

REPUBLIQUE DU CAMEROUN

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**Commission Nationale Anti-Corruption
(CONAC)**



REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON

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Presidency of the Republic

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(NACC)**

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**COMMEMORATION OF THE 2021 EDITION OF
THE INTERNATIONAL ANTI-CORRUPTION DAY.**

Training Workshop for Media Men and Women

**Theme: *Journalism and the Fight Against Corruption:
Being the Watchdog.***

SPEECH BY THE CHAIRMAN OF CONAC,

Rév. Dr. Dieudonné MASSI GAMS

Yaounde, December 09, 2021.

The Minister of Communication,

The President of the National Communication Council,

The Vice Chairman of the National Anti-Corruption Commission,

Dear media Men and Women,

Ladies and Gentlemen.

It is with great honour and pleasure that I welcome you all to this ceremony to launch a Training Workshop for Journalists on the theme: **“Journalism and the Fight Against Corruption: Being the Watchdog.”**

This workshop is part of commemorative activities carried out by the National Anti-Corruption Commission, CONAC, to mark the 2021 edition of the International Anti-Corruption Day. Build up activities to this day took us to some localities in the East Region, notably in the Kadey and the Boumba and Ngoko Divisions. Teams of CONAC workers carried out sensitisation activities in six main council areas, namely in Yokaduma, Mouloundou, Kentzou, Salapoumbé, Ndélélé and Gari-Gombo on the theme **“If it is not yours, don't take”**.

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen

The International Anti-Corruption Day observed on the 9th of December each year, is a day set aside by the United Nations to raise awareness on the raving consequences of corruption and the role of Governments, the private sector, non-governmental organizations, the media and citizens in combating and preventing the ill.

Last year, CONAC commemorated this day through a road safety Campaign that was intended to arrest and eradicate acts of corruption on our major high ways and make travelling safer for

people moving from one part of the country to another. This year, we have opted to celebrate the day with our media friends who accompany us in the reporting about our activities on a regular basis and, most especially, denounce acts of corruption. We encourage you in these efforts as corruption remains the greatest hindrance to the economic development of our nation and is the reason why a greater part of our population seems to live in abject poverty.

Ladies and gentlemen

I humbly extend my gratitude to you all; media men and women, for your impressive turn out at this training which is intended to enable you fine-tune your skills and improve your knowledge on the stakes and challenges in the fight against corruption in our country. You have once again demonstrated a high sense of collaboration through your impressive turn out for this occasion.

I commend you all for the wonderful job you have been doing by covering and extensively reporting on activities of the National Anti-Corruption Commission, CONAC. As watchdogs of society, you have kept on denouncing acts of corruption, embezzlement of State funds and poor governance especially in our public administrations. Some of your reports have given way to major investigations by CONAC. No one can doubt the role of media, which can be a strong weapon in transforming society.

Dear Media Practitioners,

This year's commemoration theme set aside by the United Nations: **"Your right, your role: Say no to Corruption"**, highlights the rights and responsibilities of everyone - including States, Government officials, civil servants, law enforcement officers, media representatives, the private sector, civil society, academia, the public and youth - in tackling corruption. By organising this training on **"Journalism and the Fight against Corruption: Being the watchdogs"**, we are making a clarion call media practitioners to remain loyal to

their professional ethics, denounce all forms of corruption and to be positive actors in the fight against corruption in Cameroon. During this training some experts from CONAC and the National Communication Council, will drill you on four major topics:

- **Journalism and the Fight against Corruption: Being the Watchdog;**
- **Investigation Worthy Reports;**
- **Offences of the Press;** and
- **the media as a pillar of integrity in the fight against Corruption.**

We hope that by the end of the training, you will acquire more techniques on how to contribute in the fight against corruption as you carry on with your day-to-day work as journalists and reporters.

I wish you all a wonderful training, a peaceful end of the year 2021 and a happy and prosperous year 2022 in advance.

Thank you all for your kind attention