

JOINT PRESS RELEASE

Anti-corruption agencies in Asia-Pacific step up cooperation

The ACRC to host Anti-Corruption Agency Forum

August 30, 2013

The Anti-Corruption and Civil Rights Commission (ACRC) of Korea hosts the 7th Anti-Corruption Agency (ACA) Forum on September 2 in Seoul by bringing together high-level officials of major anti-corruption agencies in the Asia-Pacific region.

The biennial meeting has provided a venue for policy dialogue among the heads of anti-corruption agencies that have been leading collaborative efforts for the fight against corruption in the region since its first meeting in November 2002 in Seoul. The ACRC is serving as the secretariat for the forum.

Currently, the ACA Forum consists of 7 member anti-corruption agencies of Australia; Hong Kong, China; Indonesia; Korea; Malaysia; the Philippines and Singapore. With the approval of new membership of the Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity at this meeting, the members of the forum are expected to increase to eight.

Presided by ACRC Chairman Lee Sungbo, the forum will be attended by around 30 representatives from 9 anti-corruption agencies of 8 countries in the Asia-Pacific region, including Ms. Conchita Morales, Ombudsman of the Philippines; Mr. Philip Moss, Integrity Commissioner of the Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity; Hon Dato' Hj Zakaria Jaffar, Deputy Chief Commissioner of the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission; Mr. Adnan Pandu Praja, Commissioner of the Corruption Eradication Commission of Indonesia; Ms. Theresa Hamilton, Deputy Commissioner of the Independent Commission Against Corruption of New South Wales, Australia; Mr. Ricky Yau, Acting Director of Investigation of the Independent Commission Against Corruption of Hong Kong, China; Mr. Ang Seow Lian, Deputy Director of the Corrupt Practices Investigation Bureau of Singapore; and Mr. Nguyen Van Thanh, Deputy Inspector General of the Government Inspectorate of Vietnam.

During the meeting, participants will share latest developments and trends of anti-corruption activities of each country or jurisdiction, and discuss policies and practices on gifts and gratuities offered to public officials.

Moreover, as part of follow-ups to the "Seoul Statement" adopted in September 2009, the "International Forum on Anti-Corruption Best Practices" will be held on September 3 to share and spread best practices on the prevention and investigation of corruption among member countries or jurisdictions.

The next ACA Forum meeting will take place in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in 2015, hosted by the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission.

The member agencies of the ACA Forum will continue to take the lead in making efforts to strengthen cooperation and enhance the status and effectiveness of anti-corruption agencies.

The ACA Secretariat (www.aca-forum.org)

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Annex 1: Agenda for the 7th ACA Forum

PART I: ROUNDTABLE OF THE ACA FORUM

Date & Time:	09:00-12:00, Monday, 2 September 2013
Venue:	Cheongcheondang, Samcheonggak, Seoul, Korea
Host:	Anti-Corruption & Civil Rights Commission (ACRC), Korea
Participants:	Anti-Corruption Agency Forum member agencies and observers* <i>*Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity & Government Inspectorate of Vietnam</i>

Draft agenda

	1. Opening of the meeting	
09:00-09:15	1.1 Opening remarks 1.2 Introduction of participants	Chair: Sungbo Lee, <i>Chairman, ACRC, Korea</i>
09:15-09:25	2. Overview of the ACA Forum & report on conclusions of the 6th meeting	Secretariat
09:25-09:30	3. Approval of new ACA membership	
09:30-10:30	4. Recent activities and achievements of members & observers	<i>5 minutes per agency</i>
10:30-10:50	Coffee break	
10:50-11:50	5. Open discussion: "Policies and practices on gifts & gratuities excluding typical forms of bribery" 5.1 Introductory presentation by Indonesia & Hong Kong 5.2 Free discussion	
11:50-12:00	6. Closing 6.1 Proposal to host the 8th forum meeting 6.2 Closing remarks	

PART II: INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON ANTI-CORRUPTION BEST PRACTICES

“Public lectures by the leaders of major anti-corruption agencies”

Date & Time: 09:00-16:20, Tuesday, 3 September 2013

Venue: 3F, Grand Ballroom, Seoul Royal Hotel, Seoul, Korea

Host: Anti-Corruption & Civil Rights Commission (ACRC), Korea

Participants: ACA member agencies and observers; government agencies, civil society organizations, and academic experts of Korea

