



THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN FORUM AGAINST CORRUPTION

Prepared by:

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SAFAC Chairman.

1. Introduction

The establishment of Anti-Corruption Authorities in the SADC region in early seventies and nineties saw the need for cooperation amongst different Anti-Corruption Authorities in the region. The creation of the Southern African Forum against Corruption (SAFAC) was such a response for greater cooperation. SAFAC was conceived in the year 2000 in Gaborone Botswana and was officially launched in Maseru Lesotho in July 2001.

SAFAC as corporate entity aspires to foster regional cooperation in combating corruption and provides a forum for interaction and sharing experiences and good practices among the Anti-Corruption Authorities in the SADC region.

SAFAC is composed of 14 member states namely, The Republic of Angola, Botswana, The Democratic Republic of Congo, The Kingdom of Lesotho, The Republic of Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, The Kingdom of Swaziland, The Republic of Zambia and The United Republic of Tanzania.

The objectives of SAFAC are spelled out in Art.5 of the SAFAC Constitution that:

- (a) Assist SADC Members States to implement the SADC Protocol Against Corruption
- (b) Promote, strengthen and enhance cooperation and foster joint strategies for combating corruption and economic crime and related offences throughout the region
- (c) Make arrangements for networking among Members, prepare and disseminate relevant information as may be necessary to benefit Members to combat such criminal activities in the region
- (d) Carry out regular reviews of anti-corruption strategies and disseminate best practices amongst Members

- (e) Make relevant recommendations to governments of members in relation to the combating of corruption and related offences in the Southern Africa Region
- (f) Formulate systematic regional training policies for personnel engaged in anti-corruption work, taking into account the needs and performance requirements of regional anti-corruption initiatives
- (g) Facilitate investigations being conducted by organizations in Member's countries by affording access by Members and their representatives to witnesses and information within the boundaries of other Members' countries and carrying out investigations on behalf of other Members
- (h) Publish journals, papers, statistics and other information on the state of corruption in the region, on anti-corruption strategies and initiatives and on important developments and cases
- (i) Carry out such relevant and appropriate strategies for the purposes of promoting regional cooperation and collaboration in anti-corruption campaigns and actions
- (j) Establish contacts and exchanges and implement joint strategies with other international and representative organizations which have anti-corruption activities amongst their objectives
- (k) Promote the concepts of transparency, ethics and good accountable governance throughout the region.

2. SAFAC Management Committee

Article 9 of the Constitution outlines that the management committee shall consist of six members one of whom shall be the Chair of SAFAC. The quorum of the meeting the Management committee shall be three.

The following are the Management Committee:

Tanzania	Chairing
Kingdom of Lesotho	Member
Botswana	Member
Zimbabwe	Member
Namibia	Member
Zambia	Member

3. SAFAC Training Committee

The current Training committee was appointed by the Management Committee as follows:

Malawi	Chair
Mozambique	Member
Swaziland	Member
Angola	Member
Mauritius	Member

4. International cooperation

SAFAC member countries agreed to cooperate with one another in every aspect of the fight against corruption, including prevention, investigation, and the prosecution of offenders. Countries are bound by the protocol to render specific forms of mutual legal assistance in gathering and transferring evidence for use in respective countries, to extradite offenders where necessary. Countries are also required to undertake measures that will support the tracing, freezing, seizure and confiscation of the proceeds of corruption.

4.1 Update on the status of member states signatories and ratification of SADC Protocol against Corruption, African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption and United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC). **(See annexure 1)**

5. Successes

- Different training activities were undertaken to strengthen and increase capacities of the Anti-Corruption Authorities to execute their respective mandates;
- There has been significant progress on the Business Action against Corruption (BAAC) Initiative. To date there are two chapters formed in Malawi and Zambia and in both countries the highest level of political will and commitment to support this work has been demonstrated. Botswana is soon to launch a chapter as well in Tanzania, where such efforts are also underway in this regard.
- SAFAC annual meetings were held on rotational basis amongst member states and this has provided a great opportunity for countries to show case their success and challenges faced in the fight against corruption.
- A quarterly SAFAC e-bulletin is in place to update and provide member states and other stakeholders information and news.

