

TRANSPARENCY MAURITIUS

ANNUAL REPORT- 31 DECEMBER 2020

The Board of Directors have the pleasure to submit the annual report of Transparency Mauritius together with audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020.

Nature of Business

Transparency Mauritius is registered as an independent, non-partisan body corporate and a non-government organisation in the country. It is also a CSR approved NGO N/1137.

Transparency Mauritius is the accredited National Chapter of Transparency International, a global civil society organisation leading the fight against corruption based in Berlin, Germany. Transparency International raises awareness of the damaging effects of corruption and works with partners in government, business and civil society to develop and implement effective measures to tackle corruption.

Objects of Transparency Mauritius

- To raise public awareness and advance the general education of the public in the promotion of integrity in business ethics in national and international business transactions;
- To promote, undertake or commission research for the benefit of the public, into aspects of containing corruption and influencing peddling in national and international business transactions;
- To combat corruption and influence peddling, and to give legislative and public bodies facilities for conferring with and ascertaining the views of persons and institutions engaged in combating corruption as regards matters directly or indirectly affecting that issue;
- To provide for meetings and publications of any type to combat corruption; including fundraising and/or the use of the media;
- To contribute to increase the accountability of decision makers and transparency at all level of the public and private sectors.

Activities 2020

2020 has been a difficult year with regards to planned activities of Transparency Mauritius being impacted by the sequels of the Covid -19 pandemic. The plan of action was to continue with the projects already initiated with the view to make a holistic approach in the fight against corruption in Mauritius, the ultimate aim being to address simultaneously the public and the private sectors, the youth and the general population.

However, Transparency Mauritius had a good start of the New Year with two workshops on 16 and 17 January 2020 with the support of the TI Secretariat and the Ministry of Financial Services and Good Governance. The first one focused on the Role of Accountants and Real Estate Agents in the Fight Against Money Laundering and the second, on an 'Improved Coordination on IFFs to align with African Regional Priorities'. Participants came from the Transparency International Secretariat, Transparency Initiative Seychelles, Tax Justice Network.

Local participants included representatives of the ministry of Financial Services and Good Governance, the office of the Solicitor General, the Independent Commission against Corruption (ICAC), the Financial Services Commission (FSC), the Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU), the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA), the Integrity Reporting Services Agency (IRSA), the Mauritius Institute of Directors (MIOD). The TI Regional Adviser for Sub-Saharan Africa, Ms Mogkapo Kupe was also present.

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The second workshop was meant for TI representatives in sub-Saharan Africa to improve cooperation and coordination with regards to Illicit Financial Flows. The delegates had a meeting with the Minister of Financial Services and Good Governance, Hon. Mahen Seeruttun.

The next event was the publication of the Corruption Perception Index of 2019 whereby it was noted that Mauritius improved its score with one point, from 51 to 52 but stayed at the 56th place worldwide and 5th in Africa.

TM also participated, through the Chair and the Executive Director in a workshop on 'Enhancing Business Integrity in Mauritius' organised by the ICAC with the support of the OECD, UNODC and private sector organisations.

The Chair & the ED had meetings with different stakeholders, including the President of the Republic, the Minister of Financial Services and Good Governance, the Cardinal of the Catholic Church, public officers as well as stakeholders from the private sector and civil society.

On 6 March 2020, the Cabinet decided to set up a committee at the level of the Ministry of Financial Services and Good Governance to chart out an Action Plan on how to enhance the Corruption Perceptions Index score and ranking of Mauritius. A video conference was organised with TI with different public sector stakeholders.

Mauritius went into lockdown in response to the Covid 19 pandemic from 20 March 2020 to 30 May 2020. Several projects such as the launch of the Awareness campaign in schools by the minister of Education were postponed. Two workshops, on Impact Assessment and Public Procurement were also postponed.

The launch of an Ethics Guide for Prison Officers was set on 3 December 2020 by the Attorney General in presence of the Commissioner for Prisons Services and the Dr Kate O'Shaughnessy, High Commissioner of Australia to Mauritius. Prior to the launch Australian High Commissioner met with heads of the Police and Prison departments in Rodrigues in company of the ED.

Projects of Transparency Mauritius in 2020 include

- Publication of the Corruption Perception Index
- Workshop on the Role of Accountants and Real Estate Agents in the Fight Against Money Laundering
- Workshop on Coordination on IFFs to align with African Regional Priorities
- Transparency Mauritius/Media Trust Nicolas Lambert Investigative Journalism Award
- Implementation of anti-corruption policies in both Public and Private Sectors
- Talks and trainings on Code of Conduct/Ethics in both the Public and Private Sectors
- Talk on Ethics, Integrity and Corruption in schools, colleges, universities and clubs
- Training on Whistle blowing
- Advocacy on funding of Political Parties
- Advocacy for the implementation of Protection of Whistleblowers Act
- Advocacy for a Freedom of Information Act
- Training on ethics at the Police and Prison Training Schools
- Publication of Ethics Guide for Prison Officers

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Number of awareness/training sessions under the EU Project

