HANDOVER REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT, EAAACA

From: Justice Irene Mulyagonja Kakooza
Inspector General of Government, IG Uganda
Former President, EAAACA 2012-2013

To: Mr. Mumo Matemu
Chairperson, Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission
Current President, EAAACA

Date: 25/02/14

I have served as President EAAACA from July 2012 to 31st December 2013. Given that EAAACA Presidency goes to the head of the member Institution, I assumed the office from Mr. Baku Raphael Obudra who was the Acting Head of the Inspectorate of Government at the time.

At that time, EAAACA was on the brink of signing an agreement with the Government of Sweden for financial contribution under the project "Strengthening Capacity of EAAACA to Prevent and Combat Corruption" in the East African Region. This is the project that the association has been implementing.

Achievements

The Association has made the following achievements during my tenure:

i) **Office Premises**

The Association acquired its own office premises. Previously, it was accommodated by the Inspectorate of Government.

ii) **Training**

Two trainings were organized for the staff of EAAACA member institutions. One of the trainings was conducted by the International

Law Institute, African Center of Legal Excellence; while the other was carried out in partnership with United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime (UNODC) which provided the technical expertise.

iii) **Staff Recruitment**

The Association also acquired new staff. Previously, it had only two staff i.e. the Administrative Secretary and the Accounts Assistant. The General Secretary was a staff member of the Inspectorate of Government and serving as General Secretary on a voluntary basis. Now the association has a full time General Secretary and 3 additional staff i.e. the Clerical Officer, the driver and the security personnel. The positions of Accountant and Project /Monitoring and Evaluation Officer were filled. However, the same fell vacant after a short period. SIDA had provided for their support and it would be appropriate to have them filled as soon as possible.

iv) **Office Assets**

The Association procured one station wagon, furniture, four desk top computers and two laptops, to facilitate operations at the Secretariat.

v) **Public Awareness Strategy**

The Association developed the EAAACA Public Awareness and Communication Strategy which was considered for adoption at the last Executive Committee Meeting.

vi) **Harmonization of Anti-Corruption Laws**

The harmonization of Anti-Corruption Laws has been conducted with support from our development partners Stolen Asset Recovery (StAR) and UNODC that provided technical expertise to facilitate the meeting. The draft report has been concluded.

vii) **Establishment of the Asset Recovery Inter-Agency Network for East Africa**

The Association has established an asset recovery network for East Africa. EAAACA will provide the initial support to the Association until such a time when it is able to have an independent secretariat of its own.

viii) **Increase in membership for the Association**

Previously the Association had a challenge of differentiating between the Executive Committee and the General Meeting. This was because the members of the General Meeting were at the same time the members of the Executive Committee. With effect from 2014, the members of the Association have increased from five (5) to eight (8), following the granting of full membership to the national anti-corruption authorities of South Sudan, Ethiopia and Djibouti. Additionally, the members of the Executive are three (3) members of the General Meeting. Thus the two organs of the Association shall henceforth be different.

The Association also expanded the membership further by offering honorary membership to all former heads and deputies of its members.

ix) **Finances**

The Association's income is derived mainly from membership fees, contributions from member authorities, grants, donations, sponsorship or any other kind of contributions from national or international organizations or individuals.

As at 31st December 2013, the Association had a closing balance of USD 76,964.51. It is hoped that with the increase in the membership of the Association, the income will increase.

Challenges

i) **Limited Funding**

There is need for more funding for the Association activities, if it is to become more vibrant and achieve its constitutional objectives.

ii) **Retention of Staff**

There are two vacant positions i.e. Accountant and Project Officer. Although they were filled last year, they fell vacant after a short period.

iii) **The Operations Manual**

The draft operational manuals for the Secretariat were amended, incorporating the recommendations of the members.

Conclusion

With these few remarks, I would like to take this opportunity to formally hand over office and to wish you success during your tenure.