6. Challenges

The SAFAC success is with challenges as well and includes:

- Lack of funds and resources to implement SAFAC activities.
- The delay in the formation of SADC Anti –Corruption Committee (SACC)
- Implementation of the SADC Protocol against Corruption
- Sustainability of training programs for its member states.

7. The way forward

In order to overcome the above mentioned challenges, SAFAC member countries agreed on the following:

- Members to pay their annual subscriptions to sustain the implementation of some of the activities of SAFAC whilst outside funds should be supplementary.
- The management committee to develop a new strategic plan of action to support the implementation of the SADC Protocol against Corruption.
- The training needs assessment to be carried out and form the basis for developing training modules for the region.
- Increased collaboration amongst member states.
- Rendering supporting to countries that are yet to ratify the Protocol. The Protocol is cardinal instrument in supporting harmonization of anti-corruption initiatives.

8. Conclusion

Regional initiatives against corruption have always proved to be a way forward to curb corruption. Member states must work towards implementation of policy and legal frameworks that are already in place to make progress in the fight against corruption within the region and globally. This meeting to form a pan African Association for the fight against corruption is a commendable effort and SAFAC supports this initiative to complement the sub-regional collaborations.

SADC PROTOCOL AGAINST CORRUPTION

No.	Country	Date of Signature	Date of Ratification/ Accession	Date of Deposit
1	ANGOLA	14.08.01		
2	BOTSWANA	14.08.01	14.08.01	
3	D R CONGO	14.08.01		
4	LESOTHO	14.08.01	29.07.03	
5	MADAGASCAR			
6	MALAWI	14.08.01	27.09.02	
7	MAURITIUS	14.08.01	04.01.02	
8	MOZAMBIQUE	14.08.01	09.07.2004	
9	NAMIBIA	14.08.01		
10	SEYCHELLES	14.08.01		
11	SOUTH AFRICA	14.08.01	15.05.03	
12	SWAZILAND	14.08.01		
13	TANZANIA	14.08.01	20.08.2003	
14	ZAMBIA	14.08.01	08.07.03	
15	ZIMBABWE	14.08.01	12.08.04	
Entry into Force:				

**AFRICAN CONVENTION ON PREVENTING AND COMBATING
CORRUPTION**

No.	Country	Date of Signature	Date of Ratification/ Accession	Date of Deposit
1	ANGOLA	22.1.07		
2	BOTSWANA			
3	D R CONGO	5.12.2003		
4	LESOTHO	27.2.04	26.10.2004	5.11.04
5	MADAGASCAR	28.2.04	6.10.04	9.2.05
6	MALAWI		26.11.07	27.12.07
7	MAURITIUS	6.7.04		
8	MOZAMBIQUE	15.12.03	2.8.06	24.10.06
9	NAMIBIA	9.12.03	5.8.04	26.08.04
10	SEYCHELLES			
11	SOUTH AFRICA	16.0.04	11.11.05	7.12.05
12	SWAZILAND	7.12.04		
13	TANZANIA	05.11.03	22.02.2005	12.04.2005
14	ZAMBIA	03.08.05	30.03.07	26.04.07
15	ZIMBABWE	18.11.03	17/12/06	28.02.07
Entry into Force:				

UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION AGAINST CORRUPTION

No.	Country	Date of Signature	Date of Ratification/ Accession	Date of Deposit
1	ANGOLA	10.12.03	29.08.06	
2	BOTSWANA			
3	D R CONGO			
4	LESOTHO	16.09.05	16.09.05	
5	MADAGASCAR	10.12.03	22.09.04	
6	MALAWI	21.09.04	4.12.07	
7	MAURITIUS	9.12.03	15.12.04	
8	MOZAMBIQUE	25.5.04	9.4.08	
9	NAMIBIA	9.12.03	3.8.04	
10	SEYCHELLES	27.2.04	16.3.06	
11	SOUTH AFRICA	9.12.03	22.11.04	
12	SWAZILAND	15.9.05		
13	TANZANIA	9.12.03	25.5.2005	
14	ZAMBIA	11.12.03	7.12.07	
15	ZIMBABWE	20.2.04	17.12.06	
Entry into Force: 14th December 2005				