

Transparency International Nepal

**Annual Progress Report
2009/10**

**Presented at:
15th Annual General Meeting
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Kathmandu**

Transparency International Nepal (TIN) Annual Progress Report 2009/10 (2066 / 67)¹

1. Introduction

Transparency International Nepal (TIN), since its establishment in 1996, has been advocating control of corruption and good governance through social, political, economic and legal interventions. Over the years, TIN has worked on its nine strategic pillars designed to build National Integrity System (NIS) and good governance in Nepal. The nine pillars focus on national integrity, political accountability, judicial reform, public mobilization, donor solidarity, research, outreach and sustainability.

Throughout the year TIN continued its lobbying with the executive, legislature, judiciary and political parties for greater accountability and transparency. As a movement, it strove for the support of a larger segment of Nepali people and civil society. It developed partnerships with Transparency International (TI), Fredskorpset Norway (FK) and South Asians for Human Rights (SAHR), in line with the strategic pillars, and initiated activities like Advocacy and Legal Advice Center (ALAC), Crinis (transparency in political finance), South-South Asia Exchange and Parliament Watch.

2. Context

Politics in Nepal, at present, is both transitional and unstable, two major challenges confronting good governance and anti-corruption agenda. No government has been sincere or enthusiastic about addressing corruption. Political commitment towards good governance and control of corruption is missing. During the Constituent Assembly (CA) election, control of corruption and good governance were promised, however the follow-up has been disappointing. People, in general, perceive corruption to be on the rise.

The lack of interest to initiate governance and anti-corruption reforms by the state has affected public integrity, accountability and transparency. As a result, rule of law has deteriorated. Public service delivery and operation of administration have been compromised. Public funds, both at the national and local levels, have not been put to proper use. Even the high-profile oversight agencies like Commission for the Investigation of Abuse of Authority (CIAA), Office of the Auditor General (OAG), Public Service Commission (PSC) and Election Commission (EC) have been marginalized.

People had high expectations from the promise of a “New Nepal”. However, the failure of the CA to deliver on political promises for change is causing frustration. People seem to be highly skeptical of any progress even with a one-year extension of the CA. In addition, the recent seven-time failure of the parliament and political parties to elect a Prime Minister has plummeted Nepal into an ineffective state.

The transitional politics is failing in Nepal which is evident from the prevailing political instability, lawlessness and lack of accountability. These factors are increasing at due to political indecisiveness. The anti-corruption agenda is nowhere close to being a priority.

¹ Presented by Secretary General Shree Hari Aryal at the 15th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of TI Nepal on 24th September 2010.

Hence it is hardly surprising that Transparency International's Corruption Perception Index (CPI) 2009 ranked Nepal 143rd out of 180 countries, with a score of 2.3 out of 10. This is 22 places worse than Nepal's CPI 2008 score of 2.7. Such a poor show reflects the acute state of corruption in Nepal. More importantly, it harms Nepal's reputation at the international level.

3. Programs and activities

TIN realizes corruption is a cross-country issue which retards all aspects of Nepal's development, and is therefore continuously making efforts for a corruption-free environment. During the year, TIN initiated the following programs and activities:

3.1 Crinis (research on transparency in political finance)

TIN carried out a research on political financing, as part of a regional study in the Asia Pacific. TIN's research focused on examining levels of transparency and accountability in the financing of the eight major parliamentary parties in the country. 139 questionnaires were completed by various political parties, political experts, the media and Nepali citizens and researchers. The TI assisted regional study compared levels of transparency in political financing in Nepal with Bangladesh and Indonesia. The comparative report found that Nepal had the lowest average score out of the three countries, with particular vulnerabilities in state oversight, reporting and the engagement of civil society.

The research highlighted that political parties in Nepal are still used to work clandestinely in collecting funds as they used to do prior 1990, when political parties were banned. Even after successfully leading two peoples' movement for change, in 1990 and 2007, parties themselves had done little in reforming themselves. Funds for political parties are generally collected directly from leading businessmen, industrialists and commission agents, promising favors in return. Income and expenditure reports are not maintained properly and transparently. They are unreliable and rarely made public. Political parties do not submit their reports to the Election Commission (EC). It is difficult for citizens to find information on donors' names and amounts of donations, since these are often considered as 'party's own business'. The rare reports tended to be inadequate and made only for the sake of formality.

Although the law envisages penalties for the violation of regulations related to political finance, the study found that violations are frequent in practice but never penalized. Practical compliance to legal provisions and regulations on political financing is very weak. The study concluded that there is almost no public oversight of political financing in Nepal. The statutory body, Election Commission, lacks political will to enforce law. Whenever the print and electronic media report collection of funds by political parties, it is viewed as biased. Civil society organizations remain weak and polarized.

The study recommended state-funding of political parties, enforcement of compliance culture in parties, addressing loopholes in legal framework, rebate on income tax on donations to political parties, and mandatory bank transactions. The study noted that creating public pressure would help greatly in the efforts towards more transparency in political finance.

During the pre and post launch of the report, discussions took place with political party representatives as how the issue could be addressed seriously. As Nepal is formulating a new constitution through the CA, TIN presented the recommendations to its Chair for consideration in the new constitution. Presidents of major political parties were asked to table reforms in political finance at their central committee meetings.

3.2 Advocacy and Legal Advice Center (ALAC)

TIN launched Advocacy and Legal Advice Center (ALAC) Nepal as a five-year program in November 2008. It is one of a number of centers established by TI around the world to provide free and confidential legal advice and assistance to victims and witnesses of corruption. ALAC was officially launched in 2009 and has since been contacted by approximately 1,406 citizens.

ALAC has been working in close collaboration with state agencies such as the Commission for the Investigation of Abuse of Authority (CIAA) and National Vigilance Center (NVC) to redress public complaints. It has recently initiated a positive dialogue with the Office of the Prime Minister and Council of Ministers for a cooperative effort. Local-level civil society organisations in eight major cities of Nepal, and radio and print media have also been engaged in its public outreach work.

ALAC has provided people from urban and rural areas an avenue to file complaints at the touch of a button. The center brings its telephone hotline to peoples' notice through radio and print media and appeals them to register their complaints in cases related to corruption and delay in services. When calls are received, it provides general counseling and legal advice. Whenever needed, it contacts the relevant state agency and requests it to resolve the case. Whenever complaints require greater investigation or immediate action, watch-dog agencies like CIAA and NVC are approached.

The most common complaints received by the centre relate to corruption in education, land and health, property rights. ALAC has also received complaints relating to local development, health, telecommunication, citizenship, electricity, forestry and rights of disabled etc. During the first nine months, ALAC did not receive many complaints, but after a media campaign, public contacts became frequent and regular.

ALAC has been contacted 1406 times by citizens between July 2009 and August 16th 2010, out of which 617 were inquiries about the center, 580 requests for services and 209 rejections due non-relevance to ALAC's mandate. Out of the 580 requests for services, 100 were referred to other organizations for needed action. During this period, ALAC was successful in handling 400 cases and 74 are being followed up. In dealing with these cases, ALAC has started identifying systemic changes that are needed in policy and practice of government and public bodies.

TIN has used its outreach to promote and strengthen ALAC operations among rural communities. Partnerships have been forged with 8 Affiliated Organizations (former TIN support groups) in seven districts outside Kathmandu. TIN has provided training to the members of these organizations on ways of disseminating ALAC related information and handling public complaints. These organisations were provided cash grants to support ALAC outreach at the local level. They have collected, handled and forwarded grievances, providing ALAC much-needed district network and outreach.

ALAC still has some challenges with government offices that keep shifting their responsibility from one official to the other, or when they do not take the matter seriously. However, in most cases, ALAC intervention changed the way the bureaucracy acted, to the benefit of citizens.

3.3 South-South Asia Exchange

To maximise sharing of expertise and knowledge across TI movement, TIN initiated an exchange programme among TI chapters in Bangladesh (TIB), India (TII), Maldives (TIM), Pakistan (TIP) and Sri Lanka (TISL). During the exchange, staff members from each chapter spend 10 months working in different chapter. The exchange is funded by Fredskorpset (KF) Norway, a government organization,

and will continue until 2012.

Each exchange lasts 12 months. It starts with a 1 month preparatory course (in Bangkok), 10 months stay in host country and 1 month follow-up activity in home country. To initiate the exchange, each TI chapter identifies its strengths and offers to share them with others. Accordingly, 'fellows' are exchanged to facilitate the learning process.

In 2009, the first year, 5 chapters exchanged fellows among themselves. Fellows from TIN and TISL were stationed at TIB. Similarly TIB fellow was stationed at TII, TIP in TIN, TIM in TISL. Senior Administrative Assistant Dina Nath Bhattari was sent to TIB and Asif Shakeel from TIP was hosted by TIN.

In 2010, 7 fellows will participate in the exchange involving all six TI chapters. TIN has sent Ms. Anjana Bhattarai, Research Associate, to TISL for 10 months to learn strategic planning, research and fund-raising. She completed a three-week preparatory course in Bangkok on 26 July 2010 and began her assignment in TISL. TIN's 2009 Exchange Fellow Dina Nath Bhattarai returned from TIB with enhanced knowledge on research and fundraising. TIP fellow Asif Shakeel underwent a specially designed professional diploma course at TIN on investigative journalism.

The exchange programme not only enables activities and lessons learned to be shared across the TI network, but also pushes individual staff members to develop a greater cross-cultural understanding.

3.4 Weekly News-clippings

A news-scan of national dailies has been undertaken in TIN. The objective of this study is to explore the nature and extent of corruption from a media perspective. The research is based upon newspaper clippings provided by Press Council Nepal, the regulatory body. This research was started from November 16, 2009 and initial learning suggest:

- Corruption is a crime but it could be committed openly without much repercussion;
- Corruption, arbitrary decision making and abuse of authority is on increase due to impunity;
- Corruption is reported everywhere - in government offices, parliament, judiciary, private sector, and I/NGO;
- Corruption is in high density in customs, transport, forest, land-revenue and courts;
- Private firms engage in corruption in an extensive manner. It is especially so in tax, excise, customs, export, import, contracts and bank loans.

TIN circulates the weekly scan to members and stakeholders to assist in the identification of issues for policy advocacy.

3.5 Constitutional Inputs

The Political/government relations sub-committee of TIN initiated a drive for incorporation of effective anti-corruption provisions in the new constitution. For this, understandings were developed with CIAA, NVC, and AGO, besides others, to collect institutional views and consolidate them for presentations to the CA. Interactions with stakeholders were held at Kathmandu, Birjung and Bhairava to factor in peoples' feedback.

A report was provided to the CA during June 2010 with recommendations highlighting the need to

address political corruption and needs of CIAA and AGO. Similarly, national integrity system was suggested to be incorporated as one of the prime responsibilities of chief executive.

After the extension of CA tenure, TIN has decided to present its final suggestions once the basic features of the new constitution are given a firm shape. Through this, TIN intends to present a critical external voice and source of advocacy in the constitution making process.

3.6 Behavioral Study

TIN assisted intern Rory Truex of Yale University to carry out a research titled *Corruption and Education: Survey Evidence from Nepal*. 853 respondents were randomly selected and interviewed in Kathmandu during April 2009. The study brought out a new dimension that low education and acceptance of corruption have co- relations, especially in favoritism of family and friends.

The survey found the line between private and public is sometimes vague in Nepal, consequently, people with low education perceive gift-giving as a natural part of social interaction. They accepted gifts more than cash, and accepted bribery more easily in situations when it was meant to smooth the wheels of bureaucracy or to reach basic services, like police or healthcare.

The reason of higher acceptance among less educated is that they simply are not aware of the harmful effects of corruption. Interestingly, the study found women accepted corruption more than men. Since women are often less educated than men in Nepal, the study concludes that education has a significant impact on attitudes.

This study has important policy implications for future anti-corruption work. The gender dynamic will have to be considered closely and factored into TIN's future programs.

3.7 Corruption and Climate Change

TIN undertook a study about effect of corruption on climate change for the TI Global Corruption Report 2010, during December 2009. The study was done by TIN member Dr. Suresh Raj Chalise. It highlighted the need for keeping donor assisted projects free from corruption.

