

CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Since the hosting of the Second National Anti-Corruption Summit, the need for a much more holistic and integrated approach to the fight against corruption has become evident. A major step towards achieving such a holistic approach is to build a framework for national integrity, thereby entrenching the fight against corruption. The Second National Anti-Corruption Summit has shown that government, business partners and various civil society groups are all involved in building national integrity in one way or another. To date however, no cohesive, integrated system for a national integrity framework exists. It was from this perspective that the Third National Anti-Corruption Summit was organised and hosted by the National Anti-Corruption Forum (NACF).

The Third National Anti-Corruption Summit was held during 4 - 5 August 2008. The theme of the Summit was **“Towards an Integrated National Integrity System: Consolidating the Fight Against Corruption.”** In so doing, the Summit took forward the need to consider the development of a National Integrity System. Such a framework, if properly established, would ensure a continued awareness of the need to prevent and combat corruption, thus embedding and deepening the fight against it. The aim of this Summit, therefore, was to advance and fully explore the idea of an integrated national integrity framework for South Africa with the intended result of a cohesive approach to the building of integrity. In this respect attention was also placed on the promotion of integrity in the Business and Civil Society sectors. The Office of the Public Service Commission (OPSC) as Secretariat took this into consideration when the theme for the Third National Anti-Corruption Summit was proposed and developed.

The summit was fully representative of the three sectors comprising the NACF and was attended by 316 delegates. The three sectors of the NACF are the:

- Civil Society;
- Business ; and
- Public Sectors.

Each sector was responsible for inviting their specific delegates to the Summit. Furthermore, members of various professional organisations were also invited to the Summit.

1.2 Objectives of the Summit

The objectives of the summit were to:

- Identify and debate the key components of the South African National Integrity Framework.
- Identify governance and accountability mechanisms in the civil society sector to map the way forward for the promotion of transparency and accountability within the sector.
- Explore mechanisms to prevent bribery by Business as well as the effectiveness of relationships between business entities and oversight bodies.
- Explore the roles of local councilors, officials and the community in the prevention and fighting of corruption.
- Debate the declaration of donations made to political parties as a mechanism to prevent undue influence by donors as well as other mechanisms to promote transparency and ensure accountability in this regard.
- Discuss institutional arrangements to prevent and combat corruption.
- Explore price-fixing and its impact on communities.
- To debate Ethics in Education based on the NACF’s report in this regard.
- Develop and agree to Resolutions emanating from the discussions during the Summit.

1.3 Structure of the Summit

The summit comprised of four plenary sessions as well as five workshop sessions. These sessions had specific themes to help ignite the debate on the National Integrity Framework. The four plenary sessions dealt with the following themes:

The Role of Government, Business, Civil Society and Labour in the National Integrity Framework;
Implementation of the Resolutions of the Second National Anti-Corruption Summit;
Price-fixing and its impact on communities; and
Ethics in Education

The plenary sessions were held in the form of panel discussions under the chairpersonship of a facilitator.

The themes of the five workshops were as follows:

- Workshop 1: Governance and accountability in Civil Society
- Workshop 2: Prevention of bribery and the role of oversight bodies in the Business Sector
- Workshop 3: Exploring the role of local councillors, officials and the community in the prevention and fighting of corruption
- Workshop 4: Party political funding
- Workshop 5: Institutional arrangements to prevent and combat corruption

In deciding on the themes for the workshops, consideration was given to its relevance in the development of a national integrity framework. The five workshops constituted the main focus of the Summit. Delegates were requested to attend one of these workshops where the themes were addressed by a spokesperson of each of the sectors under the chairpersonship of a facilitator. In turn, a rapporteur reported back to the plenary session on the findings and recommendations of the respective workshop.

The programme director for the Summit was Dr Norman Maharaj, Commissioner of the Public Service Commission. Introductory remarks were made by Professor Stan Sangweni, Chairperson of the Public Service Commission and the keynote address was delivered by Ms Geraldine Fraser-Moleketi, former Minister for the Public Service and Administration. The Chairperson for the opening proceedings of the Summit was the Mr Mbhazima Shilowa, the former Premier of Gauteng. The Summit concluded with resolutions that were adopted by the delegates and are reflected in Chapter 9 of the Report.