

2015/SOM3/ACT/006

Agenda Item: 6

Anti-Corruption Initiatives in Malaysia

Purpose: Information Submitted by: Malaysia



21st Anti-Corruption and Transparency Experts'
Working Group Meeting
Cebu, Philippines
22 August 2015

1.0 INTERANATIONAL/REGIONAL COOPERATION- IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLE 48 UNCAC

1.1 MACC's assistance to Palau to prepare the SACL for Chapter II- Prevention

On April 2015 the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) received a request from United Nation Office on Drug and Crime (UNODC) to assist the Palau focal point to complete the Self-Assessment Checklist (SACL) for Chapter II – Prevention. The MACC, in response and in the spirit of Article 60 of UNCAC, sent an expert to assist Palau on this subject matter.

1.2 Malaysia's Participation in the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) Review Mechanism

In this first review cycle from year 2010 – 2015, Malaysia as the reviewing State Party, has conducted country visits for three States Parties, namely, The Republic of Iran, The Republic of Palau and Turkey in conjunction with the review of the implementation of Chapters III – Criminalization and law Enforcement and Chapter IV – International Cooperation of UNCAC.

For the upcoming 2nd Cycle of the Review on Chapter II – Prevention and Chapter V – Asset Recovery, the Malaysian focal point (MACC) has formed a task force to prepare the responses ahead of the Review Cycle.

2.0 CRIMINALIZATION AND LAW ENFORCEMENT

2.1 Amendments to the Anti-Money Laundering and Terrorism Financing Act 2001 (Act 613) by virtue of the Anti-Money Laundering and Anti-Terrorism Financing Act (Amendment) Act 2014 (Act A1467).

In pursuing the objective of safeguarding the integrity of the financial system, the AMLATFA amendments will ensure that the AMLATFA remains relevant and effective in combating money laundering and terrorism financing (ML/TF) threats.

The amendments are aimed at:

- providing further clarity on reporting obligations;
- strengthening measures on declaration for cross-border transportation of cash and bearer negotiable instruments (BNI);
- strengthening ML/TF investigation and prosecution powers; and
- providing effective and dissuasive sanctions and penalties for contraventions of the AMLATFA provisions.

The act is now known as the Anti-Money Laundering, Anti-Terrorism Financing and Proceeds of Unlawful Activities Act 2001 (Act 613).

[Member economies may download this act on the Bank Negara Malaysia website at www.bnm.gov.my]

3.0 INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

By agreeing on mechanisms to fight corruption as provided for under Article 61 paragraph 4 of UNCAC, the international community is opening the doors for increased multilateral and bilateral cooperation on important but traditionally local fronts. This, in turn, encourages the sharing of best practices, builds trust and relationships between cooperating countries, and ultimately increases the effectiveness of bilateral and multilateral efforts and development assistance programs as well as the signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). With this regard, a MoU has been signed between the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission and Anti-Corruption Commission of Bhutan this year (2015). Among the objectives rolled out within the contents of the MoU are on aspects of providing professional training courses, exchanging of expertise and developing human resources, exchanging of information and professional materials on the work of preventing and combating corruption and to exchange experiences in respect of detecting corrupt acts as well as methods and means of people who commit corrupt acts.

The MACC is also planning to sign a similar MoU with Anti-Corruption Commission of Timor-Leste this September.

4.0 <u>UP-COMING PROGRAMMES</u>

4.1 UPDATE ON THE 16^{TH} INTERNATIONAL ANTI-CORRUPTION CONFERENCE (IACC), MALAYSIA.

The 16th International Anti-Corruption Conference (IACC) which is joint- MACC and Transparency International (Berlin) event will take off as planned from 2 – 4 September 2015 at the Putrajaya International Convention Centre (PICC), Putrajaya, Malaysia.

The theme for this conference is Ending Impunity: People Integrity Action. There will be more than 30 workshops throughout this conference which will bring together an estimated 750 international participants.

Apart from hosting the Conference, the MACC has also organized a workshop on "Fighting Corruption by Anti-Corruption Authorities – What Worked and What Went Wrong". The objective of this workshop is to identify effective domestic and international measures and plans in meeting challenges, unfold success stories and the problems faced by ACAs and learn from each other's strengths and weaknesses in order to improve our current and also future strategies.

4.2 THE 8TH SESSION OF ANTI-CORRUPTION AGENCY (ACA) FORUM IN MALAYSIA

The Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) will be hosting the 8th session of the Anti-Corruption Agency (ACA) Forum in Kuala Lumpur <u>next</u> year (2016). The objective of this forum to enhance the collaboration among anti-corruption agencies in the area of sharing the good practices and to discuss further on the challenges faced by anti-corruption agencies. This collaboration is in line with the requirement in article 61 United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC).

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