

MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday, 05 August 2008

Resolutions of the 3rd National Anti-Corruption Summit

The third National Anti-Corruption Summit, hosted by the National Anti-Corruption Forum (NACF) from Monday 04 to Tuesday 05 August 2008 in Ekurhuleni, adopted the resolutions below:

We the delegates drawn from various sectors of South African society attending the 3rd National Anti-Corruption Summit at Birchwood, Ekurhuleni on 4 and 5 August 2008,

Building on the outcomes of the two previous National Anti-corruption Summits –

Cognizant of the central role of strong leadership in the fight against corruption;

Affirm fundamental significance of a National Integrity System in the fight against corruption in South Africa;

Respect our Constitutional values and institutional arrangements as the basis of the South African National Integrity System;

Recognise that South Africa has acceded to the United Nations, African Union, SADC and OECD international legal instruments on anti-corruption;

Recognise the progress made in the first 15 years of democracy and freedom towards a comprehensive national anti-corruption programme;

Noting that corruption undermines the democratic ethos and principles of our Constitution while eroding the social contract between citizens and the state;

Reaffirm the importance of inter-sectoral collaboration in the spirit of ubuntu;

Condemn the practice of price fixing and related issues;

Recognise the centrality of education in laying the foundation for an ethical society and success in combating corruption and the critical need for society to support education;

Call for the values of the National Integrity System to permeate the structures, practices and principles of the State, business and civil society sectors; and

Recommit ourselves at an individual level and call on all others to commit themselves to the process of moral regeneration and adherence to a value system of ethical conduct.

We therefore resolve as follows:

A. Ethical practices in social and economic life

1. That the NACF establish a task team to urgently consolidate and articulate the National Integrity System.
2. To call on political parties and Parliament to expedite the regulation of transparency in party political funding and to consider a sanctions mechanism.
3. To urge political parties in all three spheres of government to disclose their business interests.
4. To continue to strengthen monitoring and accountability mechanisms with respect to all tender processes in the public sector.
5. To support the swift regulation of post public sector employment for all elected and appointed public officials and its implementation.
6. To strengthen the current system of disclosure of interests for all elected and appointed public officials.
7. To develop systems of disclosure of interests for business and civil society.
8. To support legislative and other measures to ensure that companies found guilty of offences of price fixing, market allocation and collusive tendering are prohibited from state tenders for a determined period.
9. To strengthen the enforcement provisions of the Competition Act including holding individuals accountable for price fixing, market allocation and collusive tendering.
10. To urge the business community to investigate self-regulating mechanisms to improve ethical conduct in practice.
11. To reaffirm that ethics must be infused in all aspects of the education system including the curriculum at all levels.
12. To reaffirm that schools of Business and Public Management must provide courses on professional ethics and anti-corruption.
13. To call for the strengthening of the institutional capacity of the private sector to detect and prevent corruption.
14. To complete the implementation of continental and international anti-corruption legal instruments and promote the enforcement thereof in national law.

B. Strengthening Accountability, Coordination and Oversight

1. To strengthen anti-corruption bodies and improve coordination among them.

2. That all allegations of corruption must be investigated and prosecuted without fear or favour, in accordance with past and present anti-corruption legislation.
3. To reaffirm that sectors and professional bodies must adopt sector and profession specific codes of conduct and/or ethics as well as a training and communications regimes to support their application.
4. That the private sector must mainstream anti-corruption practices and report on them in Annual Reports in an accessible and transparent manner.
5. To promote national anti-corruption values and interests continentally and internationally.
6. To call for improved financial accountability and transparency of civil society organizations.
7. To strengthen the powers of oversight bodies for the business sector and promote coordination of their activities.
8. To promote the National Anti-Corruption Hotline and support the further development of capacity to respond to reported corruption.

C. Access to services through participatory governance

1. That all state entities improve service delivery through *inter alia* eliminating corrupt practices, encouraging whistleblowing and complying with the National Integrity System.
2. That services are offered to all citizens equitably and fairly.
3. That the NACF supports the urgent finalization of the review of the Protected Disclosures Act and initiates a national conversation on building a culture of whistleblowing.
4. That participatory governance must be promoted to ensure that corruption and the abuse of power are addressed at the site of service delivery.
5. To implement effective anti-corruption communication and awareness programmes at community level, within the business sector and across civil society.
6. That public officials in all spheres of government must be trained in ethics, conflict of interest principles, constitutional and administrative law and the principles of *Batho Pele*.

D. National Anti-Corruption Forum

1. That all three sectors must fully commit and take ownership of the NACF and the chair must rotate.
2. To strengthen the NACF and undertake a review of institutional arrangements including the role of leadership, composition, expanded participation and whether or not the NACF should become a statutory body.
3. To call on universities and professional bodies to expand their participation in the NACF.
4. That the NACF promotes dialogue within the sectors.

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