

FOREWORD

In 2020, the Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) persisted with its commitment to perform its duties independently, objectively and lawfully. In the wake of the pandemic, the CCAC continued to launch projects in various aspects including anti-corruption, ombudsman’s work as well as promotion and education in an orderly and pragmatic manner according to the work plan. It persistently promoted the development of integrity building of Macao.

On the front of corruption fighting, the CCAC has zero tolerance for corruption as always and continues to, with full efforts, combat various kinds of cases of fraud which have stood out in recent years over financial aids granted by the government to the associations or institutions. The CCAC believes that public departments and all kinds of public funds should promote the development of corruption prevention mechanism for government subsidies. They should develop a dynamic and long-term corruption prevention mechanism which is all-round and comprehensive through prior estimation, inspection throughout the process and examination afterwards and ensure the proper use of government subsidies.

Moreover, due to the impact of the pandemic, corruption cases related to securing job opportunities increased compared to previous years. The CCAC will therefore closely monitor the integrity of the public and the private sectors and conduct investigation upon the obtaining of evidence on any cases.

On the front of ombudsman’s work, the CCAC concluded the publicly concerned cases of “Investigation report about 74 land concession leasehold case files where the provisional concession leaseholds were declared expired” and the “Investigation report on the granting of loans to Viva Macau Limited

by the Industrial and Commercial Development Fund” according to the law. To plug the loopholes in the vetting and approval as well as supervision of public assets, the CCAC not only presented suggestions for improving the supervision mechanism for the use of financial aid but also held meetings with different funds where it gave explanations and clarifications on the management of public assets in order to practically carry out the supervision work.

The CCAC will sustain its efforts to handle every piece of investigation information seriously and find out the inadequacies of the existing administrative procedures or acts, systems or regulations in an impartial and unbiased manner, under the principle of objectivity and without influence by various factors of the society. By putting forward opinions, suggestions and even recommendations for improvement to the public departments, the CCAC carries out the supervision responsibilities according to the law so as to achieve the objective of urging public departments to perform their duties in strict compliance with the law, improving the quality of governance and safeguarding public interest.

Regarding exchange and cooperation, despite the worldwide impact of the pandemic, it did not affect the CCAC to implement the work of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) and maintain the exchange and cooperation with international associations. The CCAC continued to keep good communication with relevant associations in other countries or regions through online platform, including strengthening liaison with the experts of implementation review group of the UNCAC and holding videoconferences. Also, the CCAC actively cooperated with the Central Government on the implementation review work of the UNCAC and participated in various regional and international meetings. After the pandemic had subsided, the CCAC resumed essential visits, including visits to counterpart bodies such as the National Supervisory Commission in Beijing and prepared in advance for the official

visits to the nine cities in the Greater Bay Area which would take place in 2021 in order to strengthen exchange and cooperation between the CCAC and the enforcement agencies of China as well as promote the long-term development of integrity building.

In order to accurately access information that may become essential in the investigations as well as verify indications of illegality, the CCAC has proactively encouraged the public to lodge real-name complaints and reports in recent years. In 2020, the proportion of anonymous complaints or reports received by the CCAC was fewer than that in the previous years, which accounted for only 34% of the overall complaints and reports, down by more than 20% compared to 54.6% in 2019. Real-name complaints and reports accounted for nearly 60%, reflecting that the citizens had a growing awareness of lodging real-name complaints and reports and were willing to support the work of the CCAC. It also showed that the promotion work of the CCAC had achieved initial results. Therefore, the CCAC will continue to promote the social responsibility of lodging real-name complaints and reports and sustain its efforts to foster the awareness of responsible reporting in the public.

In addition, the CCAC also implemented the complaint management system, improved the channels to lodge complaints and promoted lodging complaints and reports through electronic means in order to further achieve such aims as bringing convenience to citizens and enhancing efficiencies.

It is worth mentioning that the CCAC progressively put into practice the retrospective review mechanism mentioned in the Policies and Measures last year so as to strengthen the effectiveness of subsequent monitoring of ombudsman cases and to urge public departments to continue to look squarely and monitor seriously any existing problems. The CCAC hopes that it is able to, through this mechanism, effectively respond to the society's expectations on continuous inspection and promotion of integrity building in the Macao SAR.

To sum up, in 2020, the CCAC generally achieved the objectives as planned. Apart from exerting its functions in combating crimes of corruption in the public and the private sectors and performing ombudsman activities according to the *Organic Law of the Commission Against Corruption of the Macao SAR*, the CCAC also, having regard to the epidemic preventive measures of the SAR Government, has made all-out efforts and has done its best to promote various actions of education of integrity awareness, administrative supervision activities as well as amendment to internal laws and regulations.

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