



International Anti-Corruption Day 2021

THURSDAY, 9TH DECEMBER 2021

THEME: **Your Right, Your Role: Say NO To Corruption**



Ninth December 2021 marks the 13th Edition for the commemoration of the International Anti-Corruption Day (IACD) which came into existence after the adoption of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) on 31st October 2003. The United Nations (UN) General Assembly

through its Resolution 58/4 designated 9th December as the International Anti-Corruption Day. On 9th December 2003, Kenya became the first country to sign and simultaneously ratify the UNCAC. Kenya has since strengthened its legal, policy and institutional framework to support and implement UNCAC Resolutions, including

commemoration of the International Anti-Corruption Day.

The Patron of the Forum is His Excellency the President, with the Hon. Attorney General as Chairperson, and Secretary/Chief Executive Officer of the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC), the Secretary.

MESSAGE FROM THE HONOURABLE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA AND CHAIRPERSON, KENYA LEADERSHIP INTEGRITY FORUM



HON. JUSTICE (RTD) P. KIHARA KARUIKI, EGH

parties about the significant challenges and threats posed by corruption, and the link between corruption and other forms of crime.

This year's commemoration seeks to highlight the rights and responsibilities of both state and non-state actors in the shared pursuit of addressing the corruption scourge. This year's theme resonates with the aspirations of the people of Kenya, codified within our Constitution and the various anti-corruption laws and strategies.

The Constitution has dedicated a whole chapter to leadership and integrity, with the attendant expectation that citizens would reflect deeply on the provisions of its Chapter Six and how they can effectively play their respective roles, whether within the public sector or private sector, to bring the constitutional ideals as espoused in the national values and principles to life.

To augment the Government's efforts, the Convention equally addresses strategies on prevention, investigation and prosecution of corruption, as well as asset recovery interventions. Further, the Convention recognizes the role of other actors in the fight against corruption and encourages the participation of individuals in preventing and fighting corruption.

Notably, the Government has since ratification of the Convention, made great anti-corruption strides through

policy, legislative and administrative interventions, so as to ensure that Kenyans realize the ideals and values embedded in our Constitution. This has been coupled with His Excellency the President's firm and unwavering leadership in this pursuit.

The interventions include; the continuous review of the various anti-corruption legislations to address emerging trends of corruption, engagement with international partners on mutual legal assistance actions, enforcing the signing of accountability pledges by state and public officers, issuance of various Government Executive Orders - including the Mwongozo Code of Governance which has transformed the management of State Corporations as well as enforcement of the unexplained wealth order framework, as a strategic anti-corruption tool.

Cognizant of the need to harness available resources for enhanced operational efficiency, law enforcement agencies now undertake investigations under a common anti-corruption front, through the Multi-Agency Team. The fruits of enhanced cooperation and coordination through this Team can be seen through the timely completion of multi-agency investigations and recovery of illegally obtained assets. The Sectoral approach to integrity and anti-corruption has also been embraced by other actors in the justice sector

through the establishment of a special anti-corruption working group under the auspices of the National Council on the Administration of Justice and the Kenya Leadership Integrity Forum.

The Office of the Attorney General and Department of Justice is mandated to coordinate ethics, integrity and anti-corruption strategies in Government. The Office continues to provide the necessary technical expertise and support in the development and revision of anti-corruption laws, regulations and strategies.

Every citizen can have a major positive impact in the war against corruption. A corruption-free society is a recipe for immense economic growth and generations of prosperity. The Government is a reflection of the national values and ethos of the nation. If citizens espouse values that are consistent with honour, dignity and integrity, it is inevitable that these will filter to those in Government, those who serve citizens.

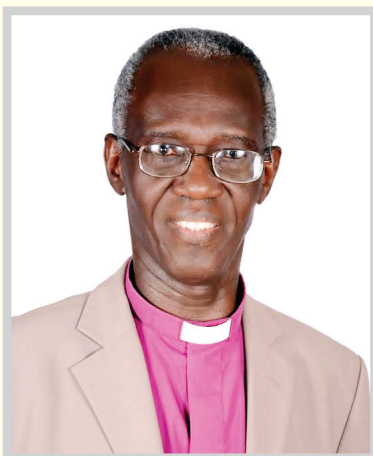
The cost of corruption is greater than the sum of money lost: it distorts the Government's spending priorities and undermines the State's ability to promote sustainable and inclusive growth. Corruption also drains public resources from education, healthcare and effective infrastructure; which investment can catapult the economy exponentially and raise the citizen's living standards. It is therefore necessary that



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our citizens recognize their right to an accountable public service at all levels of Government, and play their role in preventing and reporting corruption. In line with the theme for the International Anti-corruption Day, remember that it is our collective duty to prevent and fight corruption, remember - **Your right, your role - Say No to corruption.**

MESSAGE FROM CHAIRPERSON, ETHICS AND ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMISSION (EACC)



ARCHBISHOP (EMERITUS) DR. ELIUD WABUKALA, EBS

and Section 3 of the EACC Act No. 21 of 2011. The mandate of the Commission is to combat and prevent corruption, economic crime and unethical conduct in Kenya through law enforcement, prevention, public education, promotion of standards and practice of ethics and integrity.

This year's theme is **"Your right, your role: Say NO to corruption."** The commemoration is expected to demystify the fight against corruption as a responsibility for all and provide a platform for highlighting the importance of citizen responsibility. Similarly, the commemoration events will serve to raise awareness on the effects of corruption, enhancing the capacity of the various actors to effectively participate in the anti-corruption process.

Our experience at the Commission has taught us that building coalitions and partnerships is essential in the fight against corruption. EACC continues to foster, strengthen and promote international, regional and inter-

agency collaboration, cooperation and coordination in the discharge of its mandate. At the regional level, EACC is a member of the African Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities (AAACA) and the Eastern Africa Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities (EAAACA). These frameworks have resulted in enhanced Mutual Legal Assistance, specialized training on anti-corruption, exchange of information, corruption detection, investigations and prosecution.

Through EAAACA, an asset recovery arm was created. The Asset Recovery Inter-Agency Network for Eastern Africa (ARIN-EA) was launched on 6th November 2013 in Kigali, Rwanda, to provide an informal network in the region for the exchange of information in areas of recovery of assets acquired through crime.

Kenya is also a member of the Asset Recovery Inter-Agency Network for Southern Africa (ARINSA), which was established to enable member states to



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exchange information as well as model legislation and country laws related to asset forfeiture, confiscation and money laundering.

Nationally, EACC works with other players under the auspices of the National Council on the Administration of Justice (NCAJ); Multi-Agency Team (MAT); and the Kenya Leadership Integrity Forum (KLIF).

As we approach the General elections, we should enhance effectiveness of the leadership and integrity standards under Chapter 6 of the Constitution. This Chapter is meant to discourage abuse of public office for private gain and misappropriation of public resources, besides encouraging public accountability. The aspirations of Chapter 6 are tenable only if integrity standards envisaged therein are adhered to so as to ensure only leaders who meet them occupy public office.

I urge all Kenyans to renew their commitment in the fight against corruption by embracing personal integrity, selflessness in service delivery and patriotism. As EACC, we assure the public of our commitment to promote integrity and combat corruption in the Country.

I extend gratitude to all stakeholders and development partners who continue to work closely with the Commission in strengthening the EACC institutional capacity.

May God Bless Kenya!





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MESSAGE FROM SECRETARY/CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, ETHICS AND ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMISSION AND SECRETARY TO THE NATIONAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE, KENYA LEADERSHIP INTEGRITY FORUM (KLIF)



TWALIB MBARAK, CBS

Union Convention for Preventing and Combating Corruption (AUCPCC), which encourage State parties to involve the private sector, civil society and media in the fight against corruption. The Forum is guided by the Kenya Integrity Plan (KIP) 2019-2023, which spells out the role member institutions are expected to play in enhancing integrity in the Country.

Kenya Leadership Integrity Forum currently has a membership of (20) sectors including the Executive, Legislature, Judiciary, Constitutional Commissions, County Governments, Anti-Corruption Agencies, Media, Private Sector, Professional Bodies, Education, Civil Society and Faith-Based Organizations. The overarching objective of KLIF is to provide a collective and collaborative forum for citizen-driven initiative and impactful awareness on anti-corruption measures being implemented in the Country.

The decision by Kenyans to have a dedicated chapter on leadership and integrity in our Constitution was out of our aspiration for a progressive, transformative and responsive leadership in management of our affairs. This commemoration accords us an opportunity to evaluate how we can strengthen the anti-corruption discourse in the Country and assess whether we have lived up to the values provided in Article 10 and Chapter 6 of the Constitution.

In enforcing Chapter 6, EACC has made significant progress and continues to work with other actors in addressing the emerging challenges, including working closely with the National Assembly to strengthen the legal framework. The interventions are aimed at addressing the challenge of inadequate legislation for barring persons involved in corruption and unethical conduct from elective or appointive positions. The Commission continues to champion for more punitive measures to make corruption and unethical conduct unattractive.

EACC has rationalised its strategic interventions and areas of priority in the fight against corruption and promotion of ethics to be efficient and effective. Consequently, milestones continue to be recorded. According to the published EACC Report for the FY 2019/2020, the following milestones were realized:

- Investigations of 163 high impact files on corruption and economic crimes finalized and files submitted to the Director of Public Prosecutions.
- Eighty seven cases on corruption, economic crime and unethical conduct were finalized in court out of which 39 resulted in convictions.
- Assets valued at approximately KES. 12 billion recovered and 14 applications filed for preservation of assets with an estimated value of KES. 9.4 billion.
- Six hundred and eighty-five cases seeking to recover assets worth

approximately KES. 11.4 billion are pending in various courts in the country.

• Thirty one proactive covert investigations were conducted, averting possible loss of public funds estimated at KES. 10 billion.

• Nine Corruption Risk Assessments (CRAs) for Nyandarua, Kitui, Narok, Vihiga and Makueni County Executives and Assemblies were undertaken and reports presented.

• System Reviews were conducted in several National and County Government entities to identify and profile corruption risks and advise on the strategies that



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should be implemented to mitigate the identified risks.

• Three thousand, six hundred and fifty-four advisories were issued to MDAs on corruption prevention.

Impressively, the Courts have in the recent past continued to develop sound jurisprudence in corruption investigation and recovery of unexplained assets. EACC looks forward to positive jurisprudence on Chapter 6 of the Constitution to unlock the threshold for enforcement.

I am confident we can effectively deal with corruption in the Country through resolute contribution by all actors, social transformation and cultural re-engineering. As a Commission, we remain steadfast, objective, impartial and professional in the discharge of our mandate.

As the 2022 General Elections draw closer, the Commission appeals to all citizens to desist from glorifying and protecting the corrupt, and instead shun and expose them. Further, they should exercise their civic duty in voting for leaders with integrity. I also call upon the civil society and media to illuminate and admonish the corrupt among us, and champion for integrity.

Wishing you all a successful commemoration!

Tuagamize ufsadi tujenge Kenya

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF JUSTICE AND PRESIDENT OF THE SUPREME COURT OF KENYA



HON. JUSTICE MARTHA KOOME, EBS

Transformation Framework (JTF), Chief Justice Emeritus, Hon. Dr. Willy Mutunga made the fight against corruption a key pillar of his administration. He oversaw the establishment and institutionalization of the Office of the Judiciary Ombudsman (OJO) to handle integrity matters regarding all Judicial Officers and Staff.

His successor, Hon. Justice David Maraga deepened this aspect by launching the Sustaining Judiciary Transformation (SJT): A service delivery agenda, 2017-2021. In his blueprint, the Chief Justice enhanced OJO's capacity and appointed the Hon. Deputy Chief Justice as the Judiciary Ombudsman.

In my vision, I have set out to enhance public confidence in the Judiciary and the justice system generally, and will further strengthen OJO by increasing its capacity to both detect and investigate incidences of corruption within the Judiciary. Mechanisms to hold all Judiciary employees accountable are also being instituted. We intend to move to a zero tolerance to corruption status so that all our customers can be sure that every decision, judicial and administrative, is fair and just and purely the outcome of the facts and the law.

To strengthen the fight against corruption, the Judiciary established an Anti-Corruption and Economic Crimes Division of the High Court and a dedicated Anti-Corruption Magistrate's Court section in Nairobi to handle corruption

matters. This section has been enhanced through the deployment of Magistrates dedicated purely to undertake hearing of anti-corruption matters with the goal of ensuring their expeditious disposal. Further, all magistrates of the rank of Principal Magistrate and above are



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gazetted to deal with corruption matters in the counties.

Recently, the Judiciary in collaboration with EACC launched a systems review into policies, procedures and practices of the institution. This exercise is meant to streamline the systems in the Judiciary and result in sealing of any systemic loopholes that facilitate corruption in the Judiciary.

Automation is a key pillar for the Judiciary with E-Filing being adopted in all courts countrywide. Automation is expected to eliminate physical manipulation of files at the registry and safeguard the integrity of the institution. Further, the Judiciary has adopted cashless transactions in all courts countrywide to enhance transparency and accountability to minimize incidents of corruption. Court fees, fines and bail are paid and refunded through the M-pesa mobile platform or the bank.

The Judiciary introduced the Integrated Case Management System (ICMS) that allows Litigants and Advocates to track the status of their cases online, so as to reduce incidences of corruption at the Registries.

The institution has also embraced Result-Based Case Management

techniques to fast-track cases, which are; Bar-bench meetings, Pre-trial Conferences, Daily Court Returns on cases and tracking matters in the system. It has sensitized and trained all Magistrates in the courts and registry staff on active case management.

The Judiciary will continue to play its role in anti-corruption matters not only through policies but also in its pronouncements. The courts have firmly pronounced themselves and laid down precedents on a variety of matters including the policy on unexplained wealth; position on elected and public officers who are charged with economic crimes; and sentencing for convicted persons. The courts have also made determination of the culpability of private citizens that involve public officers charged with economic crimes.

As the world commemorates this year's International Anti-Corruption Day under the theme: "**Your right, your role: say NO to corruption**", we should note that the challenge of stamping out corruption in our institutions in both public and private sectors remains a formidable challenge. Therefore, all actors in the justice chain must pull their weight and facilitate the process.



OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE



OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS



Enhancing Accountability



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MESSAGE FROM DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS



NOORDIN. M. HAJI, CBS, OGW

restoration of integrity, transparency and accountability in Kenya's public life and socio-economic development.

December 9th marks the International Anti-Corruption Day designated to raise public awareness on the effects of corruption, foster public support in the fight against corruption and recognize the gains made in the fight against corruption. ODPP joins other agencies to commemorate this very important day under the theme "Your Right, Your Role: Say No to Corruption". The Constitution has put in place mechanisms to ensure all Kenyans are in a position to drive the country towards good governance, integrity, transparency, accountability and sustainable development. It is therefore our collective responsibility to SAY NO to corruption by playing our respective roles.

ODPP has adopted several strategic measures to enhance efficiency and effectiveness in prosecution of corruption cases, such as:

- Implementation of various policy documents, amongst them the Decision to Charge Guidelines, has enhanced accountability, transparency and consistency in prosecutorial decisions.
- Enhanced inter-agency cooperation.

- Increased use of plea bargain rules and guidelines which has led to uptake of plea agreements leading to reduced backlog of cases.