The development of Nepal depends heavily on foreign aid and hence it is important to keep those projects accountable and transparent. This especially applies to environmental projects as climate change is expected to trigger melting of glaciers, flooding, landslides, and loss of forest and biodiversity. Though Nepal has the second highest potential in hydropower, it is also endangered due to climate change.

The inefficiency in a hydropower project of 70 MW in Mid-Marsyangdi is mentioned in the report. The German Government funded project was launched in 2001 but ended only in 2008, four years behind schedule. The cost of the project rose from US\$197million to US\$349 million with disputed claims of overrun and variances, the known modes of corruption in mega construction projects.

The study points to the need for enhanced anti-corruption activities to address corruption in donor assisted projects.

4 Advocacy and other Initiatives

As a national organization, a range of advocacy activities were undertaken during the year:

TIN appealed to the Prime Minister of Nepal and Chair of the Constitutional Council for immediate appointment of capable, just and clean people to the vacant positions in the constitutional bodies, namely CIAA, AGO and EC. The current political instability has inordinately delayed appointments and diminished the much needed high profile watch-dog presence of these institutions.

A compilation of corruption related news published by national dailies was provided to the Prime Minister to draw his attention to rampant corruption reported on a day-to-day basis. Numerous articles and reports appear in the newspapers daily but they do not capture the attention of the concerned watch-dog bodies.

TIN findings on the lack of transparency in political finance were presented to the major political parties, the Speaker of the Parliament and the Chair of the Constitutional Committee. As Nepal is in the constitution drafting process, advocacy centered around making the necessary changes to ensure transparency in political finance. Political parties of Nepal have been asked to discuss it at central committee meeting.

The Chair of CA and President of Constitution Committee were presented recommendations for addressing political corruption and national integrity system at the policy level. This was done to strengthen anti-corruption provisions in the new constitution.

The Office of the Prime Minister and Council of Ministers (OPMCM) of Nepal were advocated to lend support to TIN's public grievance redressal program- ALAC. TIN has been receiving and servicing complaints on corruption and public service delivery. Thus it is indirectly assisting government in discharging its duty. OPMCM agreed to give high priority to public complaints that are forwarded by TIN.

In the process of supporting judicial integrity initiatives, TIN met and advised then supreme court judge and current Chief Justice, Ram Prasad Shrestha, who had been appointed chief of the task force to enhance integrity in the judiciary. TIN-advice focused on the need of judicial independence, transparency, system of review of court decisions and an active watch-dog function of the judicial council.

The Commission for the Investigation of Abuse of Authority (CIAA) and National Vigilance Center (NVC) were approached to assist TIN for actions leading towards reforms in public service delivery. Partnerships were developed with them to assist TIN in providing relief to victims of corruption.

The prevalence of corruption was emphasized through the release of the Corruption Perception Index (CPI) and the Global Corruption Report in 2009. CPI highlighted recent political changes and lack of enforcement of rules and laws in Nepal and some of the reasons for the increasing corruption. GCR featured linkages of private sector with corruption in Nepal.

5 International Engagements

As a national chapter of TI, TIN got engaged in several regional and global forums and events:

Senior Coordinator Ben Elers and Coordinator for Asia Pacific Anna Thayenthal visited Nepal 21-26 September 2009 to interact with TIN and ALAC. They shared experience of other ALACs with TIN.

President Damodar Gautam participated at the TI Asia Pacific Regional Governance Meeting and Annual Membership meeting in Berlin from 14-19 October 2009. As Official Chapter Representative of TIN, President Gautam took part in the elections held for the TI board.

TIN organized a mid-term review and results sharing meeting of the South-South Asia Exchange Program in Kathmandu from 17-18 November 2009. Representative from five South Asian TI Chapters - Sri-Lanka, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Maldives and Nepal participated in the meeting. Two FK representatives also attended the meeting. TIN was represented by President Damodar Gautam and Sr. Program Officer Rosy Adhikari.

ALAC Coordinator Saroj Shrestha and Sr. Program Officer Rosy Adhikari attended TI ALAC training/global workshop in Berlin from 23-27 November 2009. The objective of the workshop was to ensure success of existing ALAC, and to promote learning, experience sharing and training throughout the ALAC network.