Draft agenda

09:00-09:05	Welcome speech	Sungbo Lee, <i>Chairman, ACRC, Korea</i>
09:05-09:50	1. G20 Anti-Corruption Action Plan & Jakarta Statement on Principles for Anti-Corruption Agencies	Adnan Pandu Praja, <i>Commissioner, Corruption Eradication Commission, Indonesia</i>
09:50-10:35	2. Investigation of corruption cases & protection of whistleblowers	Theresa Hamilton LLB, <i>Deputy Commissioner, Independent Commission Against Corruption, Australia</i>
10:35-10:50	Coffee break	
10:50-11:35	3. CPIB's public education & preventive efforts	Seow Lian Ang, <i>Deputy Director, Corrupt Practices Investigation Bureau, Singapore</i>
11:35-12:20	4. Anti-corruption training: Malaysian Anti-Corruption Academy	Hon Dato' Hj Zakaria Jaffar, <i>Deputy Chief Commissioner, Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission, Malaysia</i>
12:20-13:45	Lunch	
13:45-14:30	5. Korea's anti-corruption strategies & experiences	Sungbo Lee, <i>Chairman, ACRC, Korea</i>
14:30-15:15	6. Public-private partnership in the fight against corruption	Ricky Yau, <i>Acting Director of Investigation (Private Sector), Independent Commission Against Corruption, Hong Kong</i>
15:15-15:30	Coffee break	
15:30-16:15	7. Improving Public Service Integrity: The Integrity Management Program	Conchita Carpio Morales, <i>Ombudsman, Office of the Ombudsman, Philippines</i>
16:15-16:20	Farewell speech	Sungbo Lee, <i>Chairman, ACRC, Korea</i>

Annex 2: Overview of the ACA Forum

Overview of the ACA FORUM

About the ACA Forum

The Anti-Corruption Agency (ACA) Forum was established in November 2002 in Seoul, Korea. The ACA Forum provides a venue for policy dialogue among the heads of anti-corruption agencies that have been leading collaborative efforts for the fight against corruption in the Asia-Pacific region.

It is aimed at promoting the exchange and cooperation among anti-corruption agencies in the region and seeking ways to strengthen the roles and enhance the anti-corruption capacities of those agencies.

6th session: 18 November 2011, Fremantle, Australia

5th session: 15 September 2009, Seoul, Korea

4th session: 30 January 2008, Bali, Indonesia

3rd session: 10 December 2007, Hong Kong, China

2nd session: 12-14 October 2004, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

1st session: 28 November 2002, Seoul, Korea

ACA Members

Australia: New South Wales Independent Commission Against Corruption (NSW ICAC)

Hong Kong, China: Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC)

Indonesia: Corruption Eradication Commission (KPK)

Korea: Anti-Corruption and Civil Rights Commission (ACRC)

Malaysia: Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC)

Philippines: Office of the Ombudsman

Singapore: Corrupt Practices Investigation Bureau (CPIB)

The ACA Secretariat

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Annex 3: “Seoul Statement”

SEOUL STATEMENT “Strengthening cooperation for enhancing the capacity of anti-corruption agencies”

Seoul, Republic of Korea
September 15, 2009

We, the leaders of the anti-corruption agencies in the Asia-Pacific region, gathered in Seoul, Korea, on September 15, 2009 to attend the 5th session of the Anti-Corruption Agency (ACA) Forum under the theme: “strengthening the capacity and expanding the role of anti-corruption agencies.”

We reaffirmed our common understanding that corruption is a global issue threatening the social and economic growth of many parts of the world by, inter alia, distorting fair competition and impeding the efficient allocation of resources.

We, therefore, commend the incessant, diverse efforts of member agencies to prevent, detect and punish corrupt practices. We recognize and support bilateral and multilateral approaches to the problems caused by corruption.

We endorse the principles of the United Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) which underlines the important role of technical assistance in enhancing the ability of the states to prevent and combat corruption effectively. We also concur that strengthening the role and enhancing the capacity of anti-corruption bodies is essential to the effective resolution of corruption problems and that it is vital to promote collaboration among anti-corruption entities.

As concrete measures of cooperation to enhance the capacity of member agencies, we have agreed on the following:

Technical Assistance and Training

We will cooperate with one another to the fullest extent to support the development and implementation of policies aimed at increasing transparency and accountability in each country.

We will make every effort to provide one another with training programs on the best practice anti-corruption measures, where appropriate and within the limits of the budget and personnel of each agency concerned.

We will evaluate the effectiveness and efficiency of technical assistance and training programs conducted by each agency and share the result of evaluation through the ACA Forum.

Sharing of Information and Best Practices

We will share the policies to prevent and deter corruption and experiences in implementing those policies with one another, and identify and disseminate best anti-corruption practices.

Recognizing, inter alia, such documents as the *Profiling the Public Sector Research Paper* of Australia and such programs and tools as *Ethics Development Centre* of Hong Kong, China, *Multimedia Tools for Public Education and Campaign* of Indonesia, *Integrity Survey* of Korea, and *Anti-Corruption Academy* of Malaysia as useful policy instruments to address corruption, we will make concerted efforts to disseminate those best policy measures.

We will launch an official website of the ACA Forum in 2010, and share best practices and facilitate the exchange of information and data on anti-corruption policies and institutions among member agencies through the website.

Partnership and Coordination

We will make efforts to coordinate positions on and respond collectively to international and regional anti-corruption initiatives such as the UNCAC, the APEC Anti-Corruption and Transparency Expert Task Force, and the ADB/OECD Anti-Corruption Initiatives for Asia-Pacific.