

FOREWORD

According to Law no. 10/2000 - *Organic Law of the Commission Against Corruption*, the CCAC is dedicated to the fight against corruption in the public and private sectors and performing ombudsman functions. The CCAC personnel have constantly been fulfilling their responsibilities according to law, showing great resolution in graft fighting and striving for lawful administration. With the collaboration and support of the Macao SAR Government and the general public, they have also made untiring efforts to build a team of public servants upholding probity, law-abidingness and high efficiency and to strengthen integrity building of the Macao SAR.

To combat corruption acts committed by officials of public international organisations and public officials from outside of the jurisdiction of the Macao SAR, and to comply with the requirements set forth in the United Nations Convention Against Corruption, in 2014, the CCAC submitted a bill entitled “Prevention and Suppression of Bribery in External Trade”. The bill was passed by the Legislative Assembly in the same year and took effect on 1st January this year. The entry into force of the law has not only made the SAR’s legislation against corruption more complete and inclusive, but has also contributed to an anti-corruption system more geared to international standards.

The year of 2014 recorded a slight year-on-year decrease in the number of complaints and reports received and handled by the CCAC. The CCAC will attach great importance to the difference and will carefully find out the reasons, so that corresponding strategies can be formulated in the year’s business plan. Among all the complaints and reports handled by the CCAC in 2014, 96% came from the citizens - this means that the CCAC’s success in carrying out its anti-corruption and ombudsman work according to law largely depends on their trust, support and participation.

With the continuous economic development of the Macao SAR, various interests are inevitably becoming more complex. To practically meet residents' expectation of enhancing integrity building, firstly, the CCAC must adhere to the principle that "all are equal before the law" when carrying out anti-corruption work. It must also ensure that each case of corruption is investigated, prosecuted and penalised. Secondly, it must further enhance the requirements on discipline and professionalism of the CCAC's personnel so they are always impartial, self-disciplined, professional and efficient.

The CCAC has always been employing the two-pronged approach highlighting both combating and prevention – along with investigating and handling corruption cases, it proactively carries out promotion and education work to prevent corruption. To strengthen its corruption prevention work, the CCAC will conduct in-depth analyses into model cases selected from among those ever investigated. In addition to the personal character and conduct of the culprits, the CCAC will attempt to identify other factors triggering corruption in some specific cases, particularly loopholes or inadequacies in the administrative procedures, operating systems and legislation. By doing so, it hopes that useful opinions and recommendations for improvement may be rendered and the previous corruption phenomena will less likely recur in the future.

In recent years, due to social development, the services provided by the public departments of the SAR have continuously increased, leading to a rise in the number of complaints relating to public services. As an administrative watchdog, the CCAC aims not only at safeguarding the rights, freedom, legitimate interests of the citizens but also at supervising, according to law, the legality in the exercise of public powers by the government departments and the fairness and efficiency of public administration. Therefore, the full resolution of administrative complaints should not be confined to "returning justice to citizens". More importantly, it should strive to efficiently promote the public services focusing on the general operation of the departments and applicable legal regimes.

The CCAC will conduct systematic analysis of the ombudsman cases handled in the past, evaluate and categorise the most complained about departments and incidents, and carry out targeted investigation into them. It will seek to, together with the departments involved, identify the underlying causes and resolutions for the problems, with special regard to those arising from obsolete laws, inflexible administrative procedures and lack of uniformity, thus avoiding the vicious circle where “citizens lodge complaints, the CCAC makes recommendations, departments respond, yet problems remain unchanged” - all in a bid to improve the governance, implementation capacity and confidence of the citizens in the SAR government.

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The Commissioner Against Corruption
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