Exchange fellow from TI-Pakistan, Asif Shakeel, presented a paper titled *Role of media in controlling corruption in the perspective of Nepal and Pakistan in Kathmandu* during a seminar held by TIN on Jan.8, 2010. Paper shed light on political instability in Nepal and Pakistan and the prevailing anti-corruption environment. Mr. Shakeel also completed an eight-month diploma in Investigative Journalism designed by TIN with the assistance of senior journalist Rama Krishna Regmee.

President Damodar Gautam and Sr. Program Officer Rosy Adhikari attended the 2nd year planning meeting of South-South Asia Exchange program in Dhaka, Bangladesh from 5-7 April 2010. The meeting decided on the modus operandi of the second year of exchange.

President Damodar Gautam, Secretary General Shree Hari Aryal and Coordinator of Program and Resource Mobilization Sub Committee Anusuya Joshi attended the Development Pact Workshop held in Dhaka, Bangladesh from 8-11 April 2010. The workshop prepared ground for a South Asian proposal titled Development Pact.

President Damodar Gautam, Vice President Sarbagya Ratna Tuladhar and Executive Director Ashish Thapa participated in the TI Asia Pacific Regional Planning Meeting held in Delhi, India from 3-7 May 2010. The meeting held consultations on TI Strategy 2015.

President Damodar Gautam, Executive Director Ashish Thapa and Exchange fellows Dina Nath Bhattarai and Anjana Bhattarai, participated in the Debriefing and Preparatory Workshop organized by FK Asia Office in Bangkok, from 2-7 July 2010. Exchange partners and Fellows shared their experiences and prepared for the next 12 months.

TIN expressed its solidarity to TI Sri Lanka condemning the reported government move to arrest Executive Director J.C. Weliamuna. In July 2010, it also decided to support the candidacy of J.C. Weliamuna for the TI Board.

6 Institutional Matters

Matters related to AGM, EC, Membership, Partnerships and Internships:

EC members Sarbagya Ratna Tuladhar, Ganesh Man Gurung and Bishwa Keshar Maskay vacated their seats at the 14th AGM, held on 12th October, 2009. Thereafter, members Sarbagya Ratna Tuladhar, Ram Dayal Rakesh and Toya Gurung were co-opted by the 174th EC on 6th November 2009. The meeting nominated Sarbagya Ratna Tuladhar as the Vice President.

Elections for TIN President and eight other EC members are scheduled at the 15th AGM. As per clause 18 of TIN constitution, President and seven EC members will be elected by the General Members and one EC member by Institutional Members. The EC Member Krishna Prasad Bhandari was nominated Election Commissioner of the 15th AGM, by the 178th EC on 6th August 2010.

President Damodar Gautam will vacate his Presidency of EC at the 15th AGM. Similarly terms of Krishna Prasad Bhandari and Federation of Nepalese Chamber of Commerce and Industries (FNCCI) will expire. All complete two-consecutive terms.

Shree Hari Aryal (Secretary General), Komal Chitracar (Treasurer) and Prayag Dutta Tewari, will vacate their EC memberships at the 15th AGM. They will complete single terms each. The co-opted EC members Sarbagya Ratna Tuladhar, Ram Dayal Rakesh and Toya Gurung will also vacate their EC memberships.

At the 177th EC meeting held on 29 June 2010, Secretary General Shree Hari Aryal tendered his resignation. Mr. Aryal cited the 'corruption-conducive' political context, prevailing apathy and TIN's institutional slackness in advocacy as his reasons. He highlighted the need for TIN to rise to fulfill its role. Resignation was withdrawn at the request of President Gautam and the EC members. President Gautam highlighted some TIN success stories, need for a long-term engagement and a new policy and program document to be presented at the next meeting.

On the occasion of the 178th EC, President Gautam presented 'TIN policy and Program 2010'. It mentions contextual and strategic backdrops under which suggestions for the following are made:

- Involvement in framing of a democratic constitution of Nepal;
- Follow-up of recommendations of CRINIS (transparency in political finance) and anti-poaching studies;
- Implementation of the on-going Advocacy and Legal Advice Center (ALAC) Nepal and South-South Asia Exchange projects;
- Initiating the research titled 'Parliament watch';
- Establishment of contacts and outreaches in Ilam and Kanchanpur and partnership in Darchula; and
- Sensitization of media for investigative journalism and good governance.

