### ACC/MIN/2025/03

# MINUTES 3rd MEETING OF 2025 ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMISSION 21 May 2025 COMMISSIONS SECRETARIAT

#### **COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Charles Jennings	Chairman
Kendra Foster	Member
Elisabeth Lees	Member
Simon Whicker	Member
Romeo Frederick	Member
Laurence Aiolfi	Member

# SECRETARIAT MEMBERS PRESENT:

Melanie McField	Manager
Francis Kearns	Deputy Manager
Richard Oliver	Senior Investigator ("SIO")

## 1. Meeting called to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 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 7 April 2025 had previously been approved and posted on the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) website.

## 4. Matters Arising from Previous Meetings

### a. Secretariat HR Update

The Manager informed Members that the application period for the open Investigator positions closed on 19 May. A good number of applications were received for the posts of Senior Investigator Officer (Designate), Investigator Level I, and Investigator Level II.

All submissions have been reviewed, and a shortlisting meeting with the Portfolio of the Civil Service is scheduled for 26 May. The shortlist will be shared with the Chairman, who is expected to sit on the interview panel.

The Chairman emphasised the importance of ensuring continuity in ongoing matters and noted that where appropriate, the current Senior Investigator Officer should be brought back for consultation or case handover, even after his departure. He added that consultancy fees payable to him should be considered.

Member Foster raised a question regarding the forecasting of such consultancy fees under the budget. The Chairman confirmed that a reference to potential consultancy costs should be

included in the forecast. The Chairman also suggested he would raise this matter in his letter to the Attorney General regarding ACC recruitment.

#### b. Secure Data/Information Transfer Update

All Members have now been issued a device. Most Members have had the email application installed, with the remainder pending installation, which will be followed up.

#### c. Educational Outreach

Further discussion took place regarding the SIO's potential participation as a speaker at the CIIPA conference later this year. Members agreed that a case study based on publicly available information could be utilised for this presentation.

Members discussed the current limitations of the ACC's statutory mandate, noting that education is not included. It was agreed that any expansion of the Commission's remit to encompass education would necessitate legislative amendments. Members proposed compiling a list of potential statutory changes, including those that may emerge from the ongoing review of the Jakarta Principles, to present to the Government collectively at an appropriate time.

In the interim, the Commission continues to seek opportunities to contribute to anti-corruption education. An introductory video outlining the Commission's role and functions is currently in development. Once completed, this video will be made available on the Commission's website and integrated into the orientation program for new civil servants.

#### d. Jakarta Principles / Independence

Member Whicker provided an update on the status of the review of the Jakarta Principles and the Cayman Islands' adherence to them. He talked Members through the current position and emphasised the importance of all Members reviewing the document in detail ahead of the next meeting, proposed for 18 June.

It was agreed that Members would use the intervening period to familiarise themselves fully with the draft and to provide any comments via email. The aim is for the finalised document to be reviewed and approved at the next meeting, before being shared with the Governor, the Attorney General and the Premier.

Member Foster noted that there may be elements which fall solely within the remit of the ACC, and that these should be acknowledged as such. It was suggested that the accompanying cover letter reflect this, identifying those matters within the ACC's control and outlining the intended approach.

The Commission recorded its thanks to the sub-committee for its work on the review.

#### e. ACC Legal Counsel

Mr. Alex Barbour from the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP) attended the meeting to introduce himself as the new designated point of contact for the ACC.

Mr. Barbour advised that he will serve as the first point of contact for any legal queries or matters requiring liaison with the ODPP. In the event he is unavailable, he will ensure that an appropriate alternative contact is identified. He encouraged the ACC to direct all correspondence or queries to him in the first instance, noting that he would keep the DPP informed as necessary.

Mr. Barbour also shared his observations regarding recent progress in addressing the backlog in the criminal courts, highlighting improvements since the appointment of a new criminal judge.

## 5. New Business

None

## 6. C-FATF Related Updates

The Chairman informed Members that at a recent meeting of the Anti-Money Laundering Steering Group he had outlined the current recruitment and staffing challenges faced by the ACC. Following the presentation, the Attorney General acknowledged the importance of the issue and said he would assist where possible.

The Chairman confirmed that he would be following up with formal correspondence to the Attorney General in due course.

# 7. Operational Update

# a. Outstanding Matters

# i. ACC/COMP/2023/05

This matter is with RCIPS and there is no further update at present. The Chairman will write to RCIPS for an update on the investigation.

# ii. ACC/COMP/2024/04

The Chairman will consult with the DPP regarding an update on this case.

## b. New Complaints

# i. ACC/COMP/2025/03

The SIO informed Members of the new complaint which had been received. Members discussed this complaint and decided that it fell outside of the ACC remit and will therefore be closed and a closure letter will be sent.

## c. SIO Report

The SIO updated Members regarding ongoing investigations. A number of matters were discussed in which civil servants are delaying responding to ACC inquiries. The Chairman said he would write to the Deputy Governor regarding these delays.

## d. Existing Corruption Reports/Complaints Statistics

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

- 163 investigations registered
- 0 investigations pending
- 141 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

None

# 9. Action Items

- **a.** Secretariat to include a dedicated line item for consultancy fees in the forthcoming budget forecast, as discussed in item 4.a above. (Manager)
- **b.** CSD to complete the set-up of devices for Members to facilitate secure and confidential communication, as referenced in item 4.b above. (CSD/Members)
- **c.** Members to review the Jakarta Principles documentation and draft Code of Conduct in preparation for discussion and potential approval at the next meeting, as noted in item 4.d above. (Members)
- **d.** Chairman to write to the Attorney General to follow up on the discussion regarding staffing support for the ACC, as per item 6 above. (Chairman)
- e. Chairman to write to RCIPS requesting an update on ACC-COMP-2023-05, as discussed in item 7.a.i above. (Chairman)
- **f.** Chairman to write to the Director of Public Prosecutions to seek an update on relevant matters, as outlined in item 7.a.ii above. (Chairman)
- g. Secretariat to issue a closure letter as discussed in item 7.b.i above. (Secretariat)
- **h.** Chairman to write to the Deputy Governor regarding delays in civil servants responding to ACC information requests, as discussed as part of item 7.c above. (Chairman)

# 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 will be held on Wednesday 18 June.

# 12. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:58 AM.

CHARLES JENNINGS CHAIRMAN ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMISSION