

State of Palestine
The Anti-Corruption Commission- PACC

Annual Report 2013

Table of Contents

Subject	Page
Introductory Note by the Chairman of the Commission	3
About the Commission	4-8
About the Strategy	9-11
The Commission's Activities with Public Sector	11-17
The Commission's Activities with Private Sector	17-19
Participation, Accountability and Public Oversight	20-21
Activities with universities, colleges and higher education institutions	21-22
Media Activities	22-25
The Annual Conference on Anti-Corruption	25-26
Studies & Publications	27-30
Activities in Legal Issues	31-32
Complaints & Law Enforcement	33-39

Financial Disclosures	40-41
Information Technology, Administrative & Financial Organization	42-47
Participation in Public Events	48
Participation in International Workshops & Conferences	49
Obstacles & Challenges	50-51

Introductory Note by the Chairman of the Commission

It is my pleasure to provide you with the Annual Report of the Anti-Corruption Commission for the year of 2013, which comes in pursuance of the provision of Article (8) Paragraph (10) of the amended Anti-Corruption Law No. (1) of 2005.

The report highlights the Commissions' accomplishments, whether in the area of combating and preventing corruption and reducing its dangers, or those related to the enforcement of law.

Since the moment I was assigned to the Chairmanship of the Commission, I have taken the oath and made the honest commitment to the struggling people of ours, that we will be the loyal soldiers who are entrusted to the task of fighting corruption in all its types.

Since the first moment of my work at the Commission, I have made sure that its mandate will be to eliminate corruption and combat all its reasons, in order to achieve the goal of a having a society free of corruption and corrupts, where justice, equity and equal opportunities shall prevail, and where public interest predominates private interest. As such, we hereby assert the need to investigate facts truthfully and honestly, in accordance with the provisions of law, and avoid rumors, or prejudicial complaints, according to the legal rule of "the accused is innocent until proven guilty."

During the year of 2013, PACC incorporated an excellent example in terms of the participation of Ministries, governmental and non-governmental institutions, as well as Civil Society Organizations and all other popular categories in the exerted efforts of combating corruption, raising the awareness about its dangers, and emphasizing the fact that fighting corruption requires the efforts of everybody.

We do realize the great challenges and the difficult tasks that we're facing, however, we are determined to continue our efforts- with God's help- in order to build a society that is free of corruption, which our beloved people of Palestine deserve, with the strong and evident support of our political will, represented by H.E President Mahmoud Abbas.

Rafiq Al-Natsheh

Chairman of the Palestinian Anti-Corruption Commission- PACC

Preface

About the Commission

The Anti-Corruption Commission was established in pursuance of the Law by Decree No. (7) of the year 2010, concerning the amendment of the Illicit Gain Law No. (1) of the year 2005, as an independent Commission, both financially and administratively. As such, the Commission was given the relevant competences and powers that can enable it to carry out its function in terms of combating corruption. This amendment is in full conformity with the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC), thus it became a Law against all types of corruption, and gave the Commission wide powers in terms of carrying out its mandate in this area.

The Commissions Competences:

1. Maintain a record of all financial disclosures, and claim any data or relevant clarification.
2. Examine the financial quittance of all those subject to the provisions of this Law.
3. Investigation of complaints made on corruption crimes.
4. Verifications of possible suspicions of corruption, attributed to people who are subject to the provisions of this Law.
5. Raising community awareness on the topic, on all levels, formally and informally, and help people understand the dangers of corruption and its impact on the economic, social and political development, and how to prevent and combat corruption, through the following:
 - Collect information related to all types and forms of corruption, and create a database and information system that can be exchanged with all relevant authorities and institutions concerned with the anti-corruption issues, at home and abroad, in accordance with the legislations in place.
 - Coordinate with all PA institutions in order to promote and develop the necessary measures and procedures to prevent corruption crimes, in addition to updating anti-corruption means and mechanisms.
 - Coordinate with the Media in order that it can exercise a more efficient role in terms of spreading a culture of accountability, integrity, transparency and combating of corruption in the society.
 - Work to enhance the contribution and participation of Civil Society Organizations and relevant academia in anti-corruption activities, raise the awareness on the dangers, as well

as the impact of corruption, and spread the culture of non tolerance with the corrupt and corruption.

6. Draw a general policy for combating corruption, in cooperation with relevant authorities and stakeholders, and develop the necessary plans and programs for its implementation.
7. Prepare periodic bulletins and brochures on the dangers of corruption, nepotism and favoritism on the PA institutions and their relevant administrations.
8. Review, examine and assess all relevant anti-corruption legislations, and propose amendments in accordance with the appropriate procedures.
9. Cooperate and liaise with the relevant Arab, regional and international organizations and institutions working in the area of anti-corruption, in order to take part in programs aiming at preventing this type of crimes.
10. Prepare the PACC annual report.

PACC Mandate:

In order to enable the Commission carry out its mandate and specific functions, it was given the following competences:

1. Receive, examine and follow-up the incoming reports, notifications or complaints about corruption crimes, in addition to the verification, data collection, and detection of any other violations or abuses linked to acts of corruption, as well as collecting evidence, then initiate investigation or any other necessary legal and administrative measures, in accordance with the provisions of this Law and the relevant legislations in place.
2. The prosecution of anyone who violates the provisions of this law, and impose an attachment order on their movable and immovable assets, in addition to a travel ban, dismissal by the concerned authorities, and holding of their salary and any other financial entitlements if necessary, and the amendment or annulment of any of these decisions in accordance with the legislations in force.
3. Summon witnesses or any other relevant staff, either from public or private sector, for the purpose of inquiry or investigation about any incident related to a corruption crime.
4. Request any necessary documents, information, or any relevant data (or copies of them) for examination from relevant authorities, including those who consider such information as classified or (for internal use only), in accordance with the legal procedures in place.
5. Coordinate with the relevant authorities in order to seize and reclaim the proceeds of corruption crimes, provided that an attachment order is placed from the competent court for this purpose.
6. Embark on the necessary inquires and investigations to follow-up any corruption case, either on its own or according to an incoming notification or complaint to the

Commission from any party. In the case of a malicious/ prejudicial complaint, the concerned complainant shall be referred to the relevant judicial authorities so as to receive the appropriate procedure/ punishment according to the applicable legal rules.

7. Request the suspension of the activity of any company, association, non-governmental organization, union or any similar body of a legal personality, by the Corruption Crimes Court, in case the former committed any corruption-related crime. In addition, the Commission (PACC) has the right of dismantling/ dissolution of any of these associations/ organizations and deprive any of its relevant parties/ members from establishing a similar body, or be one of its members/ directors for a period of not less than one year, and no more than five years.
8. The right to initiate a criminal action for crimes specified under this law, through Public Prosecution and in accordance with the applicable law and other relevant legislations in force. Such cases shall not be initiated except under the special circumstances provided by law, and they cannot be neither dismissed nor settled unless this was in accordance with the provisions provided by law.

The Commission shall be managed by:**First: Directorates General:** PACC consists of the following Directorates:

1. The Chairman's Bureau
2. The General Administration of Legal Affairs
3. The General Administration of Monitoring & Evaluation/ Audit
4. The General Administration of Planning
5. The General Administration of Administrative & Financial Affairs
6. The Internal Control Department

Second: The Advisory Board:

In pursuance of **Article (3) - Paragraph (7)** of the amended Anti-Corruption Law, the Advisory Board of the Anti-Corruption Commission was formed, including the following members:

Mr. Ali Muhanna	Minister of Justice/ Former Chairman of PBA
Dr. Nabil Qassis	Former President of Birzeit University/ Former Minister of Finance
Dr. Sabri Saydam	Advisor to the President/ Minister of Telecommunications
Dr. Nasser Al-Qudweh	Former Foreign Minister/ Former Ambassador of Palestine to the UN
Maj.Gen. Mohammad Abu Mansour	National Affairs Assistant to the Minister of Interior/ Former Head of the Palestinian General Intelligence Department.
Mr. Ahmad Sayyad	Former Chairman of PBA
Dr. Mamdouh Al-Aker	Former General Commissioner of the Independent Commission of Human Rights
Dr. Nayef Abu Khalaf	Head of the Political Sciences Dept./ An-Najah National University

Eng. Anwar Al-Badawi	Businessman/ Private Sector.

Third: the Commissioner

PACC Chairman, *H.E. Mr. Rafiq Al-Natsheh*, was appointed according to a presidential decree, in pursuance of **Article (3), Paragraph (3)** of the amended Anti-Corruption Law.

Fourth: Delegated Prosecution to the Commission:

Upon the request of the Chairman of the commission, six public prosecutors, together with an Assistant Attorney General were delegated to work with the Commission for a period of two years, renewable in accordance with the provisions of the Judicial Authority Law. The assigned prosecutors to work at the Commission shall be considered competent to investigate in any crime that is set forth under this law, as well as to initiate the case before the competent court of corruption crimes, together with all relevant proceedings in all districts of the country.

The delegated prosecution, with the assistance of relevant staff members of the Commission who have the status of “judicial police”, can also initiate urgent investigation procedures without any delay or unwarranted postponement of those procedures.

PACC's Accomplishments in 2013 in areas of Prevention, Raising Awareness and Training:

The National Strategy of Anti-Corruption (2012-2014):

The National Strategy of Anti-Corruption was completed after holding several workshops on the topic and assigning a team to follow-up with the relevant organizations and institutions. These included national, legislative, judicial, governmental, non-governmental and private institutions. The process ensured a wide participation from such institutions whether in terms of preparation, discussion, or the drafting of the final version of this strategy.

The main characteristics of the PACC strategy can be summarized as follows:

1. A comprehensive, national strategy that is not only restricted to the Anti-Corruption Commission.
2. Prepared with Palestinian minds, with wide participation.
3. Drafted in accordance with the regional, as well as the international conventions on anti-corruption.
4. Based on the amended Anti-Corruption Law **No. 1** of the year **2005**.

Main Axes of the Strategy:

- First Axis: Prevention of corruption, precaution.
- Second Axis: Law enforcement and judicial prosecution.
- Third Axis: Raising awareness on the subject, education, training and social participation.
- Fourth Axis: Coordination of efforts to combat corruption.
- Fifth Axis: International cooperation.
- Sixth Axis: Strengthen the capacities of the Anti-Corruption Commission.

PACC implemented (21) joint plans during the year of 2013, together with the relevant partners and interlocutors of the national strategy of anti-corruption. Among these joint plans, (8) were signed with new partners in 2013, and another (13) plans are still ongoing since 2012.

No.	Partner	Date of signing the Agreement
1.	Public Prosecution	10/02/2013
2.	The Applied Research Institute (<i>Areej</i>)- Jerusalem	14/03/2013
3.	The Auditors' Association	17/03/2013
4.	The Islamic- Christian Commission for the Support of Jerusalem & the Holy Sites	19/03/2013
5.	Ameen Media Network	03/06/ 2013
6.	Non-Governmental Organizations' Network	25/09/2013
7.	Women's Affairs Society	09/10/2013
8.	The Palestinian Initiative for the Promotion of Global Dialogue & Democracy- <i>MIFTAH</i> .	06/11/2013

In 2013, PACC, together with its relevant partners, implemented (327) activities that varied between conferences, trainings, workshops, meetings and assessment sessions of students' projects. These activities targeted (8047) individuals/institutions, which included civil servants, community activists, academic institutions (schools, universities), education advisors, religious men, diplomats, elected Local Government Units (LGUs), in addition to some other civil, military, non-governmental, and civil society organizations.

During the same year, PACC published different material for the media, including brochures, posters, training manual, and a booklet on some distinguished students' activities. There is also

ongoing work to publish another 2 pamphlets and 3 posters that will cover the activities done during 2013 with the relevant partners.

Moreover, some work is also in progress to develop strategic youth directions/ tendencies to combat corruption, a catalogue on municipal services, in addition to four exploratory studies prepared to be published.

These activities aimed at enhancing the participation in anti-corruption efforts, in addition to discussing the preventive measures of corruption behaviors, changing community behaviors, promoting the knowledge of targeted audience regarding the Anti-Corruption Law, and some other related issues such as social participation and accountability, internal & external control, oversight reports, the relevant regional and international agreements on anti-corruption, the role of the Anti- Corruption Commission in this respect, and mechanisms of reporting on suspicions of corruption.

Part of these activities also aimed at encouraging the targeted populations to be involved in the active implementation of the National Strategy on Anti-Corruption.

First: Activities related to Raising Awareness & Social Participation, in Cooperation with the Public Sector:

1. The Commission, in cooperation with the Ministry of Education, implemented awareness workshops and training sessions for (3113) education advisors in different directorates, together with teachers, students, parents, and other different categories in local communities on the anti-corruption principles:

1.1 Organize a workshop on (The Role of Education in Combating Corruption) for Directors General of the Ministry of Education in Northern districts:

- This workshop was delivered to (170) Directors General in North West Bank directorates.

1.2 School Competitions:

- The Commission has worked closely with the Ministry of Education in order to promote the knowledge of both students and teachers, in public and private schools, about types of corruption, prevention, and mechanisms of reporting on acts of corruption. For this purpose, a joint committee of PACC and the Ministry of Education held several meetings to achieve this objective.

1.3 Training session on “The Role of Education in Combating Corruption” for students of public schools in districts of Ramallah, Jerusalem and Suburbs of Jerusalem:

-This training session was delivered to (137) students, school principals and parents. The objective was to strengthen cooperation between the students and their parents and teachers in order to prepare a material on awareness that targets faculty members as well as local communities.

1.4 Awareness workshops for parents of students and local community on the role of education in combating corruption:

- (17) Workshops were held on this topic in the public schools of Ramallah, Jerusalem and suburbs of Jerusalem. The lectures were delivered by the students who have already participated in the training sessions, with the participation of more than (433) students and their parents, in addition to representatives of local community institutions.

1.5 (17) workshops in the public schools of Ramallah, Jerusalem and Jerusalem suburbs with the participation of (340) parents and representatives of local organizations

Where lectures were delivered by the students who already received a training on the “role of education in combating corruption”. These workshops aimed at:

- Raising the awareness of school students, their supervisors and parents, and local community on the concept of corruption, its reasons and types, and mechanism of prevention and combating.
- Prepare students to assume a positive role in the combating and elimination of the corruption problem.
- Enhance the communication between schools and parents, as well as the local community.
- Highlight the students’ talents and energies in this area, and open new horizons for their creativity.

1.6 Implement students activities in (200) schools in the West Bank:

- School principals/ teachers and education advisors, who have received the aforementioned training, were requested to implement the relevant project plans, and supervise a group of students in each of the schools participating in this program to implement these plans. After the completion of project plans, the Ministry of Education held (16) arbitration sessions, in cooperation with the Commission, to all directorates of the Ministry of Education in the West Bank. (200) schools have participated from the West Bank, including (1010) students (4 students per project).

These projects were implemented under the supervision of education advisors, in addition to the trained school teachers.

1.7 The Arbitration Program of Students' Projects:

- After the completion of the arbitration process on the district level, and the selection of one winning project from each district of the Ministry of Education's Directorates, a central honoring ceremony was organized in Ramallah, to which (64) winning students were invited. The ceremony also included the participation of relevant education advisors, parents of the winning students, and other partners of the Commission on the implementation of the National Strategy of Anti-Corruption. Honoring plaques and gifts were distributed on the winning schools.

1.8 A Second Training Session on "The Role of Education in Combating Corruption" :

- As a second stage, this training session was implemented in cooperation with the Ministry of Education, and it targeted (96) students and parents from the directorates of Nablus, South Nablus and Salfet. The objective was to promote cooperation between students and their parents and teachers for preparing a material on awareness that will target school faculty and local communities in the target directorates.

1.9 Students Workshops on the Role of Education in Combating Corruption:

- During the month of December 2013, the Commission organized (24) workshops in cooperation with the Ministry of Education, under the awareness program that targets local communities, with the participation of more than (500) students and parents, in addition to representatives of local community institutions. Throughout the workshops, plays on the subject were displayed by students, in addition to the distribution of leaflets and posters on the fighting against corruption, made by the students and their teachers.

1.10 Evaluation Meeting of the Educational Role Project in Combating Corruption

PACC and the Ministry conducted an evaluation of the educational role project in combating corruption with the participation of 41 educational supervisors who supervise student projects that have been carried out during the educational year 2012 – 2013 within the first stage with the participation of the West Bank 16 directorates.

1.11 Organization of 5 meetings with the supervisors and teachers of the Ministry of Education to review student project plans

PACC, in cooperation with the Ministry of Education, has carried out 5 meetings with the supervisors and teachers of the Ministry of Education to review the plans of student projects in education directorates which targeted 152 male and female teachers, who will supervise the pupils of targeted schools to carry out student projects about forms of fighting corruption.

2. PACC activities with Ministry of Waqf (Endowment)

PACC and the Ministry of Waqf and Religious Affairs have organized two workshops and a training course for the principals and teachers of Sharia (Religious) schools. They supervised the students of Sharia schools in implementing activities about fighting corruption. These activities drew the participation of 1174 male and female principals and teachers, the students of Da'wa (Religious) college and Sharia schools, parents of students and the local community.

2.1 Training course titled “role of Sharia schools in fighting corruption”

PACC and the Ministry of Waqf and Religious Affairs, through the general directorate of Sharia education, have conducted a training course for 48 male and female teachers and principals of Sharia schools in Qalqiliya. In this course, it was agreed with the teachers and principals of Sharia schools in the West Bank to carry out a number of activities that target schools and local communities in order to honor in the coming year the best activities and most influential in the local

communities. These activities drew the participation of 750 principles, teachers, parents of students, the local community and school pupils. These activities took a number of forms, including:

- Religious speeches during Friday prayer, religious preaching, mass meetings before school pupils, parents and local communities.
- Plays prepared by students and their teachers.
- Photographed flashes prepared, directed and acted by teachers and students.
- Exhibition of paintings, photographs and embroidery prepared by students.
- Fixation and distribution of different awareness material.
- Presenting morning programs through the morning radio in schools.

2.2 Workshop for the students of the faculty of da'wa and religion in Qalqiliya district:

Within the efforts of PACC and its partners to raise awareness among the faculty's students, PACC has carried out in cooperation with the ministry of waqf and religious affairs an awareness workshop for 125 students in the faculty of da'wa and religion in Qalqiliya on the principles of combating corruption to encourage them to spread awareness in the university and the mosque.

2.3 Workshops on religious heritage and its role in fighting corruption:

PACC and the ministry of waqf and religious affairs has organized a workshop on religious heritage and its role in fighting corruption in Nablus with the participation of 127 Muslim and Christian scholars. This workshop aims to benefit from religious scholars on educating the society about the risks of corruption and ways to combat it.

3. PACC activities with the ministry of local governance:

During 2013, PACC and the ministry have organized a workshop and a conference targeting 590 local councils.

3.1 Organizing a workshop for heads and members of municipalities and local councils on the role of local councils in fighting corruption. In cooperation with

the ministry of local governance, PACC has carried out a workshop in the West Bank with the participation of 30 heads and members of municipalities and local councils in order to raise the level of awareness about the anti-corruption law. Copies of the national strategy for combating corruption and the anti-corruption law were distributed during the workshop. Also on the sidelines of the workshop, participants have been handed financial clearances according to a mechanism agreed with the ministry of local governance.

3.2 Organizing a conference on strengthening integrity and transparency in the local governance sector:

The conference was organized in cooperation with PACC, the ministry of local governance, municipal lending fund and the union of local councils on 29-30 December 2013 in Bethlehem with the participation of 160 heads and members of municipal councils and experts in the field of local governance and civil society institutions.

4. Activities targeting internal control staff at public institutions:

PACC has conducted two workshops and a training course targeting 282 staff members at internal control in public institutions:

4.1 Organizing a training course for staff at internal control in the ministry of education:

PACC and the ministry have organized a training course targeting 43 staff members at internal control in the ministry of education.

4.2 Workshop titled role of auditors in fighting corruption:

PACC in Ramallah, in cooperation with the auditors association, has organized an awareness workshop for members of the association titled the role of auditors in fighting corruption with the participation of 60 auditors, bureau of financial and administrative control, ministry of local governance and the chamber of commerce at Ramallah and El-Bireh district.

Second: Activities targeting the private sector:

PACC, civil society institutions and humanitarian and cooperative associations have conducted workshops targeting 528 members of board of directors of humanitarian organizations in the West Bank and civil society institutions in Ramallah, Bethlehem and Hebron.

2.1 Awareness workshops for administrative bodies in charity organizations on the principles of fighting corruption:

In cooperation with Inash Alusra Association, PACC has organized a workshop titled ‘humanitarian organizations and their role in fighting corruption,’ with the participation of 130 members of board of directors of humanitarian organizations in the West Bank.

2.2 Three workshops on mechanisms of strengthening integrity and transparency in civil society institutions:

In cooperation with the network of NGOs, PACC has organized four workshops targeting civil society organizations in Ramallah, Bethlehem and Hebron with the participation of 144 delegates from civil society and the media.

2.3 Workshop on methods of fighting corruption in cooperative organizations:

PACC and ARIJ have held a workshop on methods of fighting corruption in cooperative organizations with the participation of 72 members of cooperative organizations and their administrative bodies.

2.4 Workshop on role of civil society organizations in combating corruption

Within the joint executive plan between PACC and the ministry of interior, and in cooperation with the network of NGOs, a workshop was held on ‘role of civil society organizations in combating corruption with the participation of 127 civil society institutions and institutions under the umbrella of the network of NGOs.

2.5 Workshop in the West Bank and Gaza Strip for workers and members of the Women’s Affairs Technical Committee (WATC):

In addition to the previously mentioned study, the large meetings and the workshop that discussed the initial results of the study, PACC and WATC, through video

conference with Gaza Strip, have carried out a workshop titled “women fighting corruption” with the participation of 55 workers and members of the general assembly of WATC.

2.6 Two training courses titled “youth against corruption,” in cooperation with Pyalara:

PACC and Pyalara in the West Bank and Gaza Strip have organized two training courses with the participation of students from media colleges at Palestinian universities titled “youth against corruption.” The two courses came up with orientations towards implementing the joint plan between PACC and Pyalara through students participating in the two courses. 44 students participated in the two courses and were given certificates in the annual ceremony organized by PACC on the International Anti-corruption Day on 9 December 2013.

2.7 Training manual titled “youth against corruption” in cooperation with Pyalara:

The manual targeted the students of the media colleges at Palestinian universities, and contained 5-day working program. The training manual included the following topics: concept of corruption and its types, forms and manifestations, how to observe and report corruption, institutions working in this field and press and its role in fighting corruption.

2.8 Youth strategic orientations in fighting corruption in partnership with (Miftah) and the network of effective Palestinian youth:

Within a joint work plan between PACC and Miftah, a training course have been organized for 4 days targeting 25 of the Palestinian youth network who are politically and socially effective. This was followed by a workshop for 3 days with the participation of 25 youths to discuss the orientations of strategic work of Palestinian youth regarding fighting corruption through Palestinian experts and strategic planners. Work is underway to issue the first draft of the strategic orientations, and then announce, print and circulate it widely electronically and at the media level.

2.9 Role of Muslim, Christian and Samaritan scholars in fighting corruption:

PACC and the Islamic Christian Commission in Support of Jerusalem and Holy Sites have organized a meeting on “the religious role in fighting corruption on 30 May 2013 in Ramallah, with the participation of 70 Muslim, Christian and Samaritan scholars.

Third: Popular participation, accountability and oversight

PACC has conducted training courses, workshops and meetings on popular accountability and oversight targeting 264 notables, tribes, civil society institutions, official institutions, members of integrity committees in Al-Ram, Nablus, Hebron and Jericho, representatives of official and private institutions, integrity committees and unions.

3.1 Workshop on role of popular oversight in fighting corruption:

In cooperation with the Financial and Administrative Control Bureau and Mawtini Association, PACC has conducted a workshop about the role of popular oversight in fighting corruption, with the participation of 125 notable, tribes and civil and official institutions in Jericho district.

3.2 Training course on social accountability and fighting corruption:

In cooperation with Arij Institute, PACC has conducted a 2-day course on social accountability and fighting corruption which targeted 47 members of the integrity committees in Al-Ram, Nablus, Hebron and Jericho and afterwards these committees have participated in the activities of PACC and Arij Institute which took different forms like general meetings and awareness material.

3.3 Open meetings on “social accountability and fighting corruption” in cooperation with Arij:

In cooperation with the Applied Research Institute Jerusalem – Arij, PACC has organized two open meetings on “social accountability and fighting corruption,” which targeted 92 representatives of official and private institutions, integrity committees and unions in Hebron and Jerusalem.

3.4 Jerusalem youth meeting to combat corruption with the Islamic Christian Commission:

In cooperation with Jerusalem governorate and the Islamic Christian Commission in Support of Jerusalem and Holy Sites, PACC has organized this meeting in Al Eizariyeh on 23 September 2013 under the title “Jerusalem youth meeting to combat corruption,” with the participation of 54 youths from Jerusalem and civil society institutions in Jerusalem governorate.

Fourth: Activities in Palestinian universities, colleges and higher institutes:

PACC has conducted meetings and workshops with students from Palestinian universities, colleges and institutes to raise the level of awareness of ways to combat corruption. These activities targeted 632 students from various specializations.

4.1 Meeting to introduce PACC and the Financial and Administrative Control Bureau and the relationship between them:

In cooperation with the Financial and Administrative Control Bureau, PACC has organized on 10 April 2013 an introductory meeting of PACC and the Control Bureau to the students and staff of the university. More than 100 students from Hebron University participated in the meeting.

4.2 Meeting with the students of educational centers and Inash Alusra College:

On 14 November 2013, PACC and Inash Alusra Association have convened an awareness meeting for the female students of Inash Alusra College, with the participation of 132 female students from colleges and Inash Alusra centers and members of the association.

4.3 Two meetings at An-Najah National University:

In cooperation with An-Najah National University, PACC has organized an open meeting with university students to introduce PACC, with the participation of 400 university professors and students.

PACC also organized in cooperation with the Financial and Administrative Control Bureau a workshop for the students of the College of Economics at An-Najah National University on 3 December 2013.

4.4 Seminar on the phenomenon of corruption and ways to confront it at the Modern University College:

In cooperation with the Modern University College in Ramallah, PACC has organized on 13 November 2013 a lecture for the students of the college on the principles of fighting corruption.

Fifth: Media activities:

Since its establishment, PACC has given great attention to the issue of media and awareness due to the importance of achieving communication and joint understanding with citizens, and guarantee their contribution for the success of PACC programs and plans. The challenges facing PACC dictates the cooperation of all official parties, civil society and citizens, and increasing their knowledge and awareness about the importance of combating corruption to create an environment based on integrity, transparency and accountability. Media outlets are considered main sources of information to many citizens on which individuals build their positions, and even extends to values and patterns of behavior. The society may accept values that were rejected before the media message carries it, or reject values that were prevalent and acceptable replacing it with new values. PACC deals with all printed, audio and visual media means, either by providing them with the required information or holding direct meetings regarding objective handling of the different cases of corruption after judicial sentences are passed, and PACC activities through seminars and lectures, in coordination with government institutions and government, private and community media, and institutions, youth centers, schools, universities and women associations to reach the largest possible number of local society. PACC has organized a conference, a training course, a workshop, television and radio interviews and prepared a documentary and printed reports. The number of participants was 396 participants from the media, students of media colleges and the local society. We can summarize it as follows:

5.1 Video conference meeting for PACC chief with social media activists in the Gaza strip.

In cooperation with Amin media network, PACC has held on 24 September 2013 a video conference meeting for PACC chief targeting 22 social media activists in the Gaza strip.

5.2 Training course on Max 3d for media youth:

During the period 28/9/2013-20/11/2013, at a rate of 53 training hours, PACC has held in Gaza city, in cooperation with Amin media network, a training course on Max 3d with the participation of 16 male and female youths from media and social media activists to allow trainees to produce cartoon clips by using the Max 3d program in anti-corruption topics.

5.3 Anti-corruption and social participation workshop:

On 25 June 2013, PACC has organized in cooperation with Amin media network a workshop on “Anti-corruption and social participation.” It was attended by a number of civil society institutions and official and popular institutions in Tubas district.

5.4 Creating a page on “Facebook”:

Youths participating in the two training courses have agreed to launch a facebook page titled “youths anti-corruption activities.” Youths will conduct through it discussion and dialogue on cases related to corruption and its forms, the competent court specialized in corruption crimes and other. It published photos, television interviews, reports and television series. The webpage demonstrates good interaction between its members.

5.5 Producing and broadcasting 5 television episodes in “raise your voice” program.

Episode title	Date
Role of civil society organizations in combating corruption	1/9/2013
Activities of youth against corruption	5/9/2013
Role of law in fighting corruption	8/9/2013

Crimes violating public trust	29/9/2013
Illicit gain	4/11/2013

5.6 Preparing and publishing articles and reports in two copies of the Palestinian youth voice newspaper:

The youth voice newspaper published in its edition # 100, 2013 a report titled “youth against corruption: youth media is part of anti-corruption system.” The report spoke about the role of youths and the importance of media in revealing cases of corruption, and awareness and building trust between citizens and PACC. The same edition also contained an interview with PACC Commissioner. Mr. Natsheh spoke about the reality of corruption and youths’ role in fighting it, and also the importance of integrated efforts between civil society institutions and PACC.

The youth voice newspaper published in its edition # 101, 2013 a report in two full pages discussing various issues about corruption, most importantly: activities of PACC and its civil society partners, analyzing the results of the report of Transparency International on Palestine, analyzing the results of a questionnaire distributed on 200 youths in the West Bank and Gaza strip on corruption in Palestine, in addition to other topics in this edition.

5.7 Preparing a documentary titled activating youths’ role in combating corruption:

In cooperation with Miftah, a documentary titled ‘activating the role of youths in combating corruption’ was prepared and photographed. The documentary reviews activities carried out with Miftah by conducting some interviews with individuals responsible about institutions fighting corruption, and also participants in joint activities. This documentary reflected the views and aspirations of youths in combating corruption and their future role in this process.

5.8 Conference on “Media and its Role in Combating Corruption”:

On 5 – 6 October 2013, PACC and the network held in Jericho a conference on “Media and its Role in Combating Corruption,” with the participation of 108 media personnel and representatives of national and civil society institutions. It’s most

important recommendation was demanding from PACC to intervene to pass the law on the right to access information.

Six: International Anti-Corruption Day:

On 9 December 2013, on the International Anti-Corruption Day, and to strengthen the level of awareness and social participation in anti-corruption efforts, PACC has organized the annual ceremony that carried the message “together for Palestine free of corruption.” H.E. Dr. Hussein Al-Araj, president office manager, delivered a speech in the name of Palestine state president. Prime Minister Dr. Rami Hamdallah has delivered the government’s speech. PACC Commissioner Mr. Rafiq An-Natsheh has delivered PACC speech.

H.E. Minister of Telecommunication and IT Dr. Safa’ Naser Al-Deen has announced during the conference the issuance of a special mail stamp on the International Anti-Corruption Day that carries anti-corruption slogans.

The head of the Palestinian central bureau of statistics Mrs. Ola Awad has reviewed the results of the survey on the spread of corruption in Palestine.

The conference had 300 participants, including members of the PLO executive committee, PLC members, ministers, heads of official bodies, secretary generals of national movements and parties, in addition to heads and delegates of civil society organizations, municipalities and the staff of official and popular institutions. The conference included a review of PACC achievements and future aspirations.

During the conference, Mr. Ayman Ahmad Abdulqader Al-Hroub from the Financial and Administrative Control Bureau was honored for his efforts in revealing a corruption case. This was followed by honoring trainees who participated in the training course “youths against corruption” that was organized with Pyalara during 2013.

Issuing a special stamp on International Anti-Corruption Day

At the end of the conference, there was a presentation of postal stamps that have been issued on International Anti-Corruption Day. The first copies of these stamps have been given to PACC Commissioner Mr. Rafiq An-Natsheh.

Seventhly: Studies and Publications

The Commission completed during the project period four studies, including "strategic orientations for the youth in the fight against corruption", along with a number of publications and a religious poster. They were as follows:

7.1 Completing two survey studies about the reality of corruption and its proliferation in Palestine, which was carried out by the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS):

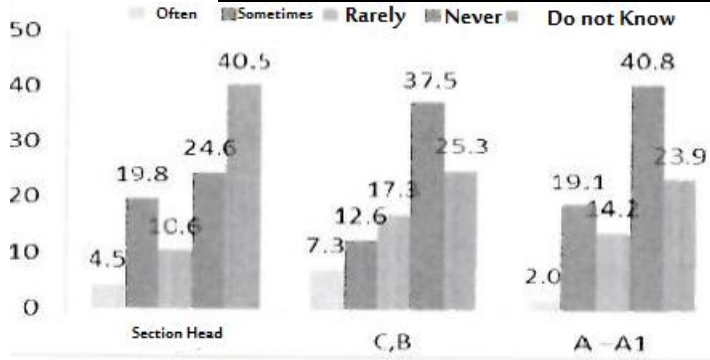
The Commission completed during the project period two survey studies about the reality of corruption and its Proliferation in Palestine. They were both carried out by PCBS. The first study targeted Palestinian families in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, while the second surveyed views of employees in the public sector in the West Bank. Moreover the outcome of both those two studies was announced by the PCBS on the

- In the study on families orientations towards the reality of corruption in Palestine and its proliferation, the sample included 2963 households at the aggregate level; 2500 households responded to the survey.
- In the study on public servants orientations towards the reality of corruption in Palestine and its Proliferation, the sample included 814 employees at the aggregate level; 770 employees

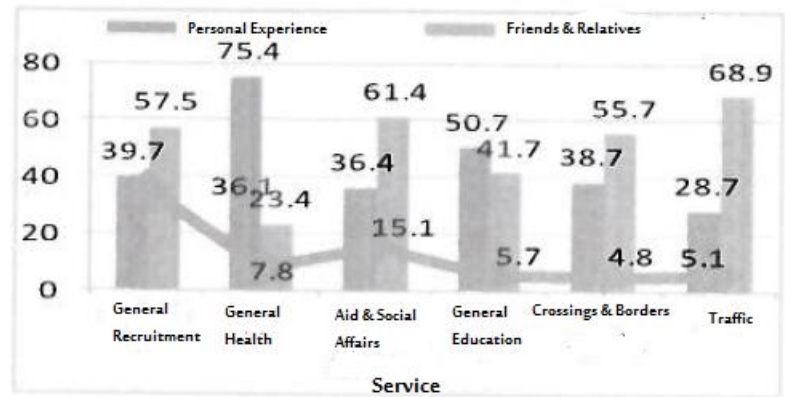
International Anti-Corruption Day,
on 09/12/2013.

responded to the survey.

The relative distribution of public servants in the West Bank, according to their view about the existence of exceptions in terms of solicitations in their organizations by grade.



Percentage of individuals (18 years and over) who have perceptions about the existence of corruption and the source of their perceptions in selected public services in Palestine.



2.7 A Study on the concept of corruption among Palestinian women in partnership with [Women's Affairs Technical Committee](#) (WATC):

This study aimed at enhancing the role of Palestinian women in the fight against corruption, as corruption is a major constraint for achieving development, and has an impact in the empowerment and participation of women. The study sought to provide knowledge on the fight against

corruption, from the perspective of women themselves, its impact on their lives, and attempting to discuss their role in anti-corruption efforts.

The study was based on a directed qualitative brainstorming methodology used with selected women representing several women groups within a specific methodology. The principal researcher in this study held, with the participation of WATC and the Anti-Corruption Commission, seven focus meetings with targeted women in the West Bank and Gaza.

7.3 A Study on the opinion of civil society organizations on the conception of fight against corruption and its mechanism in partnership with NGOs Network:

The study aimed at surveying the opinion of Palestinian civil society regarding specific issues to give the Commission and its partners indications about its presentations regarding these topics, which focused on:

Definition of corruption in general and concepts associated with it, a case study on suspicions of corruption existence within Palestinian civil society organizations (its forms and degree of proliferation, the parties which mostly involved in corruption in these organizations, and the extent of public access to instances of corruption), the role of NGOs in the fight against corruption in the Palestinian society, the extent to which NGOs programs and projects meet priorities and needs of the Palestinian society, civil society organizations taking into account values and principles of transparency, accountability and integrity in their work. The study incorporated qualitative and quantitative methodology together, through a series of interviews and focus groups and by preparing a special form for surveying views of targeted management's civil institutions on one hand, and those working in them on the other hand.

7.4 Publication of a Poster Titled "Divine Religions Calls for Anti-Corruption"

A poster was prepared in collaboration of poster of the Islamic Christian Commission for the Support of Jerusalem and Holy Sites, titled "Divine Religions Calls for Anti-Corruption". One thousand copies of it were printed. The same poster was also printed as Rollup.

7.5 Preparation and Publication of a Training Manual, entitled "Educational Role and the Fight against Corruption:"

The Commission and the Ministry of Education and Higher Education formed a joint committee for preparing a training manual to be utilized in training of supervisors and teachers during the implementation of the strategy. The first draft was discussed in several meetings until it was fully prepared. This guide has been published to be utilized carrying out school and students activities of the joint plan, including training courses, awareness meetings and students projects.

7.6 Preparation and publication of a booklet on the student creativities in the fight against corruption:

The booklet was published in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education. It contains winning works of the students' creativities contest of government schools.

The Commission printed 3,000 copies of the presentations and events of a workshop on the role of civil society organizations in the fight against corruption, which was carried out in collaboration with NGOs and the Ministry of the Interior on 27.08.2013 in Ramallah.

The Commission printed 5,000 copies of the presentations and happenings of the religious meeting on the fight of corruption in cooperation with the Islamic Christian Commission for the support of

Jerusalem and holy sites, which was convened 05.30.2013.

Eighthly: Activities in Legal Issues:

8.1 The Commission and the Centre for Equality (Musawat), during the reporting period, organized 16 workshops in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, in which 559 persons from official and civil society bodies, attorneys, parliamentary blocs and political parties participated.

These workshops focused on anti-corruption law, the Code of Criminal Procedure, the role of anti-corruption bodies and their tools. A set of recommendations was documented which contributed in efforts for amending the anti-corruption law.

8.2 A Workshop on Legal jurisdiction over citizens of Jerusalem:

In collaboration with the Ministry of Justice, the Commission convened a workshop on 02.27.2014 about the legal jurisdiction over citizens of Jerusalem. The audience came up with specific recommendations for dealing with citizens of Jerusalem, that they should be treated just like other citizens of occupied Palestinian territories.

8.3 A Workshop to amend anti-corruption law:

In its effort to study proposed amendments in the Anti-Corruption Act, the Commission prepared an amendment draft for the Anti-Corruption Act, so that it becomes more coherent with UN Anti-Corruption Convention. A series of amendments were proposed which chiefly addressed articles relating to legal, career and personal protection of witnesses, informants and experts, whereas the applicable law referred organization of these matters to the system, which could not be accomplished as its provisions clash with the Code of Criminal Procedure Act. The proposed draft also criminalized certain corruption offenses which were not as such in the applicable. It further identified classes that need to disclose its financial state. It also expanded its scope of applicability to include all public shareholding companies. The proposed draft contains many amendments that proved necessary after the application of the law for nearly four years. The Commission held a workshop, which was attended many specialists and various civil society organizations and discussed the proposed amendments. The Commission will work on passing the amended draft as soon as possible in 2014, by organizing a workshop on 30/10/2013 in el-Beireh, to discuss the possible amendments in the Anti-Corruption Act. Main actors in the justice sector in Palestine were invited to participate in the proposed discussion.

4.8 Legal Studies:

The General Department of Legal Affairs, participated in preparing three specialized legal studies, in cooperation with Birzeit University in the course of a training program, which was implemented by the University and funded by a joint venture of the European Police mission in Palestine and UNP. These studies are:

- A research paper on "Framework Governing Recovery of Assets between legislation and application internationally and locally."

- “Electronic Evidence Legally and Technically: An Analytical Comparative Study.”
- A Research Paper on "The Origins of the Investigation of Corruption Crimes."

5.8 Draft Law on the Right of Access to Information:

The Commission culminated marking the 2013 Anti-Corruption International Day by completing the first draft law of the right of access to information. The National Commission charged in preparing the draft law was headed by the Director General of Legal Affairs of the Anti-Corruption Commission. The draft law leaned on international standards and best regional and international practices. It aims at promoting transparency and accountability at Palestinian institutions in order to have sound anti-corruption environment in line with provisions of Article X of the United Nations Anti-Corruption Convention, which require each state party to take necessary measures to enhance transparency in its public administration, including adoption of regulations and procedures that enable the general public to obtain information on how it organizes its public administration, its functioning and how decisions are taken.

Complaints and Law Enforcement

Firstly, complaints and reports:

1.1 Complaints and Reports Received in 2013:

The Commission received in 2013 a total of (392) complaints and reports, which were divided among various sectors as follows:

Sector	Number of Complaints and Reports	Percentage
Public Sector	239	61%
Local Bodies	99	25%
Charities and Local bodies	23	6%
Trade Unions and the Like	5	1.25%
Parties	3	0.755
Private Sector and Non-Subject	27	6%

Regarding the subject of complaints and reports, they were divided as follows:

Number	Subject of the Complaint	Sector					Total
		Public Sector	Local Bodies	Charities and Civil Society Organizations	Unions and Federations	Private Sector	
1	Bribe	13	2	-	-	-	15
2	Embezzlement / Misuse of Trust	11	32	7	-	1	51
3	Abuse of Power						
4	Laxity in Disposing	1					1

	of Public Office Duties						
5	Fraud	15	10	4	1	3	33
6	Breach of Public Money	12	10	3	-	-	25
7	Nepotism and Favoritism	26	6	1	1	-	34
8	Graft	17	10	3	2	-	32
9	Exploitation of Post	12	-	-	-	-	12
10	Refraining from implementing a Judicial Order	5	2	-	-	-	7
11	Outside Jurisdiction	89	16	5	3	23	136
Total		246	98	23	7	28	402 *

* Some complaints contain more than one corruption charge.

The most important observations regarding the complaints and division in 2013:

- Number of complaints and reports, which were outside the jurisdiction of the commission totaled 136 out of 392, constituting

34.7% of the complaints, bringing down the percentage of complaints for lack of jurisdiction of the previous year (2012) which counted for 41.8%.

- Forms of corruption complaints and reports were as follows:
 - 1- Abuse of power, counted for 21%.
 - 2- Embezzlement and misuse of trust, counted for 19.9%.
 - 3- Nepotism and favoritism, counted for 13%.
 - 4- Forgery, counted for 12.8%.
 - 5- Graft, counted for 9.7%.
 - 6- Breach of public money, counted for 9.7%.
 - 7- Bribery, counted for 5.8%.
 - 8- Exploitation of post, counted for 4.6%.
 - 9- Refraining from implementing a Judicial Order, counted for 2.7%.
 - 10- Laxity in disposing of public office duties, counted for 0.3%.

2.1 Division of complainants and complained against, according to their gender, in 2013:

Gender	Complainants	Complained Against
Male	219	160
Female	24	7
Male and Female	9	1
Institution	223	47
Unknown	93	

3.1 Followed up complaints and an reports in 2013:

The General Department of Legal Affairs started in 2013 investigation and evidence gathering in 177 complaints and reports retained from 2012, and 210 complaints and reports of 2013, bringing the number of complaints and reports considered during 2013 (387) complaints and reports.

4.1 Categorizing complaints and reports of 2013 as per follow-ups:

1.4.1 Rejected Complaints:

The number of rejected complaints and reports for lack of jurisdiction were (185) out of (387) dealt with by the Commission in 2013, amounting to (47.5%) of total complaints and reports processed. Reasons varied for rejecting these complaints and reports, some were rejected for lack of jurisdiction as they related to administrative breaches and did not constitute a suspicion offense of corruption. These cases were to the competent authority. Some were also rejected as they were being processed by courts, while others were rejected because the complainant against is not subject to the Anti-Corruption Act. Others were rejected because they contained offenses which were not corruption ones. They were similarly forwarded to the competent authorities.

2.4.1 The number of complaints and reports reserved totaled (33) complaints out of (387) ones which were considered by the Commission in 2013, accounting for 8.5% of the total complaints and reports pursued. Meanwhile, a complaint is reserved and the complainant is informed in case the investigation did not gather proof for suspecting the commitment of an offense of corruption.

3.4.1 Complaints referred to the Mandatory Public Prosecution:

Number of complaints and reports referred to the mandatory public prosecution to process, after the Commission conducted its inquiries and preliminary inferences and validation of the existence of suspicion of

committing the offense of corruption, totaled (14) complaints and reports, accounting for (4%) of the total cases pursued in 2013. Sixteen complaints were referred to the Mandatory Prosecution directly because of the existence of strong suspicions, hence total number of complaints referred to the mandatory prosecution were (30) complaints.

Secondly, Regarding Investigated Cases Referred to the Competent Court:

2.1 The Mandatory Prosecutor pursued all of 30 referred files, besides retained files from past years (64). The following table shows special pursue of investigative files registered with the Mandatory Prosecution in 2013.

Retained cases from previous years and until the beginning of 2013	64 files
Received and registered cases in 2013	30 files
Reserved cases by a order of the Assistant Attorney General	15 files
Cases referred to competent authority due to lack of jurisdiction	4 files
Cases referred to the Court of corruption crimes	19 files
Retained cases from previous years and until the end of 2013	56

1.1.2 By analyzing the above data, we find that the percentage of decided cases compared with received ones, are:

30 files were received / 38 files were decide, while the number of cases retained from previous years, dropped from 64 to 56 files.

The percentage of deciding and achievement in files is up to 126 %.

2.2 Files referred and decide by corruption offenses tribunal in 2013:

Retained cases from previous years and until the end of 2013	46 files
Cases referred to the Court of Corruption Offenses	19 files
Decided cases with a conviction	5 files
Decide cases with absolving	1 file
Decided cases transferred to other courts	1 file
Retained cases from previous years and until the end of 2013	39 files

2.2.1 Investigation of embezzlements from the funds of the General Petroleum Authority, which exceed 45 Million Shekels

In 2013, the Prosecutors delegated to PACC investigated financial embezzlements from the funds of the General Petroleum Authority; the amount of the embezzlement was approximately 45 million Shekels. Several suspects were detained by the PACC Prosecutors; the competent court extended their detention to continue the investigation with them on the acts for which they were charged, which being accomplices with the main perpetrator, who was a fugitive, in embezzling these funds by tampering debts and special accounts of the Petroleum Authority. The investigation was conducted after the Commissioner referred the file of the above mentioned suspects to the PACC's delegated Prosecutors after these embezzlements were discovered by the field teams of the Administrative and Financial Control Bureau. The latter Bureau was assigned to continue the auditing of the Petroleum Authority's work and its accounts to look into some of the suspected accounts, or the accounts which were possibly tampered by the suspects.

2.2.2 Interrogation of suspects in a case of vehicle customs forgery:

PACC in its efforts to prosecute criminals and violators of the law, it conducted a prompt investigation of forgery of documents of vehicles customs; the amount of money connected to this forgery exceeded ten-million shekels; this led to remand several suspects in custody. One of these suspects was a Palestinian who held a Jerusalem ID. This person tried to disown his Palestinian background by requesting to appear before the Israeli courts, which led the Israeli side to threaten the Commissioner of the PACC by demanding him to deliver this person to them. This demand was rejected by the PACC. The court extended the detention of all the suspects to continue the investigation procedures in November and December 2013, as a preparation to refer them to be tried by the competent court.

Third: Financial Disclosure Department:

In pursuance of Article (2) of the Amended Anti-Corruption Law No. (1) of 2005 concerning the persons who are obliged to fill the financial disclosure forms, the financial disclosure forms were distributed to the personnel of the Civil Service who were obliged to fill these forms. The distribution started on 01/02/2012. The following were some of the most important achievements of the Financial Disclosure Department:

By the end of 2012, 5,698 disclosures were received on the due dates from persons who were obliged to do so in pursuance of the provisions of the law. The distribution of the forms continued, and the number of the received forms was 13,709 by the end of 2013. Thus, all the public servants from the Civil Service and Military Service, who held financial or administrative powers in any ministry, institution, and body of the State were targeted.

1. The categories that have been obliged to fill the financial disclosure forms recently:

1. Public servants who have a degree of a director or above in all the institutions and bodies of the State.
2. Public servants who have financial or administrative powers, including the financial directors and treasurers in all the institutions and bodies of the State.
3. Members of procurement, tenders, and quota committees in all the institutions of the State.
4. Members of the elected local councils.
5. Military personnel who have a rank of a lieutenant or above from all the security apparatuses.
6. Joint-stock companies in which the State owns 100% of its shares.

2. Plan of the Financial Disclosures Department of 2014:

This Department has drawn up a plan to distribute the financial disclosure forms to the remaining persons who are obliged to adhere to the provisions of the law in 2014, which include the following groups:

1. Charitable and civil societies.
2. Unions and associations.
3. Employees of the local bodies
4. Diplomatic personnel.
5. Members of administration boards and employees of public joint-stock companies, in which the State or any of its institutions owns shares.

3. Workshops that have been held to clarify the mechanisms of filling the financial disclosure forms for 2013:

Several workshops were held for the purpose of explaining and outlining the legal aspects and technical mechanisms of filling the financial disclosure forms by the persons who are obliged to do so. The following workshops were held during 2013:

Workshops	Date
Local councils	30/01/2013
General Intelligence	27/02/2013
Preventive Security	10/03/2013
Police	02/04/2013

Administration, Finance, and IT:

First: Regulations, bylaws, human resources, and training:

1.1 Regulations, Bylaws, and Executive Instructions:

The Council of Ministers approved the organizational structure of the Commission and the Regulations of the PACC's personnel No. (9) of 2001 on the 7/6/2011. The Commission, in order to guarantee efficient implementation of its task, has developed bylaws and executive instructions in pursuance of the Amended Anti-Corruption Law No. (1) of 2005, and in pursuance of the Regulations of the PACC's personnel. The following have been drafted and ratified:

- Personnel regulations.
- Executive instructions concerning the work of the PACC's personnel.
- Executive instructions concerning the placement on the salary grid.

- Executive instructions concerning overtime.

The Human Resources Department proposed the drafts of executive instructions for the following:

- Performance evaluation and promotions.
- List of disciplinary penalties and violations.

1.2 **Training:**

The PACC gives much attention to the development of its personnel, which is in line with its approach towards managing and planning human resources. In order to achieve that, PACC has given opportunities for its staff to participate in several workshops, seminars, and conferences to increase their knowledge and develop their skills in all areas. The personnel have had the opportunity to receive on-the-job trainings. Also, the superiors transfer their own expertise and knowledge to the personnel in all the general administrations.

The staff have benefited from the various training courses provided through the project entitled “Assisting in Strengthening the Anti-Corruption Capabilities in Palestine” funded by the UNDP and implemented by the Law Institute at Bir-Zeit University. The training actually started on 10/06/2013 and involved the Prosecutors delegated to PACC, and legal and administrative personnel in the Commission. The following are the most important topics that were covered in the training:

- Legislative drafting
- Criminal procedures
- Rules and principles of financial investigations
- Indicators to corruption
- Electronic evidence
- Retrieving assets
- Mutual legal assistance
- Case file management
- Data management and analysis
- International standards on combating corruption
- Principles of preliminary investigation in corruption cases
- Trial procedures before the CCC and other levels of litigation
- Public relations and media
- Planning skills
- Strategic planning
- Administrative skills
- Organizing conferences, meetings, training courses, and workshops
- Lobbying, mobilizing, impacting, and advocacy campaigns
- Communications

- Following up the Media
- Professional Management of Projects (PMP)
- Management of time and work stress.

1.3 Specialized training courses that have been held in Palestine and abroad:

- Management of the Public Sector's personnel/ Japan
- Investment in the builders of the Arabic integrity/Jordan
- Strategic media skills/Switzerland
- Financial Intelligence Unit's analyzer/Palestine
- Financial certificate, financial organization, and fraud/UK
- Certificate of the Senior Executives in the project of Strategic Management for Combating Corruption /Malaysia
- Scientific Forum for Information Security/Morocco
- Training course on raising awareness about taxes for auditors and accountants/ Palestine
- Intelligence-based investigations/Malaysia

Second: IT

1. Project for the automation of the PACC's work/ First phase - Automation system for the main administrative and financial functions of PACC:

Facilitating, streamlining, speeding up and building a comprehensive work environment for all the services; and facilitating the administrative work and fast decision-taking.

2. Financial disclosure system

The system handles personal data only, gives it a password for archiving, and allows access to it quickly and safely.

3. Developing and activating the website:

Developing the work of PACC and its services, especially in the areas of publications and media.

Third: PACC's Budget

3.1: Revenues

In pursuance of the Anti-Corruption Law, PACC requested an amount of 9,500,000 NIS for their annual budget. However, due to the austerity measures imposed by the circumstances in 2013, PACC only received 4,750,000.

The Ministry of Finance wired the following amounts to the account of PACC in 2013:

- On 22/01/2013, an amount of \$284,600 was transferred (from the 2012's budget).
- On 22/05/2013, an amount of \$ 675,926 was transferred (from the 2013's budget).

- On 28/07/2013, an amount of \$ 391,325 was transferred (from the 2013's budget).
- On 08/10/2013 an amount of \$ 142,300 was transferred (from the 2013's budget).
- On 05/11/2013 an amount of \$ 142,300 was transferred (from the 2013's budget).

Therefore, the total amount of money transfer to the account of the PACC from the 2013's budget was \$1,351,851, which is only 50% of the allocated budget for the PACC in 2013.

3.2 UNDP joint program

An agreement was signed between the UN and PACC on 23/08/2012; this agreement was entitled "The Joint Program of the UNDP and EUPOLCOPPS for the Purpose of Strengthening the Internal Accountability and Enhancing the Efforts to Combat Corruption. The estimated budget for the project was \$270,000. An addition budget was added to this program with an amount of \$282,700 for new activities. A bank account was opened on 06/09/2012 especially for this project through the Ministry of Finance. The number of the account was 2208492 at the Limited Bank of Palestine. Until 31/12/2013, the following payments were transferred to the project.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------|
| - First payment on 26/09/2012 | \$108,000 |
| - Second payment on 31/03/2013 | \$108,000 |
| - Third payment on 06/10/2013 | \$54,000 |
| - Fourth payment on 06/11/2013 | \$141,350 |

The percentage of the total spending until 31/12/2013 on various activities of the project was 71.11% of the total amount allocated for the project, which was \$552,700.

3.3 Expenditures:

The following is a brief financial analysis of the capital and administrative expenses during 2013:

The total of the capital and administrative expenses was \$2,210,686; the dollar to shekel exchange rate was at 3.5137, which was issued by the Palestinian Monetary Authority on 31/12/2013.

The percentage of the capital expenses of the total capital and administrative expenses was %4.61.

The percentage of the administrative expenses of total capital and administrative expenses was %95.39

3.4 Capital expenses:

The amount of the capital expenses was \$102,029; the dollar to shekel exchange was at 3.5137, which was issued by the Palestinian Monetary Authority on 31/12/2013.

Two items had equal importance in the capital expenses in 2013; the first was the purchase of vehicles at %30.39 of total capital expenses, and purchase of a generator at %24.21 of total capital expenses.

The rest of the capital expenses varied, and constituted %45.40 of total capital expenses; it included the purchase of printers, scanners, computers, surveillance cameras, furniture, and others.

3.5 Administrative expenses:

The total administrative expenses, which included salaries, allowances, and travel expenses, was \$2,108,657; the dollar to shekel exchange rate was at 3.5137, which was issued by the Palestinian Monetary Authority on 31/12/2013.

Participation in public events:

The PACC participated in the following national and special events:

1. Ceremony of the Achievements of the Palestinian Post services
2. Alquds (Jerusalem) Day ceremony
3. Reception of the Coronation of the Moroccan King
4. Opening of the Palestinian Institute for Public Finance and Taxes
5. Ceremony of the Collective Agreement of the Association of Journalists
6. Opening ceremony of the Pharmaceutical Conference
7. The national ceremony for launching popular oversight committees/ Areej Institute
8. Ceremony of signing the Code of Conduct for the personnel of the Financial Audit and Administrative Control Bureau
9. The American Consulate invitation
10. Consultative meeting on the freedom of press and expression in the State of Palestine/Istiqlal
11. Social Accountability Forum/GIZ
12. Lifta's Cultural Festival
13. The Popular Conference for Supporting Prisoner in Israeli Prisons
14. The Public Prosecution Conference
15. The First National Conference on Grievances
16. The Bayet Al-Maqdis Fourth Islamic International Conference
17. The Conference of the Financial Audit and Administrative Control Bureau
18. Farewell ceremony for the representative of the Belgium Development Agency (BTC)
19. The Palestinian Judicial Authority's workshop on mechanisms of developing the judicial work
20. Prophet Mohammed's Birth celebrations held at the Ministry of Religious Affairs
21. The delegation of Hashemite Charitable Association
22. The National Day of Refugees

Participation in Regional and International Workshops and Conferences:

1. Training program on human resources/ Feb 2013/ Japan
2. Training course on promoting integrity in the Private Sector/ April 2013/ Kuwait
3. Litigation skills before the Courts of Appeal/ April 2013/Jordan
4. Intelligence-based investigations (IBI)/ April 2013/Malaysia
5. Study trip to the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF)/April 2013/Belgium
6. Conference on the challenges of reconciling the realities with the hopes in the field of combating corruption / April 2013/ Lebanon
7. Studying the environment that regulates the diplomatic work/ April 2013/ Jordan
8. Scientific Forum for Data Security/ May 2013/Morocco
9. The Fourth Session of The Implementation Review Group of the United Nations Convention against Corruption/May 2013/Austria
10. Promoting international transparency in the Mediterranean region/May 2013/ Tunisia
11. Signing an agreement with the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF)/May 2013/ Belgium
12. Training course on the skills of strategic media/May 2013/Switzerland
13. Regional meeting for Good Governance in the Medical Field /June 2013/Egypt
14. The Sixth Meeting of the Anti-Corruption Regional Group in the Arabic Region/June 2013/Lebanon
15. Academic course on the Arab Integrity/June 2013/ Jordan
16. Training course on Strategy and Community Participation/June 2013/ Malaysia
17. Training of trainers course/August 2013/Jordan
18. The Seventh Transparency Forum on Integrity/August 2013/Kuwait
19. Course on the Anti-Corruption Strategy/Sep 2013/Singapore
20. Training course on the professional certificate in Finance, Instructions, and Fraud/Sep 2013/London
21. Workshop on supporting the implementation of the UN Treaty/Sep 2013/ Jordan
22. A regional workshop on integrity in the relationship between the Public and Private Sectors/Sep 2013/ Morocco
23. The Fifth Conference of State Parties to the UN's Convention against Corruption/ Nov 2013/Panama
24. The Third Session of the National Conference for Combating Corruption/Dec 2013/ Tunisia
25. Training course on Investigation/ Dec 2013/Malaysia

Obstacles and Challenges:

The obstacles and challenges that faced the PACC can be summarized in the following:

First: The Israeli Occupation

The Israeli occupation is the greatest challenge and the main obstacle confronting the efforts that are exerted to combat corruption. Due to the Israeli occupation, investigations have not been conducted, and bringing or subpoenaing suspects or defendants in areas that are located outside the jurisdiction of the Palestinian Authority, which are known by area C were not possible. Besides, the Israeli occupation protects perpetrators of corruption crimes by preventing their arrest or investigating with them because they hold Jerusalem IDs.

Second: Regional and International Judicial Cooperation:

- The Prosecution delegated to PACC submitted several warrants to extradite criminals, but none of these warrants have been enforced due to different excuses and claims; thus, when the Arab states, who are signatories to the Riyadh Convention do not comply with the international judicial assistance, it becomes an obstacle to continue the investigation and arrest the defendant, and refer them to court.
- There is a Lack of some tools and methods needed for investigation, inquiry, and detecting corruption crimes. There are many reasons for that, but the main one is the Israeli occupation, who prevents us from obtaining some equipment. That obliges us to seek coordination with the competent parties to provide us with the necessary equipments and modern technical means.

Third: Internal Challenges and Obstacles:

- Periods of trials and litigations before the Court of Appeal and the Court of Cassation, especially concerning the formal pleas that are done before deciding on the subject of the case impede the litigation procedures and leads to slowness of the case before the Corruption Crimes Court. Therefore, that calls for conducting legislative amendments, or taking measures by the HJC concerning periods and procedures of appeal and cassation that are done before giving a decision in the case.
- Some files requires procedures that take a lot of time, such as requesting the preparation of an oversight report from the Financial Audit and Administrative Control Bureau, which may take several months to be prepared.
- There are files submitted from complainant from Gaza Strip. Even though these files are not many, the PACC faces obstacles in completing them, or requesting documents or reviewing the documents concerning them.
- Lack of a separate financial system for the PACC, which would promote the independence of the PACC. Currently, the governmental financial system is implemented.
- Lack of a separate procurement system for the PACC, which would promote the independence of the PACC. Currently, the governmental procurement system is implemented.

- Lack of complete data about the addresses and offices of the Civil Society institutions and some unions and associations, and the persons who are responsible for them.
- It is difficult for diplomatic personnel working in Palestinian missions abroad to send their financial disclosures, where many countries in which these missions work do not have a direct contact with the Palestinian Post Services. Activities are being undertaken to search for a mechanism to deliver these disclosures from them.
- There is a difference between the statistics and data of the Ministry of Finance concerning the obliged personnel and the data and statistics of the Financial Audit and Administrative Control Bureau in terms of the work place of several personnel who are obliged to fill the financial disclosure forms.

