

Message du Directeur Général SOIS PROACTIF

Jeune, continues à te liquer contre la corruption. Car tu as non seulement le potentiel de modifier le cours des choses mais aussi la farouche volonté d'œuvrer pour l'émergence d'une culture d'intégrité.

Selon le dernier indice sur la perception de la corruption (IPC 2008) publié par la Transparency International, Maurice enregistre un score de 5,5 (41ème place), ce qui représente une progression considérable à l'échelle planétaire.

Cependant mettre un terme à la corruption est une entreprise de longue haleine, complexe et difficile. D'ailleurs, aucun pays n'est entièrement à l'abri de la corruption. Les études internationales ont toutefois révélé que diminuer la corruption permettrait d'augmenter rapidement la croissance.

Mais comment enrayer ce fléau qui compromet dangereusement l'avenir de certains pays? En tant que jeune tu occupes une place prépondérante dans ce combat. Tu es appelé à être proactif et à mettre en œuvre des actions pertinentes pouvant avoir un impact positif sur le quotidien des citoyens.

La lutte contre la corruption est l'affaire de tous. Pour booster l'impulsion de ce mouvement, tu as le devoir de consolider ton engagement à bâtir une société plus saine et juste.

En avant avec TOI.

A.K.Ujoodha

"Prevention is better than cure"

Some 90 motivated young persons coming from different spheres of life, grouped in nine clusters participated in a Youth Summit Against Corruption on 11 October 2008 with the main objective to improve understanding of the youth regarding the anti-corruption movement on the international scene. This activity, organised by ICAC in collaboration with the Ministry of Youth and Sports, was the culmination of a series of intense interactive sessions starting some three months earlier.

"I had an enriching experience by befriending people, sharing knowledge, but also recognizing that the whole project is based on Humanity and the acknowledgement of Values", stated Ms Kashinee Bunjun who was awarded the prize for Best Reporter. Participants, grouped in nine clusters, were called upon to present actions undertaken to fight corruption in Tanzania, New Zealand, Botswana, Kenya, Bulgaria, India, Singapore, South Africa and Hong Kong.

The participants faced a difficult task and had mainly recourse to the internet as major source of information to make an analysis of the level of corruption and identify anti-corruption measures undertaken. *"It is disappointing to know that corruption can bring damaging effects to any society and its economy... As goes the saying, prevention is better than cure", highlighted Nirusha Keerpaul from Flocq-Cluster on a blog (<http://integrityinyouth.blogspot.com>) developed by her peers.*



The Winning Cluster - Plaine-Willhems

A critical analysis of the findings shows that anti-corruption approaches differ from country to country mainly due to their socio-economic background and political set-up. However, the goal remains the same. In many countries such as in India and New Zealand, emphasis is laid on law enforcement and system enhancement. While in countries such as Hong-Kong, Botswana, Bulgaria and Kenya, over and above investigative and preventive strategies, a series of actions are being initiated through awareness raising, mass communications and media. The last two steps were very critical for the participants as they had to identify actions which might be relevant to the Mauritian context and elaborate on role of youth in initiating and sustaining the measures. Some of the ideas put forward were as follows: setting up of an Asset Declarations Verification System, law reforms and amendments, development of fiscal education and inter-university anti-corruption programmes, creation of Club of Journalists Against Corruption, organisation of National Awards of Integrity, amongst others.

The final result was as follows:

- 1st prize-winner: Plaine-Willhems cluster
- 2nd prize-winner: Rivière du Rempart cluster
- 3rd prize-winner: Port-Louis cluster
- Best reporter: Ms Kashinee Bunjun

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700 youth pledge for a corrupt-free society



Mr Neerunjun Beegun

The Bon Accueil State College honored the district of Flacq by the kick-off of a 'Make-A-Pledge - Signing Up Campaign' on 09 March 2009 to mark the Independence Day of the Republic of Mauritius. This project, the first of its kind, prepared by Mr Neerunjun Beegun, education officer at the college, won the first prize (Category Individual) of the Project Competition 2007 organised by ICAC. Other institutions are now invited to come up with such innovations.

"Today the fight against corruption has gone global with more than 140 countries having already signed the UN Convention Against Corruption in a common endeavour to root out this scourge", said Mr Gérard Bussier, former Director of Corruption Prevention and Education Division, ICAC, during his address to some 700 students present. The anti-corruption pledge was then read by some representatives of the Student Council before the kick-off followed by a sketch, the launching of an integrity club and distribution of materials.



Some members of the integrity club reading the pledge

Corruption; A severe handicap to human rights

It's a fact, when corruption reigns the socio-economic fabric of any country becomes unpredictable and basic human rights are consequently threatened. "Corruption hurts the poor disproportionately by diverting funds intended for development, undermining a government's ability to provide basic services, feeding inequality and injustice, and discouraging foreign investment and aid", in the words of the former UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan.

Extortions, robberies, assaults, crimes ... are often closely linked with corruption, hurting human beings and more deeply their rights. The Seoul findings (11th International Anti-corruption Conference, Seoul, May 2003) declared that large scale corruption should be designated a crime against humanity, as for many around the world it falls into the same category as torture, genocide and other crimes that rob humans of their human dignity. The findings condemned corruption as immoral and unjust to the ideals of humanity enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and confirmed the conviction that all human beings have a basic human right to live in a corruption-free society. (reference: *Links between corruption and Human Rights: Basic Approach to Development - United Nations Development Programme - Oslo Governance Centre*).

The battle for political, social, economic and cultural rights is often associated with the fight against corruption since the elimination of corruption and the protection of human rights are undeniably interdependent. As stated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights "... recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world".

Meenackshee Totah
(Participant at the Youth Summit Against Corruption 2008
& student in Finance and Law at the University of Mauritius)

COZÉ ZÉNESS...



Interview Xpress de Roshan Bunoomally, Président du Club d'intégrité de Pamplemousses

La corruption est un phénomène mondial qui affecte le tissu social, économique et environnemental. Selon toi, quel est le rôle des jeunes dans le combat contre ce fléau?

La corruption concerne chacun d'entre nous. Il est dommage que certaines personnes pensent que l'on doit toujours passer par ce moyen pour atteindre des objectifs fixés. Je pense que ce n'est pas juste de dire que la corruption existe partout. Un changement de mentalité est impératif. Les jeunes doivent donner l'exemple en soutenant des actions qui visent à promouvoir une culture d'intégrité.



Roshan Bunoomally

Comment a germé l'idée de créer le club d'intégrité?

Je me suis lancé dans cette aventure suite à ma participation active dans le Youth Summit Against Corruption en tant que membre du National Anti-Corruption Youth Working Group (NAYWG). J'ai eu ainsi l'opportunité de jauger la perception des jeunes vis-à-vis de ce fléau et en conclure que nous partagions finalement la même ambition... celle d'être reconnus comme des corruption busters. C'est ainsi qu'avec le soutien de quelques jeunes ayant participé au sommet et le Pamplemousses Regional Youth Council (placé sous l'égide du Ministère de la Jeunesse et des Sports), on a mis sur pied le club.

Peux-tu nous donner un aperçu de votre calendrier d'activités pour 2009?

Outre le lancement officiel du club, on compte organiser toute une série d'activités durant l'année telles des causeries, ateliers de travail, un Youth Rally, entre autres.

Toute une palette d'activités seront organisées pour marquer le lancement officiel du club. Peux-tu nous en donner un avant-goût?

Au programme, compétitions littéraires, intervention à la radio, distribution de matériels, un échantillonnage pour déterminer le Need Analysis des habitants de Pamplemousses et de Rivière du Rempart en ce qui concerne leur participation active dans le combat contre la corruption.

A quoi serviront les données de ce 'Need Analysis'?

Les données serviront à mieux cerner les besoins de la société civile en ce qui concerne ce sujet. On pourra ainsi peaufiner notre calendrier d'activités en conséquence.

Un dernier mot

Nous, les jeunes d'aujourd'hui, devons à tout prix arborer une attitude positive et intègre et ce, dans notre vie de tous les jours. La corruption ne s'anéantira pas d'elle-même ! Chacun d'entre nous doit choisir d'y mettre fin.

Propos recueillis par Diya Muttaroo



Quelques membres du club

'Youth In Action' at Chamarel

On 04 April 2008, the NAYWG organised a "Youth In Action" programme in the village of Chamarel. The core objective was to foster greater public intolerance concerning corruption.

"The inhabitants of Chamarel, a small village in the south west of the island, are proud to be associated with such a programme which aimed at promoting integrity as an antidote to corruption", emphasized Mr Rico L'Intelligent, social worker, during a working session held prior to the programme with community leaders of the village. "This endeavour demonstrates that remoteness should not be an obstacle as far as the fight against social ills is concerned", he added.

On that day, members of the NAYWG and ICAC officers visited St. Jacques R.C.A School to promote values such as integrity, responsibility, respect and citizenship. "This programme was an opportunity for some of our students to work on a project regarding the fight against corruption in Mauritius. They've done some research work in past newspapers and on the internet so as to better understand the dangers of corruption and how to curb it", pointed out Mrs Sylvia Wade, Head Teacher of St. Jacques R.C.A School.

A door-to-door sensitization campaign was also organized throughout the village whereby more than 25 families were reached. In parallel, members of the NAYWG affixed posters in public places, distributed brochures and other anti-corruption tools to the inhabitants.

A working session targeting the community at large was organised and value based activities depicting dangers of corruption were held in the premises of the village hall.



Figures to remember...

- 41st rank for Mauritius in the Corruption Perception Index 2008 released by Transparency International, with a score of 5.5.
- 20 persons involved in 17 cases (as at date of publication) in connection with corruption or money laundering were convicted before the Intermediate Criminal Court since the enactment of the Prevention of Corruption Act (PoCA) in 2002.
- 877 recommendations have been worked out by ICAC following 23 Corruption Prevention Reviews carried out in various institutions as at June 2009.
- 39546 Youth (from the public sector, secondary and tertiary sector, NGOs, Non Government Organisation, CBOs, Community Based Organisation and the community, pre-primary and primary sector) were reached through our educational campaign in Mauritius and Rodrigues in 2008.
- 9th December - International Anti-Corruption Day. A series of activities were organised last year focused on *Corruption - Your No Counts*.

