



Best Practices on Preventing and Combating Corruption

Presented to MESICIC

Thirty-Eight Meeting of the Committee of Experts

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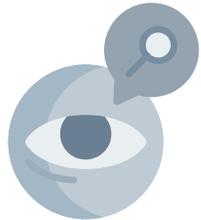
PREVENTING AND COMBATING CORRUPTION



INTEGRITY COMMISSION



- The prevention of Corruption Act, Chapter 105, Revised Edition 2011 provides for establishing the Integrity Commission.



- To promote integrity and tackle corruption and misconduct, to which investigations and hearings are the main tools to achieve its objective.



- To combat corruption through developing, implementing and enforcing anti-corruption legislation, policy and initiatives.

OTHER LEGISLATIVE BODIES FORMED AND IN PROCESS



Protection of Witness Act, 2022



- Protection of witnesses in criminal proceedings and the ability of a witness to give testimony in judicial proceedings and cooperate with law enforcement authorities.



- An aim is to increase the rate of successful prosecutions with an additional aim to protect the witnesses of criminal acts.

Justice Protection Act, 2011



- Section 4 of the Justice Protection Act mandates establishing a Justice Protection Programme and agencies.



- Protects witnesses and victims of crime

PROTECTION OF WHISTLEBLOWERS



Protected Disclosure (Whistleblowers') Bill, 2021



- An act to combat corruption and other wrongdoings or improper conduct in the public and private sector



- Enabling whistleblowers to confidently and securely “blow the whistle” on acts of corruption

Civil Asset Recovery Bill, 2022



- An act to provide for the civil recovery of the proceeds of unlawful conduct



- Deterring corruption by convicting corrupt officials and recovering stolen assets through the civil courts.

INVESTIGATIONS IN PROCESS



- Previous public officials are under investigations



- Gazettes are published in accordance with Section 14 of the Prevention of Corruption of Public Life of people who were non-compliant.

INTEGRITY COMMISSION REPORT



YEAR 2018

TABLE A

	2016	2017				TOTAL
01	TOTAL PERSONS IN PUBLIC LIFE	171	146			317
02	DECLARATIONS RECEIVED	134	122			256
03	2016 DECLARATIONS RECEIVED AS OF MARCH 31, 2017	24	-			24
04	LATE FILING BUT COMPLIED	86	49			135
05	REQUESTED EXTENSION OF TIME	24	33			57
06	SUBMITTED WITHIN PERIOD OF EXTENSION OF TIME	21	29			50
07	LATE FILING ON EXTENSION OF TIME	3	4			7
08	FAILED TO COMPLY ON EXTENSION OF TIME		1			1
08	2017 DECLARATIONS RECEIVED AS OF MARCH 1, 2018	-	44			44
09	DECLARATIONS NOT YET SUBMITTED	35	22			57
10	PUBLISHED LIST OF NAMES FOR NON SUBMISSION OF DECLARATION	70	42			112
11	DECLARATIONS RECEIVED AFTER PUBLICATION OF LIST IN GAZETTE	35	23			58
12	DECLARATIONS NOT YET EXAMINED	134	122			256
13	CERTIFICATES PUBLISHED	0				0
14	PERSONS DECEASED	2	1			3

N.B.: (1) Above figure are based on recording secretary's file records and may have minor inconsistencies

YEAR 2019

TABLE A

	2016	2017	2018	TOTAL	
01	TOTAL PERSONS IN PUBLIC LIFE	171	146	151	468
02	DECLARATIONS RECEIVED	134	125	128	387
03	DECLARATION RECEIVED FOR 2016 & 2017 in the year 2019	1	4	-	5
04	DECLARATIONS RECEIVED FOR THE YEAR 2018 as at MARCH 1 st , 2019	-	-	62	62
05	LATE FILING BUT COMPLIED AFTER 2 nd March, 2019	-	-	29	29
06	REQUESTED EXTENSION OF TIME	-	-	27	27
07	SUBMITTED WITHIN PERIOD OF EXTENSION OF TIME	-	-	24	24
08	LATE FILING ON EXTENSION OF TIME	-	-	2	2
09	FAILED TO COMPLY ON EXTENSION OF TIME	-	1	1	2
10	PUBLISHED LIST OF NAMES FOR FAILURE TO SUBMIT DECLARATION	71	42	32	145
11	DECLARATIONS RECEIVED AFTER PUBLICATION OF LIST IN GAZETTE	36	23	11	69
12	DECLARATIONS NOT RECEIVED	29	15	20	64
13	DECLARATIONS PENDING FOR REVIEW 2016, 2017 and 2018	75	89	99	263
14	CERTIFICATES PUBLISHED IN 2019 FOR THE YEAR 2016	-	-	24	24
15	DECLARATIONS EXAMINED WITH LETTERS ISSUED FOR FURTHER INFORMATION	18	28	25	71
16	DECLARATIONS READY FOR PUBLICATION (SUBJECT TO FINAL REVIEW)	10	14	6	30
17	PERSONS DECEASED	3	2	2	7

N.B.: (1) Above figures are based on the Administrative Secretary's file records and may have minor inconsistencies.

CONCLUSION



- We hope the Integrity Commission of Belize will be viewed as autonomous, promoting integrity, investigating and exposing corruption and misconduct in public administration.