

*The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) was established to lead Namibia's fight against corruption. It does this in three ways: investigating allegations of corrupt practices, educating the public about corruption and advising on practices and systems in order to prevent corruption. The Anti-Corruption Commission works with individuals, civil society, government institutions and the private sector to eliminate corruption in Namibia.*

*"We take action against corruption to promote integrity, transparency and accountability for the good of society, economic growth and national prosperity."*

*ACC Mission Statement*

## *Your leading authority in the fight against corruption!*

**T**he Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) was established as an independent and impartial body by the Anti-Corruption Act, 2003 (Act No. 8 of 2003). The Commission became operational with its inauguration by His Excellency, President Hifikepunye Pohamba, on 1 February 2006. The Commission is headed by a Director and Deputy Director who are nominated by the President and appointed by the National Assembly. The ACC is mandated by the Anti-Corruption Act to investigate any person allegedly engaging in corrupt practices. The Anti-Corruption Act clearly outlines the conduct that constitutes a corrupt practice.

### **Why was it established?**

Since Namibia's Independence corruption has been increasingly recognised by government as a problem that needs to be addressed. The need to have a single co-ordinating agency responsible for Namibia's anti-corruption efforts became evident. Similar authorities in neighbouring countries and elsewhere have been very successful in fighting corruption and we anticipate the same success in Namibia.



### **What does the ACC do?**

#### *Investigates corrupt practices*

- The primary role of the ACC is to investigate allegations of corrupt practices. The ACC may also initiate investigations. If there is sufficient evidence, on conclusion of an investigation, the Director of the ACC refers the matter to the Prosecutor-General for a decision whether or not to prosecute.

#### *Educates the public*

- The ACC campaigns against corruption by educating the public on corruption, the causes and costs of corruption, and ways to fight corruption. This is done by holding workshops and seminars for the public, civil society, the business community, and public servants to increase awareness and debate on corruption. The ACC strives to work with its partners to publicise issues surrounding corruption.

#### *Prevents corruption*

- It's often said that "prevention is better than the cure." At the ACC we agree. In terms of the Anti-Corruption Act the ACC is also mandated to examine the ways in which public and private institutions operate and advise them on ways to reduce the potential for corruption.

### **When should you contact the ACC?**

You should contact the Anti-Corruption Commission whenever you suspect that a corrupt practice has taken place. Furthermore, if you witness an act of corruption you are obliged in terms of the Anti-Corruption Act to report it to the ACC. Also educate yourself on what constitutes corruption and take action when necessary by contacting the ACC's Report Centre.

### **Other watchdog agencies to contact**

*The Ombudsman* - Matters concerning the violation of human rights and freedoms, the protection of the environment and the functioning of government offices, inclusive of the defence force, police force and prison service, should be referred to the Ombudsman's office.

*Contact details: Private Bag 13211, Windhoek, T. (061) 207 3111.*