In the pipeline...



- Follow-up activities in connection with Youth Summit Against Corruption 2008.
- Production of a CD highlighting achievements of youth
- Anti-Corruption Education Contest
- Youth In Action Programme in Rodrigues
- Joint initiatives with other organisations involved in youth empowerment
- Production of anti-corruption tools
- Organisation of activities in the context of International Anti-Corruption Day 2009
- amongst others

Did you know that...

- The enactment of the PoCA in 2002 marked the setting up of the Independent Commission Against Corruption in Mauritius.
- 14 sections of PoCA refer to more than 40 corruption offences (for example: conflict of interests, 'trafic d'influence' ...).
- Both the taker and the giver commit a corruption offence. On conviction, they can be liable to penal servitude for a term not exceeding 10 years.
- ICAC adopts a three-pronged strategy to fight corruption, namely through law enforcement, education and prevention.
- For more information, please consult: www.icac.mu

Protect Yourself!!



Designed by Audrey Marchal-Leroux

"Integrity is doing the right thing, even if nobody is watching"





THE MYSTERIOUS WORD

The words listed below are found in the grid: *horizontally, vertically, diagonally, from up to down and vice versa, from right to left or inversely*. Words can cross where one alphabet may be used for several words except those of the **Mysterious Word**. After having found the words given below, only alphabets to make the mysterious word will remain. Gather and arrange the letters in the correct order to obtain the Mysterious Word. Good luck!

N	A	M	B	I	T	I	O	N	L
E	M	B	A	R	G	O	S	L	T
Y	A	G	I	E	Y	M	I	A	P
P	T	U	L	L	A	W	B	A	D
Y	E	T	M	A	I	N	R	O	B
L	U	T	E	T	S	T	A	M	S
A	R	E	N	E	W	S	Y	R	M
E	Y	R	T	O	P	T	S	A	O
T	E	I	Y	O	F	I	G	H	T
S	C	I	T	I	L	O	P	Y	A

Proposed by Suzanne Bergey-Murphy

POLITICS	STEAL	TRAP	ATOMS	NEWS
WILL	ABILITY	BAD	FIGHT	TOP
EMBARGO	RELATE	GUTTER	AMBITION	BAT
AMATEUR	MAIN	ROB	WALL	BAD
AILMENT	GLASS	HARM	RAYS	

HINT

Definition of the Mysterious Word:

Favoritism shown or patronage granted to relatives, as in business

See answer in the next issue of YEP LINK

Anti-Corruption Elocution Contest

The ICAC in collaboration with the Ministry of Social Security, N.S, S.W.C & R.I is organising an Anti-Corruption Elocution Contest targeting youth residing in the Grand-Port and Savanne districts. The competition is opened to youth aged 17 to 21 years old (Category 1) and 22 to 29 years old (Category 2).

Participation forms and information sheets will be available at ICAC Headquarters and at the level of each of the 17 social welfare centres in the above-mentioned districts as from 01 December 2009. The participation form must be submitted to: The Director, Corruption Prevention and Education Division, ICAC, Marine Road, Port-Louis in a sealed envelope with the reference 'Anti-Corruption Elocution Contest 2010' on the top left-hand corner of the envelope by Friday 05 February 2010. Winners will be awarded shields and/or books. Certificates of participation will be given to all participants. For more information, call on 206 6600.

Dear reader,

We hope that you've gone through all the columns and you've really enjoyed this edition. If you've got innovative ideas in nurturing a culture of integrity, do not hesitate to send your views and opinions to us. THANKS!!! Your motto and our motto should be the same: Putting Integrity First! NAYWG

The 1st and 2nd edition of the YEP LINK are downloadable on our website: www.icac.mu

YEP CROSSWORDS (YEP LINK issue 2)-Answers



Across

- Qualités que l'on souhaite à l'homme dans le domaine moral, intellectuel et professionnel.
- Mette sa pensée ou son dévouement au service d'une cause.
- Commission anti-corruption.
- 'Instrumentalisation' - Mot anglais qui désigne l'action d'étendre la sphère de ses connaissances.
- Loi locale qui condamne la corruption.
- Temps de vie entre l'enfance et la maturité.
- Personne accordant une large place à l'idéal.
- Fléau de la société.
- Caractère d'une personne qui ne cache pas ses intentions.
- Non dissimulé.
- Contraire de la malhonnêteté.

Down

- Mot anglais désignant la position d'un leader.
- Obligation ou nécessité morale, intellectuelle.
- Qualité de citoyen.
- Respect des droits et du mérite de chacun.
- Sentiment de traiter quelqu'un ou quelque chose avec égard.
- Incorruptibilité.
- Vérité.
- Contraire de l'immoralité.
- Science de la morale.

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« L'honnêteté est le premier chapitre du livre de la sagesse » - Thomas Jefferson