



IG statement on the TI report

The Inspectorate of Government is not able to comment on the contents of the TI report; i.e. the alleged perception that Uganda's position in according to their index has deteriorated. The IG is fighting corruption in Uganda and focusing on how to strengthen her to do so in the country, not engaging in a competition with other countries about successes or failures of its efforts. This is because the TI report makes comparison of countries without considering the different environments that they operate in, particularly, the history, culture and constraints in the fight against corruption, among others. The TI report therefore has no place in helping Uganda to improve its efforts to deal with corruption.

The TI report is based on perceptions of corruption, not actual corruption. As an institution that deals with corruption and maladministration in the public sector, IG is aware of the fact that many people understand maladministration to be corruption. The perceptions of citizens therefore cannot be the be all and end all in determining whether corruption in any one nation is increasing or decreasing. One big corruption story appearing in the media – newspapers, radio waves, TV can cause the public perception that corruption is on the increase to soar tenfold. You will recall that during the year 2015/16 the Government conducted an Open Inquiry into corruption in the road sector. This was followed by another inquiry conducted by The Parliamentary Committee into State Enterprises. The two inquiries unearthed staggering amounts of public funds that had been pilfered by individuals both in the public and the private sector. Most of the money had been stolen over a long period of time. That has to be factored in the public perception. Fortunately the Anti-Corruption Agencies together with the Parliament swung into action to conduct further investigations and recover money from the private from the Contractors. It therefore makes it a challenge for the public to appreciate the huge positive steps that are being taken to curb the vice. The IG will in due course release a report that accurately reflects the effectiveness of the efforts that have been made in fighting corruption in Uganda in the public sector. Indeed much has been accomplished to curb the vice although a lot more needs to be done.