Considering attendance and membership renewal issues, the 178th EC decided to cancel the membership of out-of-country general members, Sunil Adhikari and Tanka Karki, and non-fee-paying institutional members, Nepal Chartered Accountant Association, Federation of Nepal Journalist and Nepal Engineering Association.

During 2009/10, TIN added a new member in its roster and lost one. Advisory Council President

Bishnu Bahadur K.C. was awarded TIN membership by the 178th EC. TIN lost its former President Kul Shekhar Sharma who passed away on 29th October 2009. In late Sharma's demise, TIN lost a source of inspiration, a guide and valuable supporter in the anti-corruption campaign. It expressed deep condolences and issued a condolence message at the sad demise of its late President.

The updated TIN membership, which is 45, is in Annex 1.

Based on the EC decisions, institutional affiliations were granted to the following organizations, former support groups and newly registered NGOs:

1. Sadachar Abhiyan, Birgunj.
2. Paradarshi Sarokar Samooha, Butwal.

Last year affiliation was granted to the following six organizations:

1. Sachet Nagarik Abhiyan, Biratnagar.
2. Jana Chetana Tatha Bikash Karyakram, Janakpur.
3. Bhrastachar Virudha Abhiyan, Chitwan.
4. Paradarshi Nepal, Siddarthanagar.
5. Shusasanko Lagi Nagarik Samaj, Pokhara.
6. Professional Mahila Sahayogi Samooha Nepal.

The above-listed eight affiliated organizations represent TIN at the grass roots and are currently engaged with ALAC Nepal to collect, disseminate and address public grievances related to corruption and service delivery.

Three interns assisted TIN during the year:

- Anjana Bhattarai, an undergraduate of Salem College, USA, interned from October to December 2009. She compiled anti-corruption news and assisted in the South-South Asia exchange program.
- Shishav Parajuli of St. John's College, USA, interned from June to July 2010. He analyzed governance and corruption indices. Parajuli is currently preparing his report.
- Anni Jylhä, an undergraduate of University of Bradford, UK, interned from July to September. She studied Nepal's recent political history and assisted with report writing.

Since 1998, TIN has functioned from its rented office located at New Plaza Lane in Putalisadak. Recently the premise was sold, so it is now in the process of relocation. Search has narrowed down around and nearby Singh Durbar for convenience.

7 Proposed activities for 2010/11 (F/Y 067 / 068) – The way forward

7.1 TIN has completed a number of donor supported projects that have contributed towards its objective of fighting corruption. The various projects were also financially helpful in sustaining its operation. However, the Executive Committee (EC) recognizes that TIN activities need to focus more on contemporary issues related reforms and for this, it should not entirely depend upon projects only but design and carry out activities on its own initiative.

Accordingly, EC decided to utilize resources from TIN accumulated fund, either to cover the entire expenses of an initiative or launch it with seed capital. Once the initiatives are launched, donor support are to be explored to give it a full-scale project shape. The EC proposes to give continuity to this *modus operandi*.

Since last year, five thematic sub-committees of TIN (Annex 2) have been engaged in designing programs with own initiatives as outlined below:

Government & Political cooperation sub-committee:

- Preparation of a national strategy to control corruption;
- Strengthening anti-corruption provisions in the new constitution;
- Advocating for financial transparency in political parties.

Judicial Reforms and Cooperation sub-committee:

- Advocating for financial transparency in political parties;
- Evaluating court verdicts on corruption cases;
- Lobbying for appointment of clean judges in the Supreme Court.

Civil Society coalition sub-committee:

- Building a national coalition against corruption;
- Compliance of code of conduct in business and professional organizations;
- Strengthening Support Organizations to expand outreach;

Research, Education and Publicity sub-committee:

- Analyzing corruption news in the print media;
- Evaluating transparency of foreign aid related programs;
- Studying the relation between corruption and climate change.

Programs & Resources Mobilization sub-committee:

- Strategic planning and finalizing TIN programs/projects;
- Initiating a financial sustainability drive for TIN.

The sub-committees will be provided full support in the execution of the above mentioned initiatives.