- Colleges – 9
- Social Welfare Centres – 5

Number of awareness/training sessions under the Australian Project

- Prisons (Mauritius & Rodrigues) – 14
- Police (Rodrigues) – 3

Other awareness/training sessions

- Police (Mauritius) – 5
- Whistleblowing & Good Governance - 60

TM has been present in the local media:

- 23 interviews or reports on different radio channels
- 28 articles and/or interviews in different newspapers
- 12 reports on national TV and online news channels

Conferences attended as Speaker and Moderator

- 18 February 2020: ICAC Enhancing Business Integrity in Mauritius (Speaker) – Mr Bablee
- 19 February 2020: ICAC Enhancing Business Integrity in Mauritius (Moderator) –Ms Pertab

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Online Webinars Attended by the Executive Director and Staff

DATE	NAME	ORGANIZERS
21 – 22 April 2020	The Fight against Corruption in Africa Dialogue	SAACON
30 May 2020	Youth Integrity Webinar	TI-Turkey/Youth Integrity Group
26 June 2020	Youth Integrity Webinar 2	TI-Turkey/Youth Integrity Group
16 July 2020	The Use of Data in Shaping Gender Sensitive Anti-Corruption Agenda	TI-S
16 September 2020	Regional Webinar on Recommendation for the Reform of International Corporate Taxation Confirmation	FES-AU/PSI/T-JNA/AIDC
25 September 2020	Youth Integrity Webinar 4	TI-Turkey/Youth Integrity Group
28 September 2020	IDUAI 2020 WEBINAR 1: Access to Information, Transparency and Openness: Taking Forward Agenda 2030 in Times of Crisis	UNESCO
22 October 2020	ALAC Webinar on Covid-19	TI-S
29 October 2020	Youth Integrity Webinar 5	TI-Turkey/Youth Integrity Group
29 October 2020	Understanding the Costs of Legislative Politics in Africa	UOM/WFD
04 November 2020	International Cooperation in the Fight Against Corruption in Southern Africa	OLAF/TI-S
18 November 2020	The FACTI High-Level Regional Consultation for Africa	FACTI
18 November 2020	Accountable Governance and the COVID-19 Pandemic: Recommendations for Action	World Justice Project
19 November 2020	Intersessional meetings of the conference on preparations for the special session of the GA against corruption	UNODC-NGO Unit
20 November 2020		
23 November 2020	EU Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy 2020-2024	European External Action Service
24 November	Whistle-Blower Webinar	TI-Rwanda
25 November 2020	Government Fiscal Measures during and after an Economic Crisis: Africa's Response to the Impact of COVID-19	African Tax Administration Forum
26 November 2020		
27 November 2020	Atelier de Validation du Rapport de Faisabilité pour le projet « Paix, Stabilité et Gouvernance »	Commission de l'Océan Indien
30 November – 05 December 2020	International Anti-Corruption Conference	Transparency International

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Board of Directors

- Ms. Lovania Pertab (Chairperson)
- Mr. Charles Philippe D.B Hardy
- Mr. Sivananda Vencatapillay
- Ms. Brinda Devi Dabysing
- Mr. Sunil Bissoonauth

Company Secretary:

SIMO Corporate Services Ltd

Corporate Members (Platinum):

- CurrimjeeJeewanjee& Co Ltd – MUR 100,000
- State Bank of Mauritius Ltd – MUR 100,000
- Mauritius Commercial Bank Ltd – MUR 100,000

Corporate Members (Gold):

- Alteo Group – MUR 50,000
- ABSA Bank Mauritius Ltd – MUR 50,000
- Ciel Group – MUR 100,000
- Eclosia Group – MUR 50,000
- Evaco Group – MUR 50,000
- IBL Group – MUR 50,000
- Jubilee Insurance Ltd - MUR 50,000
- Mauritius Oil Refineries Ltd – MUR 50,000
- One & Only Le Saint Geran Ltd – MUR 50,000
- PWC Ltd – MUR 50,000
- Paper Converting Co Ltd – MUR 50,000
- Rehm Grinaker Construction Co Ltd – MUR 50,000
- The Mauritius Union Group – MUR 50,000

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Paid Services and other Funding:

- DefiDeal Ltd – MUR 17,888.75
- Radio Plus Ltd – MUR 32,561.52
- Moroil Ltd – MUR 6,000
- Beemanique Stone Crusher Ltd – MUR 50,000
- Rehm Grinaker Construction Co Ltd – MUR 356,000
- Evaco Group – MUR 603,000
- Alteo Group – MUR 75,000
- The Mauritius Union Group – MUR 75,000
- Terra Mauricia Ltd – MUR 100,000
- Meaders Feeds Ltd – MUR 75,000
- LGI Ltd – MUR 50,000
- Transparency International Secretariat – MUR 248,787
- European Union – MUR 2,237,826.38
- National CSR Foundation – MUR 10,487
- U.S. Embassy – MUR 226,944

Partners:

- Moollan & Moollan – Chartered Certified Accountants
- Richard Rault Chambers