



Press Statement

9th September, 2024

COMMEMORATION OF THE INSPECTORATE OF GOVERNMENT DAY, 2024

The Inspectorate of Government (IG) was established as a department in the office of the President on 18th September 1986. Under the Inspector General of Government Statute of 1988, it became the Office of the Inspector General of Government. When the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda was promulgated in 1995, the Inspectorate of Government became a Constitutional Body enshrined therein under Chapter Thirteen.

The mandate of the IG as enshrined in the constitution is to ensure strict adherence to the rule of law or to foster strict adherence to the rule of law. Corruption is at the tail end of administrative injustice. The IG is confident that once the rule of law is enforced, the vice will be eliminated.

Over the years, Uganda has continued to experience high perception on the levels of corruption according to Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index. In 2021, the Inspector General of Government launched a clarion call to citizens to stand up and join the war against corruption by owning it since they are the immediate victims.

I am happy to inform you that the citizens are now empowered and have been reaching out to us to report corruption. This is the collaborative spirit which we expect all Ugandans to have because we cannot successfully eliminate corruption without the support of the citizens since they have the information about the corrupt.

On 18th September, 2024, the IG will be commemorating 38 years of existence. We would like to commemorate this milestone by spending time with the citizens

to understand their perception and experiences about corruption, but also share with them the achievements that we have made over the years

The aim is to interact with different stakeholders at all levels on the functions and mandate of the Inspectorate. This will also be an opportunity to share lessons, experiences and best practices in the various approaches used to achieve our mandate. It will further enhance partnerships in the war against corruption and maladministration, thereby improving service delivery as well as access to services.

The IG Day will open doors for the public to candidly interact with the institution, appreciate the processes and mandate of the IG and provide feedback to the institution on the delivery of its mandate.

The members of the public will have an opportunity to closely interact with the Inspector General of Government (IGG), Deputy Inspectors General of Government (DIGGs), Secretary to the IG, Directors and staff, and also lodge their complaints.

We will use the same opportunity to rally them to join the IG in the fight against corruption and implore them not to be spectators but actors in this war. This is a people's war where everybody, within their respective space, is expected to be involved. This interaction will enhance public trust in the IG. Therefore, I am calling upon the citizens to come and interact with us on 18th September, 2024, at the Railway Grounds along Kampala Road. The commemoration of the IG Day will be regular and continuous. We have now marked it as one of our calendar activities as the IG.

As we gear up for the IG Day, it is important to bring the public up to speed on what the IG achieved in the last financial year as seen below:

Complaints

During the financial year 2023/2024, the IG received 2377 complaints concerning corruption, Ombudsman and Leadership Code of Conduct.

Of the 2377 complaints, 1260 were registered from the Head Office while 1117 were registered across the 16 IG Regional Offices. 91.8% of these were sanctioned for investigations, 2.7% were referred to other authorities while 0.1% were declined because they did not meet merit in investigable cases.

By the end of the financial year, decisions were yet to be taken on 5.4% of the complaints that had been received during the year.

Investigation of corruption cases

The IG investigated and concluded 852 corruption-related cases of which 18 were high-profile in nature while 829 were other (not high-profile) corruption cases.

From the investigations, the IG recommended recovery of UGX17B to the consolidated fund from persons found culpable in various corruption offenses.

At least 251 administrative sections were issued against public officials and 26 of these were to be prosecuted for their involvement in corrupt tendencies.

Prosecution and asset recovery

Under this function, the IG prosecuted and concluded 55 cases in the courts of Law. A total of 26 convictions were realized leading to a conviction rate of 47.3%. Of the 55 concluded cases, 9 were acquitted, 18 withdrawn for various reasons such as settling the matter out of court, while two (02) were dismissed.

From the withdrawn cases, the affected persons committed to refund UGX 912M to the consolidated fund. The IG also prosecuted and concluded 28 cases at the Leadership Code Tribunal (LCT), registering 24 convictions (85.7 conviction rate).

The IG recovered UGX 14B from the orders issued for recovery. A cash payment of UGX 6B was deposited into the IG asset recovery account and property worth UGX 8.7B was handed over to the institution in lieu of cash.

Leadership Code of Conduct

The financial year 2022/23 was a declaration year of Leaders as specified in the second schedule of the Leadership Code Act. The IG conducted a series of sensitization activities and outreach programmes to support Leaders to submit their declarations.

At the end of the declaration period, 26,541 out of an expected 32,617 Leaders had declared, representing a compliance rate of 81.3%. The IG sought explanation from those who had not submitted. The process was ongoing by the end of the financial year.

During the same period, the IG verified declarations of 574 public officials out of a targeted 600 for the financial year. This represents a success rate of 95.6%.

A total of 213 investigations into breaches of the Leadership Code Act were concluded, of which 190 were related to non-declarations while 23 were false

declarations. As a result of the verifications and investigations, 61 public officials were recommended for prosecution at the Leadership Code Tribunal.

Resolution of Ombudsman complaints in public offices

The IG resolved 498 Ombudsman complaints comprising 77 in Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) and 421 in Local Governments (LGs). These complaints were majorly related to employment disputes, delayed services, non-payment of salaries and pensions and mismanagement among others. From the Ombudsman investigations, 892 citizens were able to directly access various services including access to payments totaling to UGX4B delayed salaries and pensions.

Stakeholder engagement and public awareness

In a bid to create awareness and build sustainable partnerships, the IG conducted 14 initiatives with both the State and Non-state actors, and held 71 radio talk shows and 23 TV shows. A total of 752 spot messages were aired on various radio stations with anti-corruption, Ombudsman and Leadership Code messages.

In addition, six (06) press statements were issued to the media. A total of 12 sets of IEC materials were developed and disseminated during the various community engagements.

Transparency and Accountability

As part of implementing Transparency, Accountability and Anti-Corruption (TAAC) in the government development projects, the IG trained 3506 members of the public on how to monitor the implementation of the government projects and prevent corruption. Furthermore, 519 ongoing projects were inspected, and 64% of the identified project-related grievances were resolved on time.

The Inter-Agency Forum

The Inter-Agency Forum Uganda through the Directorate for Ethics and Integrity (DEI) established an Inter-Agency Forum (IAF) for better coordination of all Anti-Corruption Agencies (ACAs) in the country.

In executing their mandates, the member institutions work in collaboration with each other to implement complementary accountability programmes and anti-

corruption actions to improve service delivery and achieve national development goals.

The strategic partnerships under the IAF have promoted efficiency and created synergies to share information, as well as avoid overlaps and duplication of work by ACAs in the execution of their mandates.

These have also ensured efficient and effective utilisation of public resources, promoted equity, transparency, accountability and ensured value for money. International collaborations.

International Collaborations

The IG is a member to various international bodies which include: the Eastern Africa Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities, Asset recovery inter-agency network for eastern Africa, AU Advisory Board against Corruption, and the Inter-Governmental agency for Development, Africa Association of Anti-corruption authorities, among others. All these collaborations are beneficial in prevention of corruption and tracing and recovering assets within the region and beyond.

Citizens Engagement

One of the strategies that the IG has undertaken to eliminate corruption is rallying the citizens to join the war against corruption. The aim of this strategy is to empower the citizens so that they can identify corruption and expose it.

This strategy focuses on prevention through advocacy, education and community mobilisation. This approach is intended to incite the population against public officers whose actions of corruption are manifested through lifestyle not commensurate with their known income.

The citizens are also being enlightened on how they are actually the actual victims of corruption and why they must therefore make a strong stand against it. From the engagements held in different parts of the country, many citizens now appreciate and know their role and how they can partner with the Inspectorate of Government to eliminate corruption.

Ends