



# NEWSLETTER



A Nation Without Corruption, A Society with Integrity

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The recent cabinet reshuffle by the Prime Minister Dato' Seri Anwar Ibrahim has given fresh hopes that there will be political stability in the country and the government will focus in the coming year on the economy, push for institutional and legislative reforms and continue with the agenda to fight corruption.



The one year of the Madani government's rule has received mixed opinion from the public and civil society groups. Some felt that the government has back tracked on some of the reforms promised in the Prime Minister's party's manifesto while others felt that the government should be given more time to get the economy back on track and to push for reforms. However, to the government's credit several laws were amended during the past 12 months and among them were the Sexual Harassment Against Children Act 2017 (Act 792), abolishing the Mandatory Death Sentence (Act 846), amendments were made to the Companies Act 2016 to insert the section on the definition of Beneficial Ownership of a company and the passing of the Public Finance & Fiscal Responsibility Act to ensure sustainability of public finance and demanding accountability.

With the Prime Minister announcing an ambitious vision of raising Malaysia's rank to 25 in the Global Corruption Perception Index by 2033 from the current rank of 61, our government needs to make radical changes on the way public administration and civil servants operate. The Corruption Perception Index is a measure of public sector corruption and the willingness of the government to push for institutional and legislative reforms. The year 2024 is cut out for the Madani government to not only show results on the economy but at the same time to continue with reforms.

It is our hope that in the coming year, the government will push to amend the Whistle Blower Protection Act (2010), separate the power between the Attorney General and the Public Prosecutor, table the bill on Political Financing, reform the MACC and introduce the Freedom of Information Act.

The Exco would like to take this opportunity to thank all our members for your continued support for our advocacy work and fight against corruption. We wish all of you, Happy New Year.

***Dr Muhammad Mohan***

**President**

**Transparency International-Malaysia**

## EDITORIAL

### **Uniting Against Corruption: The Power of Collaboration**

In our ongoing quest for transparency, accountability and integrity in Malaysia, Transparency International - Malaysia has been actively advocating for institutional reforms including the adoption and implementation of robust beneficial ownership frameworks, comprehensive asset declaration systems, transparent political financing regulations and separation of the roles of the Attorney General and Public Prosecutor. These measures are indispensable in combatting corruption, in protecting public resources and reducing leakages, and ensuring the equitable and sustainable development of our country.



In this ongoing fight against corruption, our strength lies not only in the resilience of our convictions but also in the unity of our actions. It is imperative that we, as a collective force, join hands and foster collaboration on all fronts.

Corruption knows no boundaries; we must recognize that our efforts as individual entities, though commendable, are not enough to bring about the transformative change we seek. It is only through collaborative endeavours that we can magnify our impact and address the systemic roots of corruption.

In this quarter, Transparency International – Malaysia (TI-M) was fortunate to have visits and engagements with Transparency International (Defence & Security), United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), Transparency International - United Kingdom. TI-M and collaborative events with IDEAS Malaysia and UNDOC as set forth in this Newsletter.

One of the primary advantages of collaboration is the pooling of resources. Be it financial, intellectual, or human resources, working together allows us to maximize efficiency and effectiveness. Collaboration also amplifies our collective voice, sending a resounding message to governments, corporations, and communities that corruption will not be tolerated. Local and international partnerships are also crucial in addressing the cross-border nature of corruption.

As we advocate for collaboration, we must also recognize the importance of inclusivity. Engaging with diverse stakeholders, including the community, ensures a holistic approach. Inclusivity fosters a sense of shared responsibility and encourages a more comprehensive understanding of the multifaceted nature of corruption.

To this end, TI-M'S Collective Action Project with Majlis Perbandaran Dungun showcased how empowering the local community can foster a sense of ownership in driving sustainable community development rooted in transparency and integrity.

In conclusion, the fight against corruption demands a united front. To overcome the challenges posed by corruption, we must break down silos and work collaboratively. Our shared vision of a corruption-free world can only be realized through joint efforts, persistent advocacy, and unwavering determination.

***Eulis Rachmatiah Iskandar***

## TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL MALAYSIA (TI-MALAYSIA) HOSTS COURTESY VISIT BY TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL DEFENCE

Revisit the insightful event that unfolded on September 11, 2023, when Transparency International Malaysia had the privilege of hosting Mr. Choo Yi Kang of Transparency International Defence & Security. The discourse centred around the organisation's commitment to fostering accountability, integrity, and ethical practices within the defence sector, thereby contributing to the global efforts in promoting transparency and combating corruption.

The event commenced with a warm welcome and introduction, setting the stage for Mr. Choo's engaging presentation. TI-Malaysia's Secretariat and President of TI-Malaysia, Dr Muhammad Mohan, had the opportunity to delve into the impactful work of Transparency International Defence & Security, explicitly focusing on their commendable efforts in defence offsets.

Mr Choo's presentation provided a comprehensive overview of the challenges and advancements in the defence and security sectors. His expertise illuminated the critical role of Transparency International in promoting transparency and accountability, especially in defence offsets. Defence offsets are measures governments impose on foreign defence contractors to balance the economic impact of significant defence procurements. They involve investments or technology transfers, ensuring that defence acquisitions contribute positively to both national security and the economic development of the procuring country.

The subsequent Q&A session facilitated a dynamic exchange of ideas, allowing attendees to explore the topics' nuances further. It was a valuable opportunity for TI-Malaysia to gain

deeper insights and clarification directly from an expert in the field.

The meeting concluded with a networking session and refreshments, fostering a sense of camaraderie among attendees. It provided a platform for meaningful discussions and the opportunity to build connections within our community.



**Mr Choo Yi Kang and Dr Muhammad Mohan**

## TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL MALAYSIA (TI-MALAYSIA) HOSTS COURTESY VISIT BY THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE ON DRUGS AND CRIME (UNODC).



**Dr Muhammad Mohan and Ms. Annika Wythes**

We are thrilled to share exciting news about the visit to our office on September 19, 2023, by Ms Annika Wythes of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). The visit marked a significant opportunity for both parties to engage in meaningful discussions and forge stronger ties between UNODC and Transparency International Malaysia.

During Ms Annika's visit, Dr Muhammad Mohan, the esteemed President of Transparency International Malaysia, had the honour of presenting the organisation's tireless efforts and its ongoing and future initiatives. Dr. Muhammad Mohan provided valuable insights into the multifaceted work of TI-Malaysia, emphasising its commitment to promoting transparency, integrity, and accountability in various sectors of society.

Dr Muhammad Mohan showcased the initiatives undertaken by TI-Malaysia, highlighting the organisation's role in fostering a culture of transparency and combating corruption. From advocating for ethical business practices to working closely with governmental bodies, TI-

Malaysia has been at the forefront of the fight against corruption, contributing significantly to the nation's integrity landscape.

Furthermore, Dr Muhammad Mohan outlined TI-Malaysia's plans, which include expanding outreach programs, engaging with local communities, and collaborating with international organisations to strengthen the global fight against corruption. The president expressed his gratitude for the continuous stakeholder support and emphasised the need for collaborative efforts to build a more transparent and accountable society.

Ms Annika, in turn, shared insights into the work of UNODC, highlighting the organisation's global initiatives to address issues related to drugs and crime. She admired TI-Malaysia's dedication to promoting transparency and its pivotal role in the national integrity framework.

This visit not only strengthened the bond between UNODC and TI-Malaysia but also underscored the importance of international collaboration in addressing the complex

challenges of our time. We look forward to the positive outcomes that will emerge from this partnership and the collective efforts of TI-

Malaysia and UNODC to create a more transparent and accountable world.

## TI-MALAYSIA AND TI-UK – EXCHANGE OF IDEAS ON FIGHTING CORRUPTION



In global governance and efforts to combat corruption, the recent exchange of insights between Transparency International Malaysia and TI-UK emerged as pivotal. The discussion held via Microsoft Teams on October 18, 2023, brought together key figures from both nations to discuss anti-corruption strategies, challenges, and potential collaborative avenues.

The session commenced with Mr Duncan Hames, former Member of Parliament of the United Kingdom and now a Director of Policy at Transparency International UK, emphasising the critical role of keeping Transparency International chapters informed with the essence of collaboration and shared knowledge, essential elements in the collective fight against corruption on a global scale.

One of the central themes of the discussion revolved around developing and implementing anti-corruption strategies. Insights from the UK shed light on the multifaceted nature of this challenge. Transparency was acknowledged as a cornerstone, with the Political Parties, Elections, and Referenda Act 2000 highlighted as a significant legislative milestone. With its

accompanying explanatory notes, the Act has brought about a commendable degree of transparency in political funding—a crucial aspect of anti-corruption measures.

However, the discourse ventured beyond mere transparency, delving into the equally vital realms of accountability and controls. Duncan Hames underscored the need for robust mechanisms to address corruption risks effectively. While a powerful tool, transparency was deemed sufficient with the necessary enforcement measures. This insight is invaluable, emphasising the complexity of the fight against corruption and the importance of a holistic approach.

The Political Parties, Elections, and Referenda Act 2000 was a critical legislative instrument discussed. This legislation, serving as a linchpin in regulating political spending and fundraising in the UK, emphasises the importance of transparency in political activities. The Act's significance lies in its mandates and the broader context of shaping a political landscape characterised by openness and accountability.

A nuanced discussion unfolded around funding channels, revealing that political funding in the UK predominantly flows through the central offices of political parties. The strategic distribution and management of these funds by national party hierarchies underscore the intricate relationship between financial resources and electoral processes. This insight highlights the complex dynamics in managing political finances and navigating corruption risks.

As the session concluded, a resounding recommendation emerged—a call for continued dialogue and collaboration. This

recommendation recognises the potential for a sustained exchange of insights and best practices, fostering a mutually beneficial partnership in the ongoing fight against corruption.

In essence, the debriefing session serves as a beacon of cooperation, transcending national boundaries in the pursuit of transparency, accountability, and eradicating corruption. It is a testament to the belief that shared knowledge and collaborative efforts are indispensable in building a future where corruption holds no place and governance is characterised by integrity and accountability.

## EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES THROUGH COLLECTIVE ACTION: A TRIUMPH IN DUNGUN



### Collective Action's Presentation at Majlis Perbandaran Dungun

We are excited to bring you the latest updates on our Collective Action Project in Dungun. Transparency International-Malaysia has worked with the Majlis Perbandaran Dungun (MPD) and the dedicated Community Monitors to

improve the holistic eco-system of the surrounding integrity.

The cornerstone of our project lies in the active involvement of Community Monitors, individuals who have meticulously observed and reported their findings. Recently, these findings were

shared with key stakeholders, including the YDP Majlis Perbandaran Dungun. The real triumph came with the introduction of a dynamic Microsoft Power BI dashboard to present complex data. The response resounded, with Community Monitors and YDPA expressing a remarkable 9/10 satisfaction rating for the dashboard's effectiveness.

What sets this project apart is the identification of challenges and the commitment to resolve them. The Fixed-rate data presentation by TI-Malaysia offered a comprehensive view of the project's impact. By capturing pre and post-test metrics, it became evident that the Collective Action project in Dungun had translated into positive change within the community. The Fixed-rate data, measuring the resolution of identified problems and the satisfaction of stakeholders, reflected a commendable success rate.

Dungun's success story continues beyond data presentation. It is a testament to the effectiveness of evidence-driven solutions proposed by the Community Monitors. These individuals uncover problems and play a pivotal

role in suggesting fixes and sharing best practices.

As we celebrate the accomplishments in Dungun, it is crucial to recognise the collaborative spirit that underpins this success. Constructive engagement with critical stakeholders, data-driven presentations, and a commitment to addressing identified issues have collectively transformed this community. This transformation has brought about tangible improvements and fostered an environment of honesty and integrity, laying the foundation for sustained progress and well-being. The success in Dungun serves as an inspiring model for future initiatives, showcasing the potential for meaningful change when diverse stakeholders unite with a shared vision.

In conclusion, the journey in Dungun is a beacon of hope and empowerment. We express our gratitude to all those who contributed to this transformative process and eagerly anticipate further successes as we collectively strive for positive change in communities across the globe.

## EMBARKING ON A NEW CHAPTER: COLLECTIVE ACTION PROJECT IN MAJLIS DAERAH MARANG



Transparency International Malaysia Meeting with Majlis Daerah Marang

In the wake of our successful Collective Action Project in Dungun, Transparency International Malaysia (TI-M) is embarking on a new phase of community transformation in Majlis Daerah Marang. Guided by the insights gained from previous endeavours, we are poised to weave a narrative of positive change in this unique

community, beginning with the foundational stage of Context Sensitivity.

The journey commences with a deep dive into the local landscape through discussions with Majlis Daerah Marang (MDM). This initial step, marked by a holistic context and stakeholder analysis, aims to unravel the distinctive characteristics and capabilities of Majlis Daerah Marang. These conversations form the bedrock upon which our tailored approach for sustainable impact will be built.

Community engagement takes centre stage with a deliberate effort to include the voices that matter most. In adherence to the principle of inclusivity, discussions with selected community groups are initiated, following recommendations from Majlis Daerah Marang. This deliberate selection ensures that our engagement aligns seamlessly with the existing community

structures, fostering a sense of ownership and empowerment among participants.

As we navigate this intricate landscape, the importance of grounding our initiatives in evidence becomes evident. Thus, establishing a baseline takes precedence through discussions with selected community monitors. These individuals, integral to the fabric of Majlis Daerah Marang, will play a pivotal role in shaping the trajectory of our interventions, ensuring they are rooted in the real-life experiences and aspirations of the community.

This new Collective Action Project is a continuation, a progression, and a testament to our commitment to sustainable community development. As we take our first steps into Majlis Daerah Marang, we are fueled by the belief that positive change begins with a deep connection to the community. We anticipate a journey filled with collaboration, learning, and, most importantly, a positive impact on the community.

## **TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL MALAYSIA'S JOINT LEARNING PROGRAM IN MAJLIS DAERAH MARANG**



**Transparency International Malaysia with The Monitoring Team in Marang**

Transparency International Malaysia (TI-Malaysia) has transitioned to a crucial juncture in the Collective Action Project in Marang. Following the groundwork of Context Sensitivity, the project has entered the dynamic phase of Joint Learning, marking a significant stride towards fostering collaborative efforts for positive change.

TI-Malaysia recognises these community monitors' critical role in the project's success. Emphasising the need for credibility, reliability, and a genuine interest in addressing the community's needs, the intentional selection process ensures that the monitors are not mere

observers but passionate advocates for positive transformation.

Equipping community monitors with the necessary skills is paramount to their effectiveness. As part of the Joint Learning Initiative, TI-Malaysia conducts comprehensive training sessions. These sessions delve into monitoring skills, empowering monitors to analyse the issues and document their findings through photographs. This skill enhancement is not merely technical but a strategic investment in the monitors' ability to drive meaningful change.

The Joint Learning phase in Marang is not merely a procedural step but a strategic move



towards synergy and collaboration. It embodies TI-Malaysia's commitment to inclusive, informed, and community-driven development. As we navigate this phase, we recognise that

sustainable change requires a collective effort, and Joint Learning is the bridge that connects diverse stakeholders in pursuing a shared vision.

## TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL MALAYSIA AND IDEAS MALAYSIA COLLABORATE FOR A POLITICAL FINANCING WORKSHOP IN MELAKA



**From The Left: Ravinderjit Kaur, Eulis Rachmatiah and Muhammad Aiman Lingen**

In a testament to collaborative efforts, IDEAS and Transparency International Malaysia (TI-M) successfully hosted the Political Financing Workshop in Melaka. Held on October 14, 2023, at the AMES Hotel in Ayer Keroh, Melaka, the event marked a significant milestone in advancing discussions on comprehensive political financing legislation.

The workshop's agenda unfolded through two substantive sessions. IDEAS took the lead in the first segment, offering insights into the Political Financing Act's intricacies (PFA). Following this, TI-Malaysia contributed valuable perspectives on asset declaration and beneficial ownership, providing participants with a comprehensive understanding of the multifaceted nature of transparency in political financing.

A key objective of the workshop was to elevate public awareness regarding the critical role of political financing legislation. The discussions went beyond addressing corruption, aiming to foster a political environment of fairness and competitiveness. The workshop catalysed informed civic participation, contributing to a more robust democratic framework.

Central to the initiative was the introduction of the Political Financing Bill, intended to curb Political corruption and encourage a more equitable political landscape. Participants gained insights into legislative nuances and practical implications, fostering a deeper understanding of the complexities involved.

Engagement with parliamentarians and key stakeholders, particularly at the grassroots level, was crucial to the workshop. The advocacy for comprehensive legislation covering political financing, asset declaration, and beneficial ownership positioned the event as a platform to initiate significant reforms shaping the future of political financing practices.

The collaboration between IDEAS and TI-Malaysia underscored a shared commitment to fostering transparency, accountability, and good governance. As Melaka provided the backdrop for this successful workshop, participants delved

into the intricacies of political financing legislation, contributing to the cultivation of a more transparent and accountable political ecosystem in Malaysia.

As the workshop concluded, its success symbolised a significant stride towards informed civic participation and a more robust democratic framework. IDEAS and TI-Malaysia extend their gratitude to all participants, stakeholders, and policymakers who contributed to this collaborative effort in shaping a transparent and accountable political landscape in Malaysia.



**Transparency International Malaysia and IDEAS With Yb Tuan Haji Adly Zahari and Yb Tuan Kerk Chee**

## DECODING SECTION 17A MACC ACT 2009: IMPACTS AND INSIGHTS ON CORPORATE LIABILITY



Tuan Othman Bin Anyan, Dr Muhammad Mohan, Dato' Murshid Diraja Dr. Juanda Jaya, Mr Vickram and Participants

Implementing section 17A, effective since June 1, 2020, signifies a transformative shift in fostering ethical conduct and combating corruption within commercial organisations. In collaboration with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), TI-Malaysia successfully orchestrated these workshops to provide participants with insights into the legal provisions and promote a deeper understanding of corporate accountability.

Of particular note is the workshop in Sarawak, where TI-Malaysia collaborated with the Unit Integriti dan OMBUDSMAN Sarawak (UNIONS), underscoring the importance of multi-stakeholder partnerships in addressing

corruption challenges. This collaboration broadened the workshop's impact, bringing together diverse perspectives and expertise.

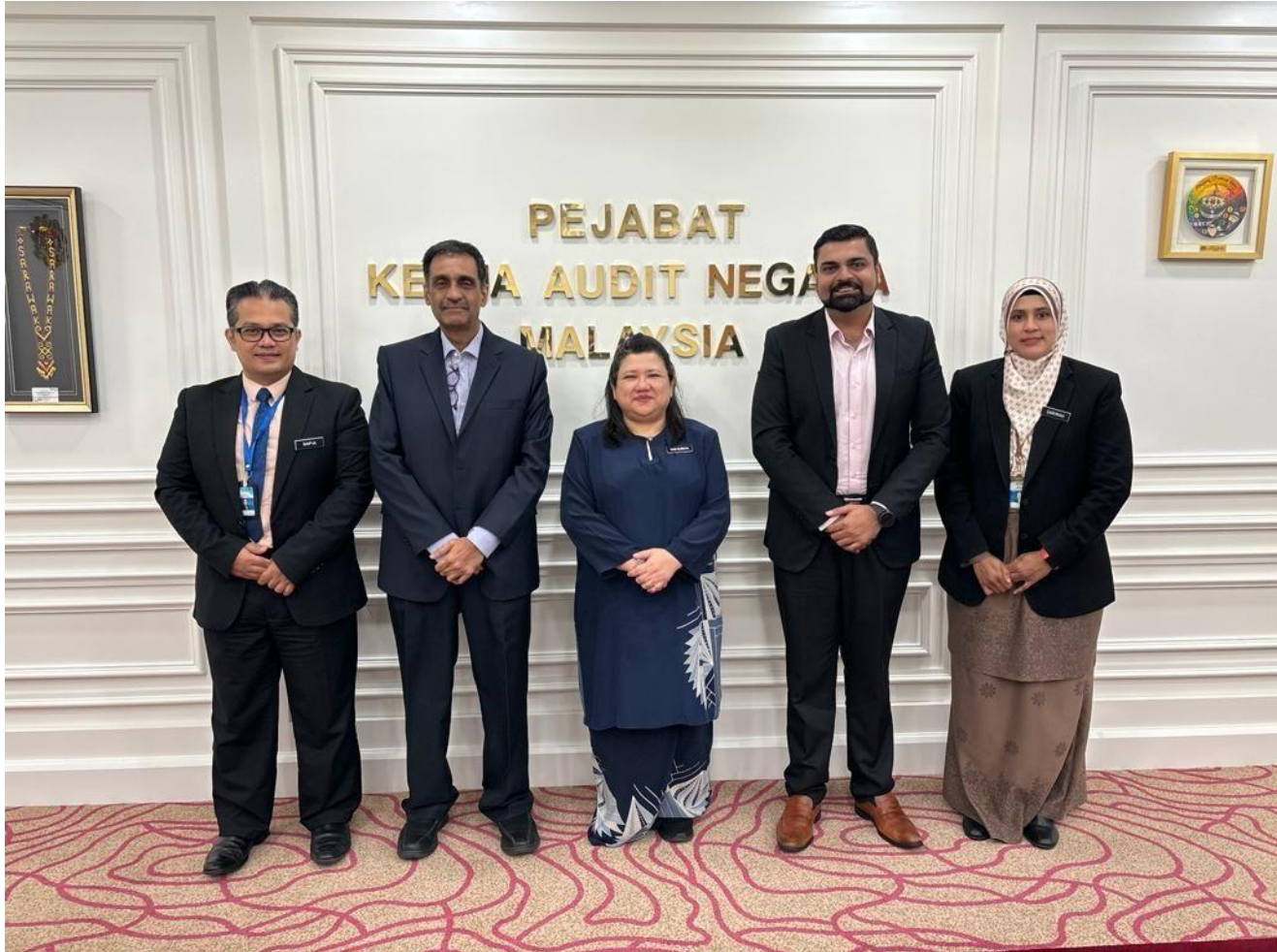
The workshops were not just about decoding legal intricacies; they were dynamic workshops for meaningful knowledge-sharing. By convening stakeholders from various sectors, TI-M aimed to break down silos and foster a collective understanding of anti-corruption efforts.

These successful workshops represent a milestone for TI-Malaysia, affirming its commitment to advancing integrity and ethical conduct in the corporate sphere. As we navigate

the evolving landscape of corporate liability under section 17A, these workshops stand as catalysts for positive change and exemplify TI-

Malaysia's dedication to promoting transparency and accountability in Malaysia.

## TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL MALAYSIA'S VISIT TO JABATAN AUDIT NEGARA



**Dr Muhammad Mohan and Mr Raymon Ram with as YBhg. Datuk Wan Suraya Wan Mohd Radzi**

Transparency International Malaysia (TI-M) was honoured to have been invited to Jabatan Audit Negara, attended by Dr Muhammad Mohan, the President of Transparency International Malaysia, and Raymon Ram, the Secretary-General of Transparency International Malaysia. The occasion was momentous between TI-M and Jabatan Audit Negara, and it was privileged to have the Auditor General of Malaysia YBhg. Datuk Wan Suraya Wan Mohd Radzi presents the Auditor-General's Report of 2022 to Transparency International Malaysia.

The presence of Dr. Muhammad Mohan and Raymon Ram underscored TI-M's dedication to advancing transparency and integrity within the Malaysian context. The Auditor-General's Report of 2022, shared by YBhg. Datuk Wan Suraya Wan Mohd Radzi was a critical document evaluating public sector management's efficiency, effectiveness, and integrity.

## TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL MALAYSIA STRATEGIC MEETING 2023



**Transparency International Malaysia's Secretariat, Executive Committee and Members**

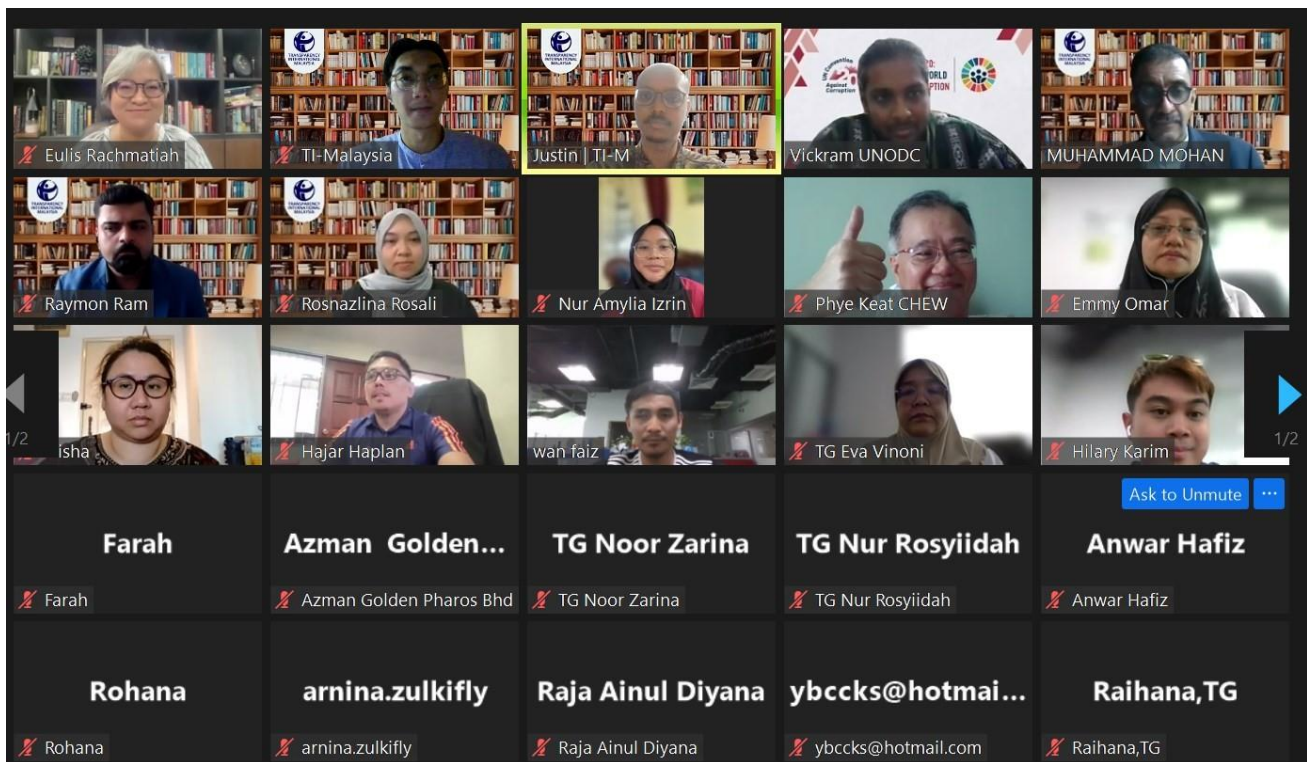
Transparency International Malaysia recently hosted a Strategic Meeting from November 17th to 19th, 2023, in a dynamic and collaborative atmosphere. The event brought together TI-Malaysia's Executive committee to reflect and revisit past achievements and strategies for the future and strengthen the organisation's commitment to transparency and anti-corruption efforts.

The strategic meeting spanned three days, featuring sessions that ranged from contextualising the current strategic landscape to prioritising key initiatives and developing a

comprehensive implementation timeline. Subject Matter Expert sessions brought diverse perspectives, covering topics from Collective Action in Dungun and Marang to the implications of emerging carbon markets in Malaysia.

Amidst strategic discussions, participants engaged in team-building activities, fostering connections and camaraderie. The workshop concluded with a commitment to the finalised strategic plan, symbolising a collective step towards a more transparent and accountable future.

## RECAP OF TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL MALAYSIA'S INTERNATIONAL ANTI-CORRUPTION DAY WEBINAR



Transparency International Malaysia's Secretariat, Executive Committee and The Participants of The Webinar

Recap the insightful discussions and engaging presentations during Transparency International Malaysia's webinar in collaboration with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) on International Anti-Corruption Day, held on December 9, 2023. The shared commitment demonstrated on this occasion serves as a testament to the collective determination in the ongoing fight against corruption.

The event, conducted via Zoom from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm, gathered participants for a meaningful exploration of strategies to combat corruption. Dr Muhammad Mohan addressed the persistent challenges surrounding the losses and wastage of public funds, offering valuable insights into why improvements in this area have been slow to materialise. Raymon

Ram delved into embracing AI for AML compliance, and Eulis Rachmatiah emphasised the collective responsibility we all bear in the fight against corruption, stressing the pivotal roles that individuals and communities play in creating a corruption-free society. Lastly, Vickram Rangunath, representing UNODC, reflected on the 20th anniversary of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC), discussing the global collaboration necessary to unite the world against corruption.

Transparency International Malaysia extends its heartfelt gratitude to all participants, speakers, and partners for their invaluable contributions to the success of this event. Their involvement is instrumental in advancing the mission to create a world free from corruption.

## INSIGHTS ON MALAYSIA'S ANTI-CORRUPTION EFFORTS: BFM RADIO WITH DR. MUHAMMAD MOHAN



**Dr Muhammad Mohan at BFM Radio**

In the wake of International Anti-Corruption Day on December 9th, Transparency International Malaysia (TI-M) is pleased to bring your attention to a compelling podcast featuring Dr Muhammad Mohan, President of TI-M. This podcast, hosted by BFM, offered a timely review of the Madani government's agenda in combating corruption, providing a comprehensive assessment of Malaysia's current state of affairs in anti-corruption.

The podcast critically evaluates the current government's performance in deterring corruption. With his insightful commentary, Dr Mohan explores the achievements and challenges faced by the Madani administration, offering a detailed perspective on the progress made in fostering a culture of transparency and integrity within the government.

A significant portion of the discussion focuses on the extent of Malaysia's law enforcement efforts in the anti-corruption domain. Dr. Mohan shares valuable insights into the strategies employed by law enforcement agencies, providing listeners with a deeper understanding of the complexities involved in enforcing anti-corruption measures.

Moreover, the podcast addresses areas requiring improvement, as Dr. Mohan candidly highlights key aspects where enhancements could contribute to more effective anti-corruption initiatives. This candid reflection encourages a constructive dialogue on how Malaysia can further strengthen its anti-corruption framework.

Transparency International Malaysia remains steadfast in its commitment to creating a corruption-free society. This podcast is a crucial platform for informed discussions, fostering awareness and understanding of the progress and challenges in Malaysia's anti-corruption journey.

# TI-M IN THE MEDIA



**SENADA:** Juanda (dua kiri) ketika berbincang dengan tetamu yang hadir pada majlis tersebut kelmarin.

## Sarawak negeri pertama bentang Rang Undang-Undang Ombudsman pada sidang DUN

**MUKAH:** Sarawak bakal menjadi negeri pertama yang akan membentangkan Rang Undang-Undang Ombudsman pada sidang Dewan Undangan Negeri (DUN) pada 20 November nanti.

Timbalan Menteri di Jabatan Premier Sarawak (Integriti dan Ombudaman) Datuk Dr Juanda Jaya berkata, negeri ini juga akan menjadi negeri pertama mempunyai undang-undang ombudsman di Malaysia.

“Satu detik bersejarah bakal tercipta di mana Rang Undang-Undang Ombudsman Sarawak akan dibentangkan pada Persidangan DUN Sarawak pada November ini,” katanya pada Majlis Perasmian Program Bersama Unit Integriti dan Ombudsman Jabatan Premier Sarawak, Transparency International Malaysia dan United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) di sebuah hotel terkemuka di Kuching kelmarin.

Menurut Juanda, ordinan itu nanti akan berperanan sebagai mekanisme semak dan imbang terhadap penyampa-

ian perkhidmatan kerajaan kepada rakyat.

Keputusan berkenaan katanya, juga dibuat setelah melalui beberapa peringkat pecambahan fikiran dan sesi libat urus dengan pihak-pihak berkepentingan.

Tidak cukup dengan itu tambahnya, lawatan pemanda aras pihak Ombudsman ke Sweden dan Finland baru-baru ini turut menjadi rujukan utama pihaknya.

Kerajaan negeri tegasnya, amat komited dalam aspek tadbir urus serta elemen semak dan imbang.

Majlis Mesyuarat Kerajaan Negeri (MMKN) juga kata Juanda, telah memberi mandat kepada Unit Integriti dan Ombudsman Sarawak untuk menubuhkan satu Jawatankuasa Khas Kabinet (CABCOM) bagi mengalses, meneliti dan memberi rekomendasi terhadap Penyata Kewangan Tahunan dan Anggaran Belanjawan Tahunan bagi Badan Berkanun Negeri dan Pihak Berkuasa Tempatan sebelum dibentangkan ke MMKN.

Juanda selaku pengerusi kepada CABCOM berharap

agar setiap cadangan yang dikemukakan dipatuhi dan diambil tindakan sewajarnya supaya isu yang dibangkitkan tidak lagi berulang.

Pada masa sama, beliau turut mengingatkan bahawa setiap Kementerian bertanggungjawab hendaklah memastikan prosedur serta tadbir urus kewangan agensi di bawah seliaan masing-masing dipantau secara berterusan.

Dengan wujudnya CABCOM ini, diharap ia mampu mengelakkan ketirisan di samping memastikan setiap peruntukan yang disalurkan kerajaan digunakan secara berhemah dan berintegriti.

Majlis dihadiri 80 peserta dalam kalangan pengarah, ketua pegawai eksekutif, pengarah urusan dan pegawai kanan kerajaan, syarikat berkaitan kerajaan serta swasta.

Turut hadir Pengarah Suruhanjaya Pencegah Rasuah Malaysia Sarawak Datuk Md Zaki Hassan, Pengarah Transparency International Malaysia Dr Mohamad Mohan dan Pegawai UNDOC Vickram Ragunath.

## Segera kaji pengasingan kuasa AG, Pendakwa Raya - TI-Malaysia

oleh DIANA AZIS 09 September 2023 06:21pm Masa membaca: 1 minit



## Ti-M terkejut Ahmad Zahid dilepas tanpa bebas, mahu penjelasan Peguam Negara

Oleh Rohaniza Idris - September 5, 2023 @ 6:34pm roha@bh.com.my





# TI-M IN THE MEDIA



mk NEWS

Mukhriz Hazri | malaysiakini

## Expect Corruption Perception Index to fall after Zahid case - watchdog

Published: Sep 5, 2023 5:09 PM · Updated: 6:20 PM



### HIGHLIGHTS

Podcast > Morning Run > The Breakfast Grille > More Needed To Stamp Out Corruption

## MORE NEEDED TO STAMP OUT CORRUPTION

Dr Muhammad Mohan, President, Transparency International Malaysia (TI-M)  
08-Dec-23 08:00

Brought to you by umobile



## UNDERSTANDING AND ADDRESSING CORRUPTION IN THE LAND SECTOR

Submission by Transparency International and the International Land Coalition to the 10th Session of the UNCAC Conference of States Parties (CoSP)

We call on the UNCAC CoSP to review the role and impact of corruption in the land sector, and to task the UNCAC Intergovernmental Working Group on Prevention to develop and disseminate knowledge and best practices on land corruption risks, in coordination with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and other relevant agencies. We also call on Member States to take targeted actions to prevent and address corruption in the land sector, including via increased international cooperation amongst law enforcement and knowledge sharing.

Land corruption – corrupt practices in the land sector – threatens the lives and livelihoods of people and communities, the environment and climate, food security and political stability. Its impacts are particularly acute for 2.5 billion people who live on and from the land. Addressing it requires a dedicated focus and assessment of land related institutions across different national contexts.

ATRA report by the FAO stresses that land corruption has not been effectively or systematically addressed by either the anti-corruption community or land governance professionals. The report argues that by focusing primarily on financial corruption (anti-corruption practitioners) and technical solutions (land professionals), both communities have yet to develop an effective approach to understand and tackle grand corruption in the sector. Through the abuse of power in the management of land, corruption contributes to elite capture of land policies, unfair allocation, and the use of land for political patronage.

A wide range of stakeholders and approaches are required to address these challenges. This includes the recognition of grand corruption and how it relates to land, collaboration between the anticorruption and land governance communities, international cooperation between State Parties, and the adaptation of anti-corruption instruments for the land sector.

### **Manifestations of land corruption**

Two areas identified as highly vulnerable to corruption are land administration and investments: In land administration – how ownership, value, and use of land is determined – corruption is prevalent, ranging from political corruption, bribery, fraud, and patronage. Corrupt actors make use of overlapping mandates between agencies, high levels of discretion among land officials, unclear processes and fees for services, and ambiguous, absent, or inconsistent legal frameworks to speed up or ignore processes to secure or value land. The sector exhibits one of the highest bribery rates, affecting one in five people globally.

Corruption is often a feature of land-related investments, ranging from large-scale deals to acquisition of smaller plots of land by local actors. Corruption can be used to overcome obstacles to acquiring land, including circumventing community consent, environmental or social safeguards, or regulations related to the use of land. Land investments facilitated by corruption have been documented in the extractive sectors; in constructions and infrastructure; in food production and agriculture; and even in conservation, renewable energy, and land-based climate mitigation.

## **Impact of land corruption**

Land corruption harms people, as it deprives them of what might be their only asset and source of livelihood, home, lifestyle, and identity. Corruption impacts the tenure security (people's security in their land and property rights) of millions worldwide, leads to evictions and forced migration, and contributes to food insecurity and hunger.

Land corruption is enabled by and reinforces state and policy capture. Elites can distort decisionmaking processes related to land allocation, use, and tenure to increase their control over land resources or to legalise land grabs.

Land corruption disproportionately impacts women due to their frequent exclusion from decision making spaces, their reliance on land and their vulnerability to specific types of corruption, like sexual extortion. It threatens other vulnerable groups including Indigenous Peoples, pastoralists, local communities, and the rural landless, and exposes communities that resist it to violence.

Land corruption entrenches inequality and even creates incentives for conflict. Localised contestation over land is prevalent, particularly in contexts of scarcity, which can lead to forced displacement.

Land corruption harms the environment, driving land grabbing and misallocation of land which can lead to deforestation, degradation, and land conversion, among other impacts. Land corruption erodes the effectiveness and credibility of efforts to address the climate crisis.

## **What can we do against land corruption? How can the UNCAC COSP respond to the issue?**

Despite policy progress, land corruption continues to be prevalent. State Parties to the UNCAC have an important role to play as do UN implementing agencies.

We ask UNCAC CoSP Member States to take the following actions to prevent and address corruption in land administration and investments:

1. Close the legal and regulatory loopholes that enable land corruption, by reviewing land legal frameworks and customary laws (including their levels of enforcement); avoiding duplications and contradictions by aligning land regulation with other frameworks, such as the environmental.
2. Publish accessible, sufficient, relevant, and up-to-date information on land usage, access, allocation, land rights and administrative procedures, including open data on updated land tenure and ownership.
3. Foster accountability in land management by defining clear mandates and functions between relevant agencies and reducing discretion. A detailed land policy, indicators to monitor land management, and access to dispute resolution mechanisms should be in place.
4. Ensure the inclusion of citizens, particularly Indigenous Peoples, women, and any other vulnerable groups, in decision-making processes concerning their land and territory.
5. Ensure free, prior, and informed consent is applied in all relevant circumstances.
6. Implement stronger controls to fight corruption in land governance (including in the awarding of land titles and licenses), such as integrity risk assessments, strong integrity measures within land agencies, and ongoing monitoring and evaluation of anti-corruption efforts.

7. Share relevant best practices on how to address land corruption using anti-corruption instruments and institutions.

8. Sanction land corruption and enhance international cooperation between States in criminal prosecutions related to land corruption. Global Witness found in 2016 that, at that point, only one criminal case involving the corrupt administration of land had been reported in a UNCAC country review.

## **Country examples**

### **Mobilising anti-corruption institutions to fight land abuses**

The National Strategy Against Corruption and Money Laundering in Brazil created a working group in 2023 to diagnose fraud and corruption risks associated with land grabbing, and to propose measures to strengthen control and transparency in land records and cadastres (ENCCLA, 2022).

### **Including anti-corruption safeguards in land policies**

Land acquisitions made possible by the help of corrupt officials who directly or indirectly interfere in a transaction have been explicitly made illegal in the land legislation and policies of various countries, including Kenya, Lesotho, and Tanzania (Knight, 2022)

Alongside national-level reform, private sector commitments and citizen-driven monitoring, multilateral actors need to support accountability in this space. We urge the UNCAC CoSP to take stock of the UNCAC mandate and how it's mechanisms and implementing agencies are equipped to promote State action to respond to and prevent corruption in the land sector. Specifically, we recommend that the Intergovernmental Working Group on Prevention:

1. Assists the Conference in developing and disseminating knowledge through tasking the Secretariat to prepare a background paper on specific corruption risks in the land sector, including those that impact marginalised communities and human rights.
2. Put forward recommendations based on evidence and learning from practice to prevent and mitigate risks of corruption in the land sector. These should build on the policy recommendations included in section 4 of this written submission and on provisions of Article 6 of the Convention on preventive anti-corruption bodies and subsequent recommendations made by the Working Group on the Prevention of Corruption.
3. Invite States to share their experiences of implementing the provisions under consideration, preferably by using the self-assessment checklist and including, where possible, successes, challenges, technical assistance needs and lessons learned in implementation.
4. Coordinate and cooperate with the FAO or other relevant organisations to identify and understand trends in land corruption and develop strategies to approach it.