contacted the GCE board main office and the school in question and was told the matter was being resolved. The GCE board contacted AC a week later with the news that the students' documents were found and they would be registered right away.

Investigations are ongoing on a new complaint file opened this month on fraud. The victim complained that his work contract with TGCOP a Chinese-Cameroonian based company was terminated because he refused to comply with fraud orchestrated by his employers. According to the victim, employees of this company were not registered at the National Social Insurance Fund (CNPS) and thus so far avoided paying taxes. When the CNPS got wind of the fraud and was investigating it, the company created a new company and asked the employees to sign new contracts so it can prove to CNPS that the company is new. The victim was advised to report his abusive dismissal to the labor office while AC's investigations are ongoing to uncover the fraud led by the company owners. The victim later informed AC that the labor office sent convocation to the company administrators and on the day of the first hearing, not even a representative of the company was present.

Investigations have also been opened on a denunciation regarding fraud this month. The complainant reported that five (05) Cameroonians working with Plan-Cameroon were employed based on falsified certificates they used to apply for their various positions. He provided AC with a clue by giving the names of 3 of the workers, their actual level of education and the level in the certificates they falsified. Investigations in this case are ongoing.

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Anti – Corruption Cameroon (AC - Cameroon) Website: <u>www.kick-corruption.org</u> ac.cameroon@yahoo.com plaintiff had bribed the magistrate of the court which is why he was not given a chance to be heard. AC's investigations showed that the victim had missed two court sessions which is why he was tried and sentenced in absentia.

Legal follow-up

Case follow-up this month continues with the old case of motor bike riders against the head of the Nkolbisson municipal storeroom still at the level of hearings in the high court in Yaoundé. The defendant does not attend hearings making it difficult for the case to advance. AC is pushing for the defendant to be tried in absentia.

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External Relations

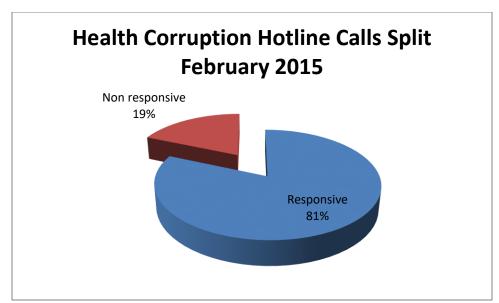
AC's application for the UNCAC Coalition membership was successful this month of February.

Management

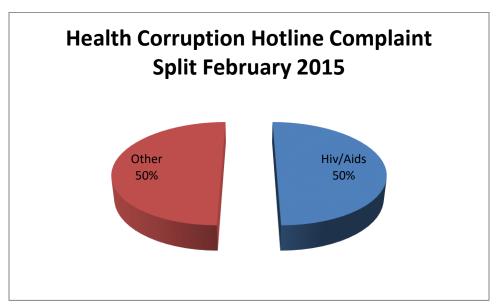
Two jurists were retained for testing from a total of six candidates interviewed.

Health Corruption Hotline

Calls received through the Health Corruption hotline phone saw a slight increase from last month's calls. 27 calls came in through the health corruption hotline phone with 2 complaints; one related to HIV/AIDS and the other on corruption and abuse of power perpetrated by a hospital director. The data has been analyzed and is represented on charts as seen below.

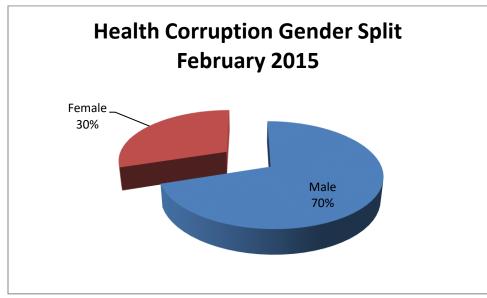


81% of health corruption calls were responsive this month while 19% of callers' phones were not available.



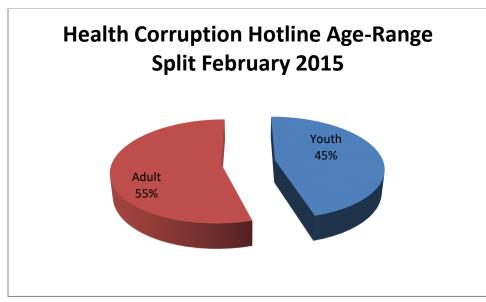
This month of February, 50% of calls were against subsidized treatment for HIV/AIDS while 50% was against bribery, corruption and abuse of power in the hospital.

Gender



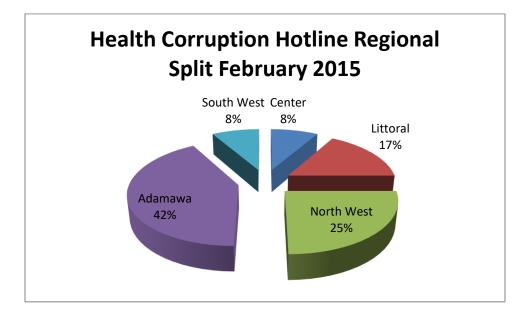
70% of the male gender participated in calls this month of February as against 30% of the female gender who participated.

Age-range of callers



This month of February, just 2 groups participated in calls. The adult age-range participated with 55% of calls while the youth age-range participated with 45% of calls.

Regional representation



The Adamawa region has the highest calls with 42%, followed by the North West region with 25%, the Littoral region with 17% and lastly, the South West and Center regions both have 8% each. So many regions are lacking from the list like the East, South, North and Far North regions. This is explained by the lack of field work which usually sparks participation in calls and complaints.

Finance

AC received funds this month from private donors

Amount in Francs	Use	Details	Amount in USD
CFA			
20,000	AC Hotline	47 calls received	\$40.0
20,000	HC Hotline	27 calls received	\$40.0
17,000	Investigations	300 brochures - 200 posters	\$34.0
8,700	Legal	07 case follow-up	\$18
0	Media	0	
180,800	Management	coordination	\$361.6
50,850	Office		\$101.7
297,350	TOTAL Expenditure February 2015		\$594.7

Donor Financial Report January 2015

Amount in FCFA	Donor	Month	Amount in USD
293,500	Private Donor	Used in February	\$587.0