

2008

Annual Report of the Commission Against Corruption of Macao



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The CCAC Commissioner Cheong U submits to the Chief Executive, Mr. Ho Hau Wah, the Annual Report of the CCAC 2008



CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

Chapter I – Introduction

In 2008, the work of the CCAC had been intensive. Apart from the huge amount of follow-up works on Ao Man Long's corruption case, the CCAC also focused on the comprehensive and systematic enhancement of corruption prevention mechanism and investigative power. For instance, the CCAC continued to promote a culture of probity in the public service in partnership with public departments and institutions under the Integrity Management Plan and fostered the examination work on systems and operations. Meanwhile, the CCAC stepped up the research on corruption prevention in the private sector in preparation for the expansion of its jurisdiction to the private sector and the integrity building to the entire society. Moreover, the CCAC modified its organization structure, increased its personnel and enhanced personnel training and facilities in order to strengthen its overall power. At the same time, the preparation for the supervision on the Legislative Assembly Election was commenced in mid-2008.

According to the Political and Economic Risk Consultancy's annual report, *Trend of Corruption in Asia 2008*, Macao remained at the 4th in ranking with a score of 3.3 among the 13 evaluated countries and regions. Though Macao stood on the same rank compared with the previous year, the score became better. According to the Corruption Perception Index (CPI) for 2008 announced by the Transparency International, Macao scored 5.4 and ranked the 8th among the Asia-Pacific countries and regions, a slight drop by 0.3 in CPI and 2 places in ranking over 2007.

In 2008, the CCAC recorded a total of 796 cases, among which 553 and 243 were reports on criminal offences and administrative complaints respectively.

Of the reported criminal cases, 88 were qualified for handling. A total of 111 cases were processed, with 31 commenced for investigation, 79 cases carried over from 2007 and one case re-opened. Moreover, the CCAC handled a total of 33 cases which were requests for assistance from counterparts outside the territory, including 12 cases commenced in 2008, 19 cases carried over from 2007 and two cases re-opened. Criminal cases handled in 2008 totalled 144 of which 46 were concluded. The concluded cases included 34 cases of which the CCAC has finished investigating, 10 cases transferred to the Public Prosecutions

Office and 2 cases re-filed after finishing reinvestigation. There were 9 cases investigated by the CCAC and then adjudicated by the court, involving 23 defendants of whom 20 were convicted. The conviction rate reached 87%.

On the front of Ombudsman, the CCAC received a total of 243 cases, a slight increase over the previous year. A majority of the cases involved the legal system governing public services, illegal construction, traffic offences and supervision of property use. Moreover, the CCAC also received 639 requests for help and consultation.

As to the examinations and researches on system and operation, the CCAC completed a project of system examination and research entitled *Analysis on Current Regulations on Use of Property and Relevant Supervisory Mechanism* and the report has been submitted to the Chief Executive. Meanwhile, regarding the examination and research on operation, the CCAC cooperated with the Labour Affairs Bureau for the first time to examine the procedures of handling the labour dispute and fight against illegal employment. Also, the CCAC continued to partner with the Identification Bureau to examine the procedure of issuing and managing residents' identification documents. At the same time, the CCAC also followed up the implementation of improvement measures taken by the Inspection Division of the Urbanization Department of the Land, Public Works and Transport Bureau and the Department of Travel Documents of the Identification Bureau.

All the 61 public departments and institutions have already joined the Integrity Management Plan – Protocol of Collaboration since the plan was launched in August 2007. Some of them have carried out further improvement based on their initial experience, while the CCAC had been providing assistance. In general, the departments have further alerted their staff to the problems concerning recusation, handling of advantages received and outside employment and have improved the mechanisms regarding procurement procedures.

In order to comply with the Policy Address of the Macao SAR Government and fulfil the objectives of the *United Nations Convention Against Corruption*, the CCAC's jurisdiction will be expanded to the private sector. Therefore, the CCAC organized a number of symposia focusing on corruption in the private sector and co-organized seminars with various business circles in order to obtain the opinions about corruption prevention in the private sector. The relevant legislative proposal was submitted to the Chief Executive in mid-2008.

In 2008, the CCAC continued to enhance its community relations in order to promote effective integrity education. With 33,500 participants, a total of 377 seminars were held.

At the same time, due to rapid social development, the CCAC strengthened the integrity education targeting at teenagers. The moral education materials for secondary students were being developed. Apart from the Branch Office operating at Areia Preta, the Branch Office in Taipa will be launched in mid-2009.

As to personnel training, the CCAC dispatched staff in 2008 to the training courses organized by the China National School of Administration and the Guangdong Institute of Public Administration which focused on the current policies and development of the economy, diplomacy, administrative system and integrity building. Also, some staff were sent to take the investigation course co-organized by the Chinese People's Public Security University and the CCAC. The exchange training programmes held by the ICAC of Hong Kong and joined by the CCAC's staff included ICAC Investigator Induction Course, Training Programme of Application of Analysis Software and the ICAC Induction Course 2008. The CCAC also conducted a 6-month training programme for the newly recruited investigators who were expected to start working in March 2009, further strengthening the investigative power.

In 2008, the CCAC frequently engaged in exchange activities. In order to enhance the cooperation with international organizations, the CCAC actively participated in various international conferences and exchanges, including the Board of Directors' Meeting of the International Ombudsman Institute (IOI) in Hong Kong, the 3rd Annual Conference and General Meeting of the International Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities in Ukraine, the Anti-Corruption Expertise Workshop in Singapore, the 13th International Anti-Corruption Conference in Athens, the 5th China-ASEAN Prosecutors General Conference in Manila and the 12th Steering Group Meeting of the ADB / OECD Anti-Corruption Initiative for Asia and the Pacific and Regional Conference in Singapore. The CCAC's delegates also went to the Mainland China to observe the operation of supervisory bodies. Meanwhile, the Commission has received delegations from various countries and regions, such as the delegations of the ICAC of Hong Kong, members of National Parliament of the East Timor, the Administrative School of Finland, the China University of Political Science and Law, Directors of the IOI who joined the IOI Board of Directors' Meeting and the Ministry of Supervision of China. Moreover, the CCAC visited and had meetings with many local associations and organizations.

Looking ahead to 2009, the CCAC will strive to fulfil its statutory duties to combat corruption according to the social development and citizens' expectation and will join hands with all citizens to build a clean society.