

Creating a Namibian Integrity System

A National Integrity System (NIS) Toolkit has been developed by Transparency International (TI).

A NIS could ensure that power is exercised "in a manner that is true to the values, purposes and duties for which that power is entrusted to, or held by, institutions and individual office-holders" (Griffith University and Transparency International Australia). Another strategy of a NIS could be to stimulate and increase the standard of voluntary compliance, i.e. best practices about voluntary declaration of assets by Namibian Members of Parliament and board members and disclosure of their business interests.

In order to develop a NIS for Namibia, National Integrity Assessments (NIAs) should be executed.

NIAs measure the extent and depth of corruption.

During 2010 more than 70 NIAs have been executed with the assistance of TI Chapters (offices) in various countries (Transparency International). A NIA measures the strengths and weaknesses of the relations between the eleven pillars, sectors and institutions - namely the Legislature, Executive, Judiciary, Auditor-General, Ombudsman, watchdog agencies, Public Service, media, civil society, the private sector and international actors.

INTEGRITY PACTS

An institution is needed to coordinate a NIS and NIAs as part of a national anti-corruption drive for Namibia. To coordinate efforts in an integrated



JOHAN COETZEE

approach, such a coordinating institution can form "integrity pacts" (moral agreements of compliance, monitoring and reporting) with stakeholders such as captains of industry in the private sector, the United Nations Global Compact, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), community based organisations (CBOs), tax-payers' associations, employer associations, trade unions, churches, sport and cultural organisations.

Preferably the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) of Namibia should fulfill such a coordinating role. However, the ACC neither has the credibility nor the political support to perform such a key role.

• References

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jcoetzee@nust.na

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