- Conducting prosecution-led investigations in major cases, ensuring only watertight cases are filed in court.

- Establishment of a Prosecutors Training Institute.

- Embracing initiatives such as ODPP Café, Twitter, Facebook and community outreach aimed at engaging Wanjiku.

ODPP has specialized and skilled prosecutors, trained on complex and emerging crimes. This is reflected in the level of convictions and cases filed in court.

The Office has over the years sustained an increase in the number of convictions registered. The conviction rate has risen from **30.43%** in **2015** to over **60%** in **2021**. This is attributable to strategic focus on high impact cases.

ODPP has witnessed major convictions of great jurisprudential value such as ACC 31 of 2018 **R -vs- Grace Sarapay Wakhungu, John Koyi Walukhe and Erad Supplies and General Contractors Ltd**, where the three accused persons were convicted to pay a total of **KES. 2,062,776,686.00**.

ODPP also secured a conviction in the **R Vs Hassan Wario (RIO 2016 Olympics)** case, where Former CS Hassan Wario was convicted to serve a 6-year jail term or in default to pay 3.6 million shillings, while the **4th Co-accused** who was the Chief de Mission in the RIO Olympics, 2016 was sentenced to pay **KES. 105 million** fine or serve **12 years in jail**.

ODPP has instituted several corruption cases against senior public officials. The Office has put up a spirited fight in ensuring that public officers facing criminal cases step aside from public office as provided by the Anti-Corruption and Economic Crimes Act.

ODPP has embraced technology in filing of court pleadings through the UADILIFU Case Management System which has significantly reduced the time normally taken by a Prosecutor in filing charge sheets and other pleadings. The system is integrated with the E- Filing system of the Judiciary, which enables a charge sheet to be filed and assigned a number. Despite uptake of technology, there is still manual handling of court processes, hindering quick disposal of cases. Judicial officers are required to record proceedings manually and cannot cope with the voluminous

documentation in corruption and economic crimes. This also slows down the retrieval of records for purposes of preferring an Appeal.

The fight against corruption is a collective responsibility requiring the participation of all stakeholders. Citizens should keep government institutions in check by critically assessing the conduct and decisions of office holders and reporting corrupt activities to the relevant investigative agencies. Citizens should be willing to appear in court when called upon to testify in anti-corruption cases. Any witness who faces any threats or intimidation on account of their evidence should promptly report the threats for our action.

The impact of corruption on the socio-economic well-being of Kenya cannot be underestimated. However, we have seen a rise in collaborative efforts within the criminal justice sector and across all public and private sectors. ODPP joins other stakeholders in celebrating the achievements this far, reviewing steps taken in the fight against corruption, and recognizing the work ahead.

We remain committed to our clarion call: "Mashtaka yenyte Haki na Usawa".

MESSAGE FROM AUDITOR GENERAL



CPA NANCY GATHUNGU, CBS

forensic audits that are proactive, preventive and deterrent to fraud and corrupt practices, and submits the reports to Parliament and investigating agencies.

The Forensic audit reports detail irregularities observed, names responsible individuals and analyses the "root cause" of the irregularity in what is referred to as "irregularity and responsibility matrix". This matrix, together with the relevant supporting evidence, provides guidance for further action.

Pursuant to the International Standards of Supreme Audit Institutions (ISSAI) 1240, OAG's financial audits raise red flags that indicate possible fraudulent activities observed in the course of the audits. Such red flags are used as a basis of initiating further investigations by the specialized audit function and other investigative agencies.

In order to enhance the fight against corruption, OAG has entered into agreements with other investigative agencies to conduct joint forensic audits with a view of ensuring an efficient and effective investigation process.

OAG has also been working closely with other regional Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs) to carry out joint audits in implementation of the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) and the African Union Convention on Preventing and Countering Corruption. We are also members of the Kenya Leadership and Integrity Forum (KLIF).

As we commemorate this auspicious occasion, let us prevent illicit financial flows to curb wastage of money that hampers the growth and prosperity of our nation. We urge everyone to be gate keepers of public resources by actively engaging and participating in the decision-making processes both at the national and county government levels.

In keeping with this year's theme, "Your Right, Your Role: Say NO To Corruption", we encourage all Kenyans to be beacons of hope for our future generations by being persons of integrity.

MESSAGE FROM THE COMMISSIONER GENERAL OF KRA



GITHII MBURU, CBS

Therefore, KRA has established an Intelligence and Strategic Operations Department which focuses on identification and investigation of corruption, malpractices and unethical conduct, and works closely with other law enforcement agencies.

KRA has also automated its core business processes through iTAX and integrated Customs Management System (iCMS) platforms, significantly reducing interaction between KRA staff and taxpayers. Automation also creates audit trails and is instrumental in curbing corruption.

Further, KRA has implemented risk-driven compliance interventions which require any intervention to be justified through risk assessment and data analysis. Taxpayers are informed of the reasons or basis for KRA's action. This is documented in the system for an audit trail, prohibiting arbitrary interventions.

The Authority also conducts lifestyle audits, background checks and vetting of its staff during recruitment, promotion and where there is suspicion that one's lifestyle is not consistent with their known sources of income.

To support these efforts, KRA has implemented an anonymous web-based reporting system known as iWhistle which facilitates the public to provide information on KRA staff misconduct, and also inform on tax evasion practices.

KRA has established Corruption

Prevention Committees (CPCs) which take appropriate administrative action against any reported malpractices. CPCs meets quarterly to evaluate implementation of the Public Service Integrity Program (PSIP) activities.

KRA is currently implementing the East African Revenue Authorities Anti-Corruption Framework that entails establishment of an Integrity Communication Strategy and a Whistle-blower mechanism.

To encourage corruption reporting, the Authority has established an informers' reward scheme which offers an incentive to the public to share information that can lead to recovery of tax revenue. KRA rewards informers with 5% of the tax recovered from the information submitted, up to maximum of KES. 5 million per case.

KRA has a stringent, efficient and effective performance accountability system that tolerates a performance rate of 90% and above of the set targets. The programme, which leaves no room for staff to engage in corrupt practices, is currently being benchmarked by other Tax Administrators in Africa.

On behalf of the Management and Board of KRA, I thank all our esteemed taxpayers and stakeholders for their continued support which has enabled us to continue to meet and surpass our collection targets. Together we can.

Tulipe Ushuru Tujitegeme!



PARLIAMENT OF KENYA





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JOINT STATEMENT OF THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE ON DRUGS AND CRIME AND THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME ON THE COMMEMORATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL ANTI-CORRUPTION DAY 2021



NEIL J. WALSH,

REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE, UNODC
REGIONAL OFFICE FOR EASTERN
AFRICA

global corruption.

One of the fundamental obligations of UN member states under the UN Charter is to create conditions that provide for social progress and better standards of life in greater freedom. UNDP and UNODC, being global advocates and champions of sustainable development, are cognisant of the fundamental challenges that corruption poses to development.

This year, the UN is calling to action every anti-corruption stakeholder to support initiatives that accelerate



This year, the UN is calling to action every anti-corruption stakeholder to support initiatives that accelerate achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through policies, systems and measures that enable people to speak up and say no to corruption

achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through policies, systems and measures that enable people to speak up and say no to corruption. UNODC emphasises the responsibility of Governments to institute effective whistle-blower protection that ensures persons who speak up are protected from retaliation.

These measures contribute to effective, accountable and transparent institutions towards a culture of integrity and fairness.

In the past year, UNODC has continued to support the efforts of the Government of Kenya by providing technical assistance in four key thematic areas: Whistleblower protection, Financial Investigation, Public Procurement and International cooperation. UNODC, through the Bureau for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL) support, has supported the Kenya Young Parliamentarians Association (KYPA) in their initiative to develop and pass the Kenya Whistle Blower Protection Bill 2020. UNODC has also tapped into the capacity of the youth and the custodians of the future in the fight against corruption by organizing innovative anti-corruption hackathons and implementing projects on integrity education.

Through the Strengthening Public Accountability and Integrity Systems (SPAIS) Project UNDP continues to support the government through



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strengthening policies and legal frameworks for countering and preventing corruption, enhancing the capacities of oversight, and coordinating institutions and the participation of civil society, faith-based organizations, media, and private sector to inform the public, monitor service delivery and promote public accountability.

As Kenya marks 18 years since becoming a party to UNCAC, the UN reaffirms its support towards combating corruption in the country and achievement of its development



WALID BADAWI,

RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE,
UNDP KENYA

objectives as envisioned in the SDGs under agenda 2030, the Kenya Vision 2030 and the Medium-Term Plan (III).

At the core of realising these goals is the need for integrity, transparency, and accountability in financial management systems, public procurement, robust whistleblower protection systems, among others.

On this International Anti-Corruption Day, we urge everyone to protect their rights, become aware of the role they play and their responsibilities in the fight against corruption. Speak up, Your Right, Your Role #SayNoToCorruption."

Leadership With Integrity - The Best Vaccine For Corruption In Kenya



SHEILA MASINDE,

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL
KENYA

ranges from bribery, nepotism and patronage to embezzlement and mismanagement of public resources and has pervaded the economy.

The promulgation of the current Constitution in 2010 was heralded as the start of far-reaching changes in Kenya's governance structure giving emphasis to integrity, ethics and sound leadership. The Constitution established the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC) in Article 79 as the national dedicated and premier anti-corruption agency.

Chapter Six of the Constitution provides for the principles of leadership and integrity. Laws in the anti-corruption legislative framework include the Acts on Anti-Corruption and Economic Crimes; Public Officer Ethics; Proceeds of Crime and Anti-money Laundering; Bribery; EACC, and various other accountability laws such as the Access to Information, public procurement and public finance management laws, among others.

We also have the National Ethics and Anti-Corruption Policy adopted in July 2019, aimed at mainstreaming the fight



Kenyans must act more proactively as we head to the 2022 general elections by rejecting individuals seeking public office that have been convicted or have pending corruption and economic crimes cases, and those who have acted in breach of the leadership and integrity tenets as enshrined in the Constitution.

against corruption in the management of public affairs and governance, synergising and coordinating the fight against corruption, and providing a

policy framework for the design and development of an effective legal and institutional framework for fighting corruption, citizen participation and promoting ethics and integrity.

Despite these existing policy, legislative and institutional frameworks to deal with corruption, the vice remains pervasive, bleeding resources meant for public good and denying ordinary citizens services. The poor and most vulnerable bear the biggest brunt of corruption, as it increases the costs and reduces access to services, including health, water, education and justice.

Kenyans must act more proactively as we head to the 2022 general elections by rejecting individuals seeking public office that have been convicted or have pending corruption and economic crimes cases, and those who have acted in breach of the leadership and integrity tenets as enshrined in the Constitution.

The establishment of a robust ethical framework for our elections is not complete without the enforcement of the

campaign financing law to prevent the use of dirty, illicitly acquired money for campaigns.

The amounts of cash being left in campaign locations under the guise of 'community empowerment' are telling of the problem ahead if decisive measures are not undertaken to ensure that politicians are held accountable for the sources of their campaign funds, amounts raised and how these funds are used.

Kenyans must reject handouts and demand that politicians make declarations on their wealth and campaign funding.

During this International Anti-Corruption Day commemoration, we urge citizens to invoke Article 1 of the Constitution of Kenya 2010, and exercise their sovereignty through strict actions that can change the fate of this country. Kenyans should be aware that if corrupt individuals are not prevented from ascending to public office, then citizens' desires for leadership that will provide solutions will remain a pipe dream.

