

MINUTES
1st MEETING OF 2025
ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMISSION
7 February 2025
COMMISSIONS SECRETARIAT

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:

Charles Jennings	Chairman
Simon Whicker	Member
Romeo Frederick	Member
Elisabeth Lees	Member

APOLOGIES:

Kendra Foster	Member
Laurence Aiolfi	Member

SECRETARIAT MEMBERS PRESENT:

Melanie McField	Manager (for part of the meeting)
Francis Kearns	Deputy Manager
Richard Oliver	Senior Investigator (“SIO”)
Evette Burnell	Administrator/Analyst

1. Meeting called to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 AM and it was confirmed that a quorum was present.

2. Conflicts of Interest

Members were reminded of their obligation to disclose and recuse themselves should any conflict of interest arise in relation to any new matters during the course of the meeting.

3. Confirmation of Minutes

It was noted that the minutes of the meeting held on 20 November 2024 had previously been approved and posted on the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) website.

4. Matters Arising from Previous Meetings

a. Secretariat HR Update

The Deputy Manager informed Members that there are two Investigator Level I positions and one Investigator Level II position to be filled, since an Investigator Level I recently handed in his notice and will be leaving this week.

Concerns were raised regarding the competitiveness of the compensation package, as the pay rates are lower than those offered by other agencies for similar roles. A review of the Job Descriptions will be conducted, and the positions will be reassessed and regraded if necessary. The roles will be advertised both locally and internationally.

All three (3) current Level II investigators are expected to apply for the Level I positions and will be given the opportunity to act in the role on a monthly rotating basis to demonstrate supervisory potential.

The SIO's contract is being extended by a further 12 months with an option to extend by another 12 months thereafter. The succession plan for this role involves advertising the SIO Designate position, which will facilitate the transition and prepare the selected candidate to take on the SIO role.

b. Secure Data/Information Transfer Update

Following the successful trial of devices for accessing ACC emails, all Members have now been issued a device. Half of the Members have had the email application installed, with the remainder pending installation, which will be followed up. Members were reminded that passwords must be updated every three months, which can be done prior to meetings via a laptop connected to the government network. Additionally, a WhatsApp group will be created to notify Members of incoming emails to their devices.

c. Educational Outreach

There are no current educational projects. However, Members did discuss the possibility of conducting some outreach prior to the 2025 election. In previous years, the ACC initiated an anti-corruption pledge for election candidates. However, this was criticized as outside the ACC remit at the time. The Commissions Secretariat will review the last version of the pledge and assess whether it is within the ACC's mandate to pursue this initiative.

A broader outreach campaign to raise public awareness on corruption and its impact was also discussed. Potential avenues for this outreach include using billboards, hosting a radio panel, or engaging with the Chamber of Commerce to facilitate a discussion on corruption-related issues. Members agreed to revisit this matter in a future meeting, once the scope and content are clarified and determined to be within the ACC's remit. Assistance from the Communications team and the Governor's office will be sought as appropriate.

d. Jakarta Principles / Independence

Member Whicker gave an update on progress regarding the process of reviewing the Jakarta Principles and the Cayman Islands' adherence to them. He and Member Lees are in the process of finalizing an initial report on the matter, which the Chairman has provided feedback on. After final amendments, this will be shared with Members for their input. Once Members have all agreed the report will likely be sent to the Governor and the Attorney General (AG) and this will be confirmed in the next meeting.

5. New Business

None

6. C-FATF Related Updates

The SIO attended a retreat with a day of presentations, which the AG's Chambers had scheduled. System issues were discussed and it was agreed to go back through requests to other agencies and compile data, along with timelines for responses.

7. Operational Update

a. Outstanding Matters

i. ACC/COMP/2023/05

There is no further update. This matter is with RCIPS and awaits further developments before a decision can be made.

ii. ACC/COMP/2024/04

The SIO is consulting with the ODPP regarding this case.

b. New Complaints

i. ACC/COMP/2024/09

Members decided that this was outside the remit of the ACC and the case will be closed.

ii. ACC/COMP/2025/01

Members decided that this was outside the remit of the ACC and the case will be closed.

c. SIO Report

Mr. Oliver updated Members regarding ongoing investigations.

d. Existing Corruption Reports/Complaints Statistics

The ACC reported that, since its inception on 1 January 2010, the following statistics have been recorded:

- 162 investigations registered
- 0 investigations pending
- 140 investigations concluded
- 10 investigations transferred to other investigative units
- 12 active investigations

The spreadsheet, which provides details of the complaints and investigations, will continue to be updated on a monthly basis.

8. Any Other Business

- a.** The Chairman will follow up with the ODPP regarding the data on the time and costs incurred by the ODPP for ACC-related matters, to justify the potential need for the ACC to have its own legal counsel.
- b.** Members discussed the departure process for investigators, including the documentation required. The Chairman requested a copy of the standard Employment Agreement for Investigators and a copy of the Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA) signed by a previous staff member, specifically focusing on provisions related to their departure. A meeting with the Portfolio of the Civil Service (POCS) will be scheduled to address any concerns arising from this.

9. Action Items

- a.** CSD to complete the set-up of devices for Members for confidential email/data exchange as detailed in item 4.b. above (Members/CSD).

- b. The Commissions Secretariat will look up the last pledge in relation to candidates for election and evaluate if it falls within the ACC remit to proceed, as detailed in item 4.c. above (Secretariat).
- c. Member Whicker to finalise the initial report on alignment with the Jakarta Principles and circulate to Members, as detailed in item 4.d. above (Member Whicker).
- d. The SIO agreed to go back through requests to other agencies and compile the data, along with timelines for responses, as detailed in item 6. Above (SIO).
- e. Relevant closure letters to be drafted and distributed, as outlined in 7.a.iii. and 7.b.i above (Secretariat).
- f. The Chairman will follow up re the data on time/costs the ODPP incur for ACC related matters, as detailed in item 8.i above (Chairman).
- g. The Chairman is to review the Employment Agreements and NDAs staff sign and then a meeting will be scheduled with POCS, as detailed in item 8.ii above (Chairman/ Secretariat).

10. Items to be Discussed at the Next Meeting

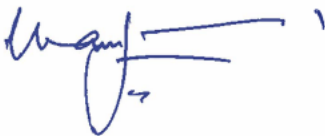
- a. Updates on the action items above
- b. Secretariat HR Update
- c. Secure Data/Information Transfer Update
- d. Educational Outreach
- e. C-FATF Related Updates
- f. Jakarta Principles / Independence
- g. ACC/COMP/2023/05
- h. ACC/COMP/2024/04

11. Date of the Next Meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for 26 March 2025 at 10 AM.

12. Adjournment

ended at 12.31 PM.



CHARLES JENNINGS
CHAIRMAN
ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMISSION