



Press Release – Agency Against Corruption, Ministry of Justice

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The Second National Meeting of High-Ranking Government Employee Ethics Officials for 2014 Held for the Strengthening of the Ethics Early-Warning Mechanism and the Reform of the Integrity Personnel System

On August 1, 2014, the Agency Against Corruption, Ministry of Justice hosted the National Meeting of High-Ranking Government Employee Ethics Officials. The meeting, attended by 79 AAC officials and government employee ethics officials of competent authorities from across the country, was held at the Revenue Service Office of New Taipei City Government.

The topic of discussion at the meeting, as instructed by the premier during the 3,401st Executive Yuan Council Meeting, was specific and effective measures by government employee ethics units for ensuring prompt early-warning and prevention of corruption in advance in regard to civil servants with poor ethics or reputations, and deliberation on the specifics of such measures. Additionally, the Department of Civil Service Ethics, Ministry of Finance presented a special report, “Examining the Response and Disposition and the Accountability System of the Government Employee Ethics Unit from a Government Authority That Had Gone through a Major Corruption Scandal”, to share with others how it had practised corruption investigation and prevention, such as “concurrent investigation and punishment and disciplinary sanctions” and “early warning of risks and concerned visits”, to bring the “prevention by deterrence” effect of the government employee ethics unit into full play in facing the group corruption case that involved the Kaohsiung Customs. Following a joint discussion by participants at the meeting, a resolution was reached, concluding that the AAC and government employee ethics units should strengthen risk assessment of

high-ranking officials and the mechanism for the collection and reporting of risk data, as well as implementing relevant preventive measures to give full play to the early-warning function of government employee ethics units.

In order to solve existing problems in the integrity personnel system, the Agency Against Corruption has since June 2014 held discussions on making adjustments and has drawn up a scheme for improving its personnel policy after gathering and summarizing various suggestions. Consisting of short-term, medium-term and long-term plans, the scheme hoped to take into account policy objectives such as fairness and transparency of the promotion process, personnel needs of government employee ethics units, and personnel stability. Already approved by the Ministry of Justice, the scheme was presented by the Planning Division of Agency Against Corruption in a special report during the meeting to help participating high-ranking ethics officials understand the content and to help gain their support.

In addition, New Taipei City Deputy Mayor Hou You-yi was invited to deliver a speech on “crisis management” at the meeting. Speaking from his personal experience as a police officer in facing major public order incidents and in leading the city government’s handling of crises, Deputy Mayor Hou told participating officials that they should possess three types of attitude, such as “always prepare for the worst”, and five kinds of capacity, such as “the development of personality traits – remaining calm in a crisis”, in dealing with a crisis, as well as making good use of listening and communication skills to effectively resolve crises that can occur at any time.

Finally, Director-General Lai pointed that, if effective use of public money can be facilitated by corruption prevention and corruption investigation measures to ensure that every bit of available resources gets efficiently used in official affairs, the general public's well-being will undoubtedly improve. Hence, anti-corruption work has its undeniable significance and value. Director-General Lai hoped that all colleagues could remember their original aspiration in devoting themselves to anti-corruption work to jointly strive for the building of national integrity.