



# Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission



## 2017/2018 Annual Report

Website: [www.lacc.gov.lr](http://www.lacc.gov.lr)

## **Message from the Executive Chairperson:**

### **Mr. President and Members of the Legislature:**

I dutifully submit to you the Annual Report covering the period July 2017-June 2018 of the Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission (LACC). I extend thanks to the President of the Republic of Liberia, members of the National Legislature and our international partners for their supports and cooperation with the Commission.

The year under review has seen some few achievements as a result of dedication, hard work and resolved to fulfill duties despite the lack of adequate support. Our historic transition from the past government of Madam President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf to President Dr. George M. Weah also impacted the Commission's delivery. A lot would have been achieved but due to other pressing national priorities coupled with national financial crisis, very low budgetary release, most of the Commission's programs were stalled.

I reiterate the need for critical complimentary legal instruments to enhance the work of the LACC. The Commission needs other critical legal instruments such as the Corrupt Offences Act and the Illicit Enrichment Act, Whistle-blower and Witness Protection Bills to enhance its work and strengthen the Commission's enforcement powers. In order for the administration to maintain its gains in the fight against corruption, it is imperative that all the relevant legal instruments to fight corruption holistically and compellingly are available.

There are also enormous difficulties in getting the cooperation of people involved in alleged corruption. Majority of those accused of corruption refused to cooperate with the Commission's investigation. In the absence of having subpoena power, the processes for attaining documents and statements that are critical to our investigations are cumbersome. The Commission therefore requests members of the Legislature to amend the Act creating the LACC by granting it both direct prosecutorial and subpoena powers allowing it to summon individuals who may be immediately needed by the Commission to answer important questions.

## **I. INTRODUCTION:**

In fulfillment of Part XIV of the Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission's ACT of 2008, which required the Commission to submit its Annual Report to the President and National Legislature on the activities of the Commission, the Body of Commissioners (BOC) through the office of the Executive Chairperson develops and submits this report covering the period July 2017/ June 2018.

This report covers major deliverables of the Commission's activities for the period mentioned above. The deliverables are activities implemented by the divisions in the different thematic areas. It focuses on the main achievements and challenges facing the Commission as it implements its mandate.

LACC's mandate focuses on educating and preventing acts of corruption, investigating acts of corruption and prosecuting acts of corruption. This report provides information on programs designed, implemented and efforts made to achieve these thematic areas of mandate. Additionally, the report also spotlight hindrances that interposed delays in achieving some plans.

This report reveals numbers of cases reported, investigated, and sent for prosecution including those closed as the result of lack of evidence to continue. It also covers actions taken to strengthen the capacities of the staff, professionalize the Commission and make it more robust and efficient.

Courageously, the Commission has made significant progress amidst limited resources and support during the reporting period. National budgetary support dwindled further to the Commission during this reporting period. The Commission has also received some support from its partners such as the United Nations Development Programme, USAID, and the World Bank which aided capacitated the Commission in its delivery drive.

The deliverables and or achievements are mentioned under each thematic areas or division along with challenges.

**1.1 Legal Status of the Liberia Anti- Corruption Commission (LACC)**

An Act of the National Legislature in 2008 established the Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission as an independent Commission of government. The Commission has a broad mandate and functions to implement appropriate measures and undertake programs geared towards investigating, prosecuting and preventing acts of corruption, including educating the public about the ills of corruption and the benefits of its eradication. The preamble of the Act establishing the Commission presents a background to the establishment of the Commission as based on the severe nature of corruption both in public and private sectors of the Liberian society which has undermined the institutional framework of good governance in Liberia.

**1.2 FINANCIAL MATTERS:**

According to Section 12.1 of the LACC’s Act, the LACC shall be financed through the National Budget by Legislative appropriations. It shall be the responsibility of the Chairperson to ensure that the Annual budget is prepared and submitted in time to the appropriate agency of government. Section 13.1 also states the Commission shall enjoy independence in all its operations including financial autonomy and operational independence.

Financial appropriation to the Commission for the period under review fell far below the approved National budget. The Commission received budgetary support less than the budget submitted to the National Legislature. Budgetary allotments were not disbursed on time and in violation of the Commission’s Act which required quarterly disbursement, but instead were released monthly. Also, the Ministry of Finance, Development Planning, did not pay some critical financial request made to fund key programs and obligations which led to lawsuits against the Commission by vendors.

The Commission however received supports from its international partners especially the United Nations Development Programme ( UNDP), USAID, and the World Bank supporting the programmatic work of the Commission.

## **1 The FY2017/18 Approved Budget:**

At the onset of the fiscal year, FY2017/18, the National Legislature appropriated a total of \$ 2,379,049.00 USD. During the period under review, no supplemental budget was approved.

## **2 Summary**

### **1.3 Reporting Period**

This report covers the period June 2017 to July 2018 capturing all activities implemented by the Commission during this period. The report reflects achievements, and challenges from the four divisions of the Commission.

## **II. ENFORCEMENT DIVISION:**

This division is the cradle of the Commission. It is charged with managing all investigations including receiving, reviewing, assessing and launching full scale investigation into complaints of corruption.

The Division is headed by a Program Manager and assisted by one Chief of Investigation and several investigators. Regrettably, following the recruitment of the five investigators based on support from UNDP as reported in the last reporting period, the Commission risk losing these staff because of the government's refusal to accommodate these staff in the National budget

### **2.1 Key Achievements/Deliverables:**

The Division received thirty three (33) complaints of corruption cases during the period as oppose to last year when the Commission received thirty eight(38) cases.

Following the assessment of these complaints, the Commission is pleased to report that it successfully investigated and completed thirteen (13) of the thirty three (33) cases received. Out of this number, three cases were closed / No recommendation for prosecution due to the lack of sufficient evidence to prosecute. The balance or remaining cases will be carried forward to the next reporting period.

### **Restitutions:**

Following the opening of Restitution account at the Liberia Revenue Authority (LRA) for individuals under investigation, few persons under investigation agreed to retribute monies they are accused of continues. However, as oppose to last year, this period of report, witnessed a increased in restitution. About \$60,000 USD was restituted unlike 2016/2017 where \$13,600.00 USD and \$366,893.00 were restituted.

**Capacity Building:**

The Division of Enforcement with support from partners (LPAC) conducted capacity building for several investigators. The training enhanced and strengthened technical knowledge which saw improved quality of investigations and reports.

Also, between March 14-23, 2018, Marc N. Kollie- Acting Chief of Investigations/LACC attended and participated in GIABA’s Regional Workshop on Effective Implementation of AML/CFT (FATF Standards) and FATF/GIABA/GOBAC Assessor Training conducted in Saly-Portudal, Senegal. Upon return as a GIABA Assessor, Mr. Kollie was appointed Threat Lead/National Risk Assessment (NRA) Team. Senior Investigator Appleton A. Artis and Investigator Regina McCauley were also appointed Secretariat and Member respectively on the NRA Team.

**2.2 Summary of cases:**

**III.**

No.	Case Title	Nature of Case
1.	Internal Audit Report alleging financial irregularity and mismanagement in the implementation of the PSDI Loan Scheme at the MOFDP	Allegation that some high ranking officials at the MOFDP mismanaged the implementation of the PSDI Loan Scheme by giving loans to themselves and their close associates.
2.	Complaint against Mr. George Scott for receiving US\$12,500.00 for the construction of the LIS sub-office in Bopolu City but failed to	Allegation that Mr. George Scott received US\$12,500.00 from UNMIL to construct a sub-office for the Liberia Immigration Service (LIS) in Bopolu City, Gbarpolu County as an UNMIL Quick Impact Project, but

	do same and escaped from the city.	failed to do so and rather escaped from the county.
3.	Complaint against Peleat Construction Company for receiving over US\$13 million dollars for the construction of the Bopolu-Belle Yallah Road and no work done.	Allegation that over US\$13 Million was paid to Peleat Construction Company for the construction of the Bopolu-Belle Yallah Road and no work done.
4.	Complaint against the Management of the NPA for an abrupt inflation in the cost of a dredging contract at the port.	Allegation that the Management of the NPA conspired with the Contractor to fraudulently inflate the cost of a dredging contract from US\$400,000 to over US\$ 2 Million.
5.	Complaint against the Deputy Commissioner of Maritime, Mr. Charles Gono on alleged Conflict of Interest.	Allegation that Mr. Charles Gono knowingly issued license to the company of his son, Fidel Gono even though the company was not qualify to be granted license.
6.	GAC Audit report alleging acts of financial improprieties against the Liberia Institute of Biomedical Research.	Allegation of mismanagement and financial improprieties by the Management of the Liberia Institute of Biomedical Research.
7.	GAC Audit report alleging acts of financial improprieties against the top Management of the Liberia Institute of Public Administration (LIPA).	Allegation of mismanagement and financial improprieties by the top Management of the Liberia Institute of Public Administration (LIPA).
8.	Complaint against Mr. Brisbane and some ISPS Port Securities in extorting money from Port Users to have access to the Freeport of Monrovia.	Allegation that Mr. Brisbane and some ISPS Securities at the Freeport of Monrovia are extorting money from Port-Users in order to have access to the Port.

9.	Compliant from a whistle-blower concerning allegations of financial improprieties at IAA.	Allegations of ghost payroll, fictitious travels, misapplication of entrusted properties by top officials of the IAA.
10.	Compliant from Mr. Andrew Jlay alleging illegal entry and withdrawal from his (Jlay) personal account at LBDI.	Allegation that one Edward Kpulun and a teller of the LBDI, Gbarnga's Branch, withdrew the amount of LRD34,400.00 without his knowledge or approval.
11.	Complaint from a concerned citizen alleging Payroll Paddling by officials of the MoC.	Allegation that ex-officials of the Ministry of Commerce illegally withdrew salaries after they were suspended for time indefinite without pay.
12.	Complaint from a whistleblower alleged that several items were donated to CARI by the United Nations Missions in Liberia (UNMIL) to assist in enhancing their work	Allegation that several items were donated to CARI by UNMIL to assist in enhancing their work. The Director General of CARI, Dr. Walter Wiles received several trucks and agriculture equipment and cannot account for same.
13.	Report from the Global News Network (GNN) on acts of corruption and money laundering by former officials of the Finance Ministry.	Allegation that former officials of the Finance Ministry fraudulently laundered over US\$3million through several Banks in Lebanon thereby depriving the Government of Liberia of needed funds for development.
14.	Complaint that Mr. Viama Blama, a former employee of the Ministry of Education used his influence to divert school projects owned by Government to his own benefit.	Allegation that Mr. Viama Blama, a former employee of the Ministry of Education used his influence to divert school projects owned by Government to his own name in Upper Caldwell, Montserrado.
15.	Report from the New	Allegation that the House's Committee

	Democrat Newspaper that Lawmakers were illegally soliciting Money from private Business People for the inauguration of President-Elect H.E George M. Weah.	on Elections and Inauguration illegally circulated letters across the Business Community in Liberia soliciting financial contribution to undertake the Inauguration of President Weah.
16.	Report from Front Page Africa Newspaper on a bogus contract involving the LEC and a company previously rejected by Ghana for unrealistic demands.	Allegation that the management of the LEC fraudulently contracted a company which did not perform as per the contract terms, and was again about to rehire the same company.
17.	Complaint on the mismanagement and misapplication of the AFL pension funds (benefits).	Allegation that the hierarchies of the MoD allegedly mismanaged and misapplied pension benefits of the AFL.
18.	Complaint on acts of corruption and money laundering involving Mr. Hilary P. Sackie, Director of Finance/Comptroller at the Ministry of Information Culture Affairs and Tourism (MICAT).	Allegation that Mr. Hilary P. Sackie as Controller of MICAT is involve in acts of corruption and money laundering.
19.	Complaint that Madam Yusador S. Gaye, Auditor General/R.L illegally requested US\$175,000.00 from the MoFDP to conduct audit of its IFMIS system.	Allegation that Madam Yusador S. Gaye, Auditor General/R.L illegally requested US\$175,000.00 from the MoFDP to conduct audit of its IFMIS system.
20.	IAA 2017 Payroll Audit	Allegation that over 700 ghost names

	report of the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare	exist on the payroll of the MOH thereby causing the GOL to lose millions of dollars.
21.	Complaint from the MRU Youth Parliament against its former Speaker for acts of corruption.	Allegation that the MRU Youth Parliament former Speaker, James M. Kolley fraudulently withdrew US\$8,000.00 from the Union's account and cannot account for same.
22.	Complaint on a bogus contract involving the UL Administration and a company called Mwetana IT Firm.	Allegation of a bogus contract between the UL and Mwetana IT Firm in which over US\$400,000.00 was paid to build an ultimate electronic registration system; and that no work was done.
23.	Complaint on tax evasion by the Pan African Real Estate Corporation (PAREC) in the management of the Pan African Plaza Building currently occupied by the UN System.	Allegation that PAREC has been evading real estate taxes amounting to thousands in the management of the PAN African Plaza Building currently occupied by the UN System.
24.	Complaint on misapplication of US\$50,000.00 given to the LFA by FIFA to help fight the Ebola Virus Disease.	Allegation of misapplication of US\$50,000.00 by top officials of the LFA. The said amount was given by FIFA to help fight the Ebola Virus Disease.
25.	GAC Audit report on misapplication of funds intended for Disaster Management by the Ministry of Internal Affairs.	Allegation that funds intended to respond to man-made or natural disaster in Liberia was misapplied by official of the Ministry of Internal Affairs.
26.	Complaint on fraud and tax evasion involving CIABRE Inc. and CAMUSAT Liberia Ltd.	Allegation that CIABRE Inc. fraudulently falsified government documents for the purpose of evading input duty of over US\$50,000.00 in favor of CAMUSAT Liberia Ltd.

27.	Complaint on the abuse of government properties by a former Lawmaker of Rivercess County.	Allegation that a former Lawmaker of Rivercess County unilaterally gives away some earth-moving equipment to a Chinese Construction Company.
28.	Complaint from the River Gee Redemption Movement against GRADA Company for conflict of Interest, financial improprieties and corruption.	Allegation that GRADA, a company owned by Senator Conmany B. Wesseh, received the sum of US\$43,000.00 from the County Development Funds for the construction of a Commissioner Compound and did not perform up to standard.
29.	Complaint on acts of improprieties by Mr. Sebastian Gibson, Deputy Director of the DEA	Allegation of administrative and financial improprieties by Mr. Sebastian Gibson, Deputy Director of the DEA.
30.	Complaint against the LRA Deputy Commissioner for Administration for violation of the Revenue Codes of Liberia for his own benefit.	Allegation that the Deputy Commissioner for Administration of the LRA violated the Revenue codes (Sections: 905, 1001, and 1022) for his own benefit.
31.	Complaints on acts of fraud, corruption and money laundering by Mr. Johnson P. Sloan of the General Services Agency (GSA).	Allegation that Mr. Johnson P. Sloan, Procurement Director of the GSA is amassing illicit wealth through acts of fraud, corruption and money laundering.
32.	Complaint on misapplication of US\$13.782 Million by Mr. Emmanuel Johnson Nimbune and some officials of the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA).	Allegation that Mr. Emmanuel Johnson Nimbune and some officials of the Ministry of Agriculture misapplied the amount of US\$13.782 Million intended for agriculture projects in Liberia.
33.	GAC 2018 Payroll Audit	Allegation of payroll fraud and

report on the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection (MGCSP).	corruption by the Assistant HR Director and other Officials of the MGCSP.
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**2.3 Challenges and plans of the Division of Enforcement**

For the period under review, the operational of the Division was slowed down due bad roads across the Country coupled with very limited operational vehicles available to the Division. Additionally, limited the resources from national government coupled with the transition of new government underpinned the work of the division.

The Division plan to meet its targeted number of cases (4) per quarter in the coming year. With more support, a lot will be done to achieve the Commission’s mandate in to investigate all acts of corruption.

**III Legal & Prosecution Division:**

The Legal comprises one Manager who is the lead prosecutor and three other lawyers. The Division collaborates with the Ministry of Justice to prosecute cases of corruption, however, the Division prosecutes cases directly after LACC takes seize of cases retrieved from the Ministry of Justice after the ninety days period as provided by the Act.

**3.1: Achievements:**

The Commission continued with cases it obtained indictments for during 20916/2017 period. Additionally, the Division prepared five indictments and obtained three.

The Commission got conviction in the Case, Milton Teajah Vs. LACC. Senator J, Milton Teajeah formerly Superintendent of Sinoe County was indicted and

prosecuted for on charges of Economic Sabotage, Criminal Conspiracy, Criminal Facilitation, Violation of the PPCC Processes and Procedures on Awarding Contracts, and Misapplication of Entrusted Property resulting in the misappropriation of US\$62,000 of GOL fund. The Court found guilty and fined him \$50,000 USD to be paid into the Government account only for his violation of the PPCC Processes and Procedures on Awarding Contracts to be paid into GOL revenue no later than 20 November 2018.

Indicted along with defendant Teahjay was co-defendant and Former Sinoe County Development Superintendent T. McDonald Wlemus, Jr whose charges were dropped in exchange for his testimony against defendant Teahjay.

#### LACC v. Amadu Karley and Troken Vah

In July 2018, the Liberia Anti-Commission applied and obtained through Criminal court “C” at the Temple of Justice in Monrovia two separate writs of arrest for Defendants Amadu Karley then disbursing officer of NOCAL and Troken Vah a local scratch cards dealer and self-imposed manager of LAVROB General Merchandise. The writs were based upon an indictment against the defendants charged with the offenses of Theft of Property, Economic Sabotage, Criminal Conspiracy and Criminal Facilitation resulting in the misappropriation of US\$29,510 of NOCAL’s fund. The writs were however returned unserved because both defendants were nowhere to be found, these writs will be re-issued upon evidence of the defendants’ appearance in Liberia.

Similarly, on 23 July 2018, the LACC applied and obtained through court “C” at the Temple of Justice in Monrovia, three separate writs of arrest for defendants Kau Kidor, Rixck Barsi-Giah and Sie Wonkemie Gahn upon a common indictment separately charging each with the offenses of Theft of Property and Economic Sabotage; that indictment alleged in substance that the defendants who were former presidential appointees fraudulently took salaries from Government when they were no longer in the employed with Government or had render no service to justify their taking of the salaries. The fraud practice by the defendants on the Government deprived it of a total of L\$2,572,667.57 and US\$114,449.63.

The writs were however returned unserved because both defendants were nowhere to be found, these writs will be re-issued upon evidence of the defendants' appearance in Liberia.

During the October 2017 term of the Supreme Court, prosecution (LACC) prepared and filed three appellate briefs to the Supreme Court and requested the issuance of a regular notice of assignment for the hearing and disposal of the appeal in the following cases:

- a. RL/LACC v Jusefu Keita (Economic Sabotage, Misapplication of Entrusted Property & Criminal Conspiracy).
- b. RL (LACC & MOJ) v. Parker et al. (Economic Sabotage, theft, criminal facilitation & Criminal Conspiracy)
- c. RL/LACC v. Beysolow (Economic Sabotage, Misapplication of Entrusted Property, Criminal Facilitation & Violation of PPCC Law).

During the period under review, former staffs of the Commission filed two separate law suits against the Commission. In the case titled Tipayson et al v. LACC .

The plaintiffs in the Debt action are eight former LACC's employees led by Mr. Daniel Tipayson who claimed reimbursement from excess income tax deduction by the Government of Liberia.

Aboah v. LACC

Mr. Aaron Aboah, dismissed manager of the Enforcement Division of the LACC, file a law suit for wrongful dismissal at the Ministry of labor. Upon a notice of assignment, the LACC as defendant appeared before a Labour Ministry hearing officer of the Division of Labour Standards to defend an "Unfair" Labour Practice Action brought by Complainant Aaron Aboah.

Mr. Aaron Aboah, complainant has rested with reservation on the production of evidence through its lone witness, while the LACC took the stand to parade its first of four potential witnesses. Defense's first witness was discharged by the hearing officer. The officer suspended the hearing pending regular notice of assignment.

### **3.2 Number of Convictions and Not Guilty Judgments**

There was (1) conviction and zero (0) not guilty judgment for the period under review.

### **3.3 Number of Appeals**

The two separate rulings dismissing the indictment against two of the defendants in the Japanese Oil Grant Case were appealed to the Honorable Supreme Court with briefs and request for notice of assignment filed with that Court. The two (2) cases (jury trials) involving LACC's collaboration with MOJ were also appealed to the Supreme Court awaiting a decision of the full bench regarding the ruling of the Chamber in favor of prosecution's petition for the writ of certiorari.

### **3.4 Challenges:**

The Division like many others, is faced with challenges, reluctance of the MOJ to commit itself by reviewing, contributing to and signing a MOU for collaboration and coordination in the prosecution of corruption related offenses; competing priorities between corruption cases and other offenses under the jurisdiction of the same court; competing priorities between prosecutors dealing with one court; inadequacy of budgetary and logistical support for prosecution; lack of a specialized court to prosecute corruption cases; lack of an enabling law against illicit enrichment; delays in appellate disposition of cases; prosecution being constrained to pay for court services which the statute requires the court to provide without cost to the prosecution.

The LACC lacks direct power to prosecute cases of corruption even though it is government's lead institution on corruption. The Commission continues to seek the support of the Legislature in granting it direct powers to prosecute rather than first submitting its recommendations to the Ministry of Justice and waiting for three months

## **IV Education and Prevention Division:**

The Education and Prevention Division of the Commission is responsible to educate the public of the danger of corruption, raise awareness, prevent corruption and conduct researches and studies.

### **Achievements:**

During the period under review, the above mentioned division carried on several corruption prevention activities. Such activities included but not limited to Anti-corruption Awareness and sensitization Programs, Corruption Risk Assessment in Public Institutions, Mainstreaming Anti-Corruption Trainings for Local Government Authorities, Anti-Corruption Trainings for Public Officials from High Risk Public Institutions and Anti-corruption Religious Engagement, involving churches and mosques. Detailed information on the above mentioned activities are as follows:

1. Anti-Corruption Awareness and Sensitization Program for Public Institutions:

Five (5) out of the ten public institutions were covered during the period under review. The institutions covered are as follows:

- a. Ministry of Mine and Energy( M & E)
- b. Ministry of Labor( MOL)
- c. Ministry of Defense( MOD)
- d. Ministry of Finance and Development Planning( MOFDP)
- e. Liberia Electricity Corporation( LEC)
- f. National Social Security and Welfare Corporation

2. Anti-Corruption Risk Assessment in Public Institutions

Again, out of five Public Institutions listed for the anti-corruption risk assessment initiative, only three were covered:

1. Ministry of Health- Bureau of Vital Statistics
2. National Port Authority( NPA)
3. Ministry of Foreign Affairs-Division of Passport

3 Local Government Anti-Corruption Mainstreaming:

A nationwide effort to train local government authorities was carried out. The country was divided into three clusters to effectuate the trainings. The distribution of the counties by clusters is as follows:

Cluster 1: Cape Mount, Bomi, Gbapolu, Montserrado, Grand Bassa and River Cess;

Cluster 2. Margibi, Bong, Nimba and Lofa;

Cluster 3: Grand Gedeh, River Gee, Grand Kru, Maryland and Sinoe

#### 4 Anti-Corruption Trainings for High Risk Institutions:

During the period under review, anti-corruption training for high profile public officials was conducted with support from UNDP. The Deputy Minister for Administration and HR or Internal Auditor were in attendance. The target institutions were as follows:

- a) Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- b) Liberia Revenue Authority
- c) Liberia Airport Authority
- d) Liberia National Police
- e) Ministry of Transport
- f) Liberia Immigration Service
- g) Ministry of Labor
- h) Ministry of Health
- i) Ministry of Finance and Development Planning
- j) Liberia Electricity Corporation
- k) Roberts International Airport

#### **4.5 Celebration of International Anti-corruption Day:**

The United Nations General Assembly Resolution 58/14 declares December 9 of every year as International Anti-Corruption Day (IACD) and to be celebrated with appropriate programs by member states. Hence, such programs will be tailored around awareness raising and public sensitizing campaigns on the danger that corruption poses to our very existence as a nation and the strategic actions to mitigate its negative impacts.

In recognition and celebration of International Anti-Corruption Day, the 2018's celebration in Buchanan with the following activities:

- a) Round Table Discussion on the theme: An Assessment of the Pro-Poor Agenda: Policies and Practices in the Fight Against Corruption
- b) Two days of anti-corruption religious engagements with 4 churches in Buchanan
- c) Parade and In-door Program in observance of IACD

5 Anti-Corruption Religious Engagements:

As part of its outreach program, the selected churches and mosques in Monrovia and its environs were selected and covered.

No.	Church	Mosque
1	Providence Baptist Church	Saye Town Mosque
2	Brown Memorial AME Zion Church	Neezoe Mosque
3	St. Peters Lutheran Church	Shoes Factory Mosque
4	Resurrection Baptist Church	Fiamah Mosque
5	Tubman United Methodist Church	772 <sup>nd</sup> Mosque
6	Free Pentecostal Global Mission Church	

**4.6: Assets Declaration:**

During the period, less declarations were done. The transition from the Administration of President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf to the Administration Dr. George M. Weah witnessed less submission.

Except for President Ellen Johnson who submitted her exit declaration, no officials of her administration did their exit declaration as required by Part X section 10.1 count D of the National Code of Conduct for all public officials and employees.

Also, upon the ascendency, of the new administration, there was conflict of interpretation of the National Code of Conduct which led to late declaration of the President, Vice President and cabinet ministers and other newly appointed officials required under the Code to declare.

At the moment of the report's consummation, very few percentage of the current government has declared. The final listing of compliance and non-compliance officials is in process to submission to the President with recommendation to compel all required to declare their assets.

Members of the National Legislature are yet to submit to the Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission their asset declarations.

#### **4.7 Challenges:**

The Division is challenged with logistic constraints to decentralize its campaign activities in rural Liberia. The Commission cannot verify their assets due to lack of resources.

#### **V: ADMINISTRATION DIVISION:**

The administrative arm of the Commission is charged with the responsibility under section 8.7(a) of the Act creating the Commission to run the day to day affairs of the Commission, including the supervision of personnel and the logistical duties of the Commission.

The Chief administrator of the Commission is the Executive Chairperson, assisted by the Vice Chairperson. However, a commissioner is designated as "Oversight" for administration.

## **Key Achievements/Activities under Administration:**

### **5.1: Personnel:**

During the period under review, one of the commissioners, in person of D. Sheba Brown was reappointed by the President to the Central Bank of Liberia with no replacement.

The Executive director Mr. Daniel Tipayson resigned and was replaced by Atty. Mohammed E. Fahnbulleh following competitive recruitment process. Also, the below listed staffs were recruited during the period. Tupee Semper-Executive Assistant, assigned to the Office of the Executive Chairperson. Additionally, Mrs. Reginal McCauley and Mr. Emmuael Tarlue were recruited as investigators. Mrs. Blanche Gibson and Solomon G. Zeekeh recruited and assigned in the Division of Administration as Office Assistants. While Mrs. Alice Ocran and Mr. Jacob Dweh recruited as Program Assistant and Receptionist respectively.

Mr. McJulius P. Nah, Procurement Officer resigned on September 30, 2017, and was later replaced in keeping with the Commission's regulation on recruitment.

Two staffs were temporarily assigned; Atty. Benjamin Kolako and Mr. Edwin Clark were re-assigned and given additional with no increase in salary. Atty. Kolako, was reassigned to the Legal Division following his graduation and need to develop his career goal, while Mr. Clark was given additional role in addition to his original tasks. He is now serving duo capacities as Program Assistant/Admin & Acting Public Relations Officer.

Six staffs of the Enforcement Division whose salaries were paid by the United Nations Development Program ended. Under the STAOP project Annual Work Plan, the Government of Liberia assumes the responsibility for salary for these staffs. Efforts are being exerted to ensure accommodation of the affected staffs in the 2017/2018 National Budget.

### **5.2: Training:**

The Commission has become more professional and effective with quality delivery of its mandates. A learning session was introduced to enhance and improve delivery.

Two staffs were appointed as Learning Manager and Co-Learning Manager during the period. Several in house training were organized and administered

by co-workers and some instant by professionals from outside to share their expertise on different subjects.

The period of report captured eight different trainings across the four divisions of the Commission. The trainings were conducted both at home and abroad. Six of the trainings were done in foreign countries: Kenya, Egypt, Singapore, Mauritius, and Ghana sponsored by African Development Bank. While the rest of the trainings were done locally and sponsored by UNDP and LPAC/USAID.

The training focused on the following areas: Certified Forensic Investigation, Qualitative Data Analysis; Human Resource Practices and Strategies; Public Procurement Law and Procedures and Practices; AML/ CFT assessor training and Surveillance and Intelligence.

The below listed staffs benefitted from the trainings:

Ms. Tupee Semper Freeman  
Marc N. Kollie  
Frances Fleming  
Robert Jarwleh  
Moses Kowo  
Elton Y . Livingston  
Rahoff Solomon  
Ivo B. G. Parker  
Sonja I Gibson  
Emmanuel Tarlue  
Regina K.S McCauley  
Delano R. Korvayan  
Titus AA Goeh

And the entire staffs attended the in house learning sessions.

### **5.3: Foreign Travels:**

During the reporting period, the government of Liberia through the Commission participated and or was represented at major bilateral and multilateral conferences and meetings. The Commission participated in the annual assembly of the Networks of Anti-Corruption Institutions in West Africa (NACIWA) held in Conakry, Guinea.

In June 2018, the Executive Chairperson represented Liberia at the Resumed Ninth Session of Implementation Review Group of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC).

#### **5.4: Agreements:**

During the period under review, the Commission in fulfillment of Part IV titled” Powers of the Commission” count “G” which allows the Commission to establish counterpart and technical relationships with similar and other agencies, institutions and organizations for the effective discharge of its functions, signed the following agreements/ memorandum of understandings(MOU):

During the period, the Commission and the Independent Commission Against Corruption of the Republic of Mauritius draft and finalized a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with intent to strengthen collaboration in the fight against corruption and jointly foster international cooperation in the fight against corruption and money laundering through the efficient and effective sharing and exchange of information, knowledge and experience.

The Republic of Mauritius ratified the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) in 2004 and is guided by its mandate thereof, whereas the Republic of Liberia acceded as party to the UNCAC in 2005 and, are, on the basis of the UNCAC, willing to enter into arrangements on direct cooperation between law enforcement agencies based on the foundation of mutual trust, respect and interests.

### **B. Areas of Cooperation**

Consistent with the spirit and intent of the MOU coupled with the respective legal and administrative systems, as well as to the extent possible with regard to the availability of means and resources to

both Parties, the MOU hope to strengthen cooperation and the following forms of assistance, *inter alia*:

- (i). To share with each other, either voluntarily or upon request by the other party, relevant information on anti-corruption and anti-money laundering strategies;
- (ii). To exchange ideas, knowledge, skills, technological abilities and experience in the application of international standards in the fight against corruption and money laundering;
- (iii). To assist each other and share knowledge, skills, experience and best practices on corruption prevention and anti-corruption education;
- (iv). To provide technical assistance in corruption & money laundering investigation, prosecution, prevention and education;
- (v). To share knowledge on effective investigative techniques and best practices to carry out information gathering and intelligence operations for the purpose of detecting money laundering and corruption-related offences;
- (vi). To network at Board, Management and staff levels through study visits and employee attachments; and
- (vii). To enhance capacity through joint trainings, projects, workshops, seminars and conferences.

#### **5.7: Budget & Others:**

The Commission through the Administration Division prepared and submitted its National Budget, and upon the approval, prepared to the Public Procurement and Concessions Commission LACC's 2017/2018 cash plan and Procurement Plan.

### 5.8: The FY2017/18 Approved Budget:

At the onset of the fiscal year, FY2017/18, the National Legislature appropriated a total of \$ 2,379,049.00 USD. During the period under review, no supplemental budget was approved.

		FY 2017/18			Variance		
Description	Actual	Budget	Prior Year	Budget		Prior Year	%
<b>Receipts</b>							
Allotments received from MFDP+Others	2,077,290.84	2,379,049.00	2,567,498.00	(301,758)	(301,758)	490,207.16	0.19
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>2,077,290.84</b>	<b>2,379,049.00</b>	<b>2,567,498.00</b>	<b>(301,758.16)</b>	<b>(301,758.16)</b>	<b>490,207.16</b>	<b>0.19</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>							
Compensation of Employees	1,668,941.57	1,669,008.20	1,727,046.57	66.63	0.00	58,105.00	0.03
Goods & Services	410,246.78	408,282.65	687,015.86	(1,964.13)	(0.48)	276,769.08	0.40
Capital Expenditures			33,335.0				
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>2,079,188.35</b>	<b>2,077,290.84</b>	<b>2,447,397.45</b>	<b>(1,897.50)</b>	<b>(0.47)</b>	<b>334,874.08</b>	<b>0.44</b>
Operating Surplus/(Deficit(-Net Cashflow	(1,897.50)						
Project Receipts	165,652.97	165,652.97	171,490.00	-	-	5,837.03	-
Project Payments	193,497.56	193,497.56	171,490.00	-	-	(22,007.56)	(0.13)
Project Surplus/(Deficit(-Net Cashflow	(27,844.59)	(27,844.59)	-				
<b>Overall Surplus/Deficit-Over Net Cashflow</b>	<b>(29,742.09)</b>	<b>(27,844.59)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

### Other Administrative activities:

The Commission developed a new strategic plan which has been reviewed by the Commission and is at the finalization stage for publication.

### VI: EXTERNAL PARTNERSHIP/COLLABORATION

The Administrative arm of the Commission has also been seeking external partners to support the various core businesses of the Commission. Current budgetary allotment to the Commission is insufficient to support the overall work of the Commission.

The Commission has concluded the following initiatives with support from its external partners.

### **6.1: STAOP Project**

During the reporting period, the STAOP (Strengthening Transparency, Accountability and Oversight Program) Project implemented the following activities funded by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The object of this support is to promote integrity, increase LACC’s capacity to perform its mandate specifically in the area of investigation, and prosecution.

During this period, the project several investigators at the Commission obtained advance training sponsored by the UNDP.

During to the late signing of the Annual Work Plan between the LACC, MoFDP and UNDP, all of the other activities approved for the period were moved over to 2019.

## **X.APPENDIXES**

### **A. Detail of Cases reported to the Commission:**

#### **a. Summary of cases:**

B.

No.	Case Title	Nature of Case
1.	Internal Audit Report alleging financial irregularity and mismanagement in the implementation of the PSDI Loan Scheme at the MOFDP	Allegation that some high ranking officials at the MOFDP mismanaged the implementation of the PSDI Loan Scheme by giving loans to themselves and their close associates.
2.	Complaint against Mr. George Scott for receiving US\$12,500.00 for the construction of the LIS sub-office in Bopolu City but failed to do same and escaped	Allegation that Mr. George Scott received US\$12,500.00 from UNMIL to construct a sub-office for the Liberia Immigration Service (LIS) in Bopolu City, Gbarpolu County as an UNMIL Quick Impact Project, but failed to do so and rather escaped

	from the city.	from the county.
3.	Complaint against Peleat Construction Company for receiving over US\$13 million dollars for the construction of the Bopolu-Belle Yallah Road and no work done.	Allegation that over US\$13 Million was paid to Peleat Construction Company for the construction of the Bopolu-Belle Yallah Road and no work done.
4.	Complaint against the Management of the NPA for an abrupt inflation in the cost of a dredging contract at the port.	Allegation that the Management of the NPA conspired with the Contractor to fraudulently inflate the cost of a dredging contract from US\$400,000 to over US\$ 2 Million.
5.	Complaint against the Deputy Commissioner of Maritime, Mr. Charles Gono on alleged Conflict of Interest.	Allegation that Mr. Charles Gono knowingly issued license to the company of his son, Fidel Gono even though the company was not qualify to be granted license.
6.	GAC Audit report alleging acts of financial improprieties against the Liberia Institute of Biomedical Research.	Allegation of mismanagement and financial improprieties by the Management of the Liberia Institute of Biomedical Research.
7.	GAC Audit report alleging acts of financial improprieties against the top Management of the Liberia Institute of Public Administration (LIPA).	Allegation of mismanagement and financial improprieties by the top Management of the Liberia Institute of Public Administration (LIPA).
8.	Complaint against Mr. Brisbane and some ISPS Port Securities in extorting money from Port Users to have access to the Freeport of Monrovia.	Allegation that Mr. Brisbane and some ISPS Securities at the Freeport of Monrovia are extorting money from Port-Users in order to have access to the Port.
9.	Compliant from a	Allegations of ghost payroll, fictitious

	whistle-blower concerning allegations of financial improprieties at IAA.	travels, misapplication of entrusted properties by top officials of the IAA.
10.	Compliant from Mr. Andrew Jlay alleging illegal entry and withdrawal from his (Jlay) personal account at LBDI.	Allegation that one Edward Kpulun and a teller of the LBDI, Gbarnga's Branch, withdrew the amount of LRD34,400.00 without his knowledge or approval.
11.	Complaint from a concerned citizen alleging Payroll Paddling by officials of the MoC.	Allegation that ex-officials of the Ministry of Commerce illegally withdrew salaries after they were suspended for time indefinite without pay.
12.	Complaint from a whistleblower alleged that several items were donated to CARI by the United Nations Missions in Liberia (UNMIL) to assist in enhancing their work	Allegation that several items were donated to CARI by UNMIL to assist in enhancing their work. The Director General of CARI, Dr. Walter Wiles received several trucks and agriculture equipment and cannot account for same.
13.	Report from the Global News Network (GNN) on acts of corruption and money laundering by former officials of the Finance Ministry.	Allegation that former officials of the Finance Ministry fraudulently laundered over US\$3million through several Banks in Lebanon thereby depriving the Government of Liberia of needed funds for development.
14.	Complaint that Mr. Viama Blama, a former employee of the Ministry of Education used his influence to divert school projects owned by Government to his own benefit.	Allegation that Mr. Viama Blama, a former employee of the Ministry of Education used his influence to divert school projects owned by Government to his own name in Upper Caldwell, Montserrado.
15.	Report from the New Democrat Newspaper	Allegation that the House's Committee on Elections and Inauguration

	that Lawmakers were illegally soliciting Money from private Business People for the inauguration of President-Elect H.E George M. Weah.	illegally circulated letters across the Business Community in Liberia soliciting financial contribution to undertake the Inauguration of President Weah.
16.	Report from Front Page Africa Newspaper on a bogus contract involving the LEC and a company previously rejected by Ghana for unrealistic demands.	Allegation that the management of the LEC fraudulently contracted a company which did not perform as per the contract terms, and was again about to rehire the same company.
17.	Complaint on the mismanagement and misapplication of the AFL pension funds (benefits).	Allegation that the hierarchies of the MoD allegedly mismanaged and misapplied pension benefits of the AFL.
18.	Complaint on acts of corruption and money laundering involving Mr. Hilary P. Sackie, Director of Finance/Comptroller at the Ministry of Information Culture Affairs and Tourism (MICAT).	Allegation that Mr. Hilary P. Sackie as Controller of MICAT is involve in acts of corruption and money laundering.
19.	Complaint that Madam Yusador S. Gaye, Auditor General/R.L illegally requested US\$175,000.00 from the MoFDP to conduct audit of its IFMIS system.	Allegation that Madam Yusador S. Gaye, Auditor General/R.L illegally requested US\$175,000.00 from the MoFDP to conduct audit of its IFMIS system.
20.	IAA 2017 Payroll Audit report of the Ministry of	Allegation that over 700 ghost names exist on the payroll of the MOH

	Health and Social Welfare	thereby causing the GOL to lose millions of dollars.
21.	Complaint from the MRU Youth Parliament against its former Speaker for acts of corruption.	Allegation that the MRU Youth Parliament former Speaker, James M. Kolleh fraudulently withdrew US\$8,000.00 from the Union's account and cannot account for same.
22.	Complaint on a bogus contract involving the UL Administration and a company called Mwetana IT Firm.	Allegation of a bogus contract between the UL and Mwetana IT Firm in which over US\$400,000.00 was paid to build an ultimate electronic registration system; and that no work was done.
23.	Complaint on tax evasion by the Pan African Real Estate Corporation (PAREC) in the management of the Pan African Plaza Building currently occupied by the UN System.	Allegation that PAREC has been evading real estate taxes amounting to thousands in the management of the PAN African Plaza Building currently occupied by the UN System.
24.	Complaint on misapplication of US\$50,000.00 given to the LFA by FIFA to help fight the Ebola Virus Disease.	Allegation of misapplication of US\$50,000.00 by top officials of the LFA. The said amount was given by FIFA to help fight the Ebola Virus Disease.
25.	GAC Audit report on misapplication of funds intended for Disaster Management by the Ministry of Internal Affairs.	Allegation that funds intended to respond to man-made or natural disaster in Liberia was misapplied by official of the Ministry of Internal Affairs.
26.	Complaint on fraud and tax evasion involving CIABRE Inc. and CAMUSAT Liberia Ltd.	Allegation that CIABRE Inc. fraudulently falsified government documents for the purpose of evading input duty of over US\$50,000.00 in favor of CAMUSAT Liberia Ltd.
27.	Complaint on the abuse	Allegation that a former Lawmaker of

	of government properties by a former Lawmaker of Rivercess County.	Rivercess County unilaterally gives away some earth-moving equipment to a Chinese Construction Company.
28.	Complaint from the River Gee Redemption Movement against GRADA Company for conflict of Interest, financial improprieties and corruption.	Allegation that GRADA, a company owned by Senator Conmany B. Wesseh, received the sum of US\$43,000.00 from the County Development Funds for the construction of a Commissioner Compound and did not perform up to standard.
29.	Complaint on acts of improprieties by Mr. Sebastian Gibson, Deputy Director of the DEA	Allegation of administrative and financial improprieties by Mr. Sebastian Gibson, Deputy Director of the DEA.
30.	Complaint against the LRA Deputy Commissioner for Administration for violation of the Revenue Codes of Liberia for his own benefit.	Allegation that the Deputy Commissioner for Administration of the LRA violated the Revenue codes (Sections: 905, 1001, and 1022) for his own benefit.
31.	Complaints on acts of fraud, corruption and money laundering by Mr. Johnson P. Sloan of the General Services Agency (GSA).	Allegation that Mr. Johnson P. Sloan, Procurement Director of the GSA is amassing illicit wealth through acts of fraud, corruption and money laundering.
32.	Complaint on misapplication of US\$13.782 Million by Mr. Emmanuel Johnson Nimbune and some officials of the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA).	Allegation that Mr. Emmanuel Johnson Nimbune and some officials of the Ministry of Agriculture misapplied the amount of US\$13.782 Million intended for agriculture projects in Liberia.
33.	GAC 2018 Payroll Audit report on the Ministry of	Allegation of payroll fraud and corruption by the Assistant HR

	Gender, Children and Social Protection (MGCSP).	Director and other Officials of the MGCSP.
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