7.2 TIN is also working to have partnership with TI in the following:

- Development Pacts between communities and government authorities to increase accountability in development works and public service delivery;

- Forest Governance and Integrity to curb corruption in the illegal and unsustainable harvesting of timber and wood products.

7.3 TIN has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with South Asians for Human Rights (SAHR) on 22 April 2010. The aim of this co-operation is to launch a project called Parliament Watch in order to monitor Nepali Parliament in its transparency, accountability and integrity. A Joint Steering Committee (JSC), under TIN leadership has been formed to define research methodology.

7.4 The South-South Asia Exchange Program and ALAC will continue this year.

8 Conclusion

As in the past, TIN will continue to work within the framework of TI national chapter and strictly adhere to its values, norms and rules. Utmost transparency, accountability and integrity will be a part of its anti-corruption efforts. In this context TIN will continue its relation with all relevant stakeholders including the executive, legislature and judiciary. It will also intensify and pressurize these institutions to initiate appropriate actions. It realizes that corruption must be controlled and there are no shortcuts to it.

At present, there are many challenges confronting governance in Nepal. In spite of these challenges: entrenched corruption, prevalence of a culture of impunity, lack of empowered people and volunteers to confront corruption, TIN will continue to move forward. It has done so in the last decade, in different political contexts, and will continue doing so.

The constitutional deadlock, political chaos and government ineffectiveness needs special attention. Nepal is in crisis and clouds of confusion loom without a silver lining. This has affected every segment of the society including our own work.

To address these, TIN seeks valuable suggestions from its members on how to move ahead. Hopefully this AGM will provide a forum for a constructive dialogue on - what to do differently and how - so that a ray of light is seen and more meaningful work could be initiated.



Annex 1:
TIN Membership

EC:

1. Damodar Prasad Gautam, President
2. Sarbagya Ratna Tuladhar, Vice President
3. Shree Hari Aryal, Secretary General
4. Komal Chitracar, Treasurer
5. Krishna Prasad Bhandari, Member
6. Prayag Dutta Tiwari, Member
7. Ram Dayal Rakesh, Member
8. Toya Gurung, Member
9. Institutional Member, FNCCI (Ananda Raj Mulmi), Member

10. Bishnu Bahadur KC, Advisory Council Chair, Invitee EC Member

General:

11. Devendra Raj Panday, Member
12. Ambica Shrestha, Member
13. Ganesh Man Gurung, Member
14. Ram Krishna Manandhar, Member
15. Ram Prakash Yadav , Member
16. Ramesh Nath Dhungel, Member
17. Aditya Man Shrestha, Member
18. Leela Pathak, Member
19. Biswa Keshar Maskay, Member
20. Meena Acharya, Member
21. Posh Raj Pandey, Member
22. Sarachandra Wasti, Member
23. Hem Bahadur Bista, Member
24. Deep Kumar Upadhaya, Member
25. Bina Pradhan, Member
26. Jagat Man Shakya, Member
27. Naryan Manandhar, Member
28. Usha Nepal, Member
29. Arjun Keshari Updahaya, Member
30. Shanta Bahadur Rai, Member
31. Ananda Raj Mulmi, Member
32. Mahadevo Prasad Yadav, Member
33. Surya Nath Updhaya, Member
34. Khem Raj Regmi, Member
35. Bharat Bahadur Thapa, Member
36. Purushottam Baskota, Member
37. Prem Raj Panta, Member
38. Kanak Bikram Thapa, Member
39. Suresh Raj Chalise, Member
40. Ishwor Raj Onta, Member
41. Bijaya K.C, Member
42. Sagar Raj Sharma, Member
43. Mukunda Bahadur Pradhan, Member
44. Padmini Pardhananga, Member
45. Anusuya Joshi, Member

Annex 2

Transparency International Nepal (TIN) Executive Committee (EC) constituted the Management Sub Committee and five thematic sub-committees consisting of EC and General Members. Thematic Sub committees have been provided with a broad list of activities to prioritize from.

Executive Director/ Senior Program Officer of TIN is the ex-officio member of the sub-committees.

1. Management Sub-Committee:

President Damodar Gautam (Chair), Vice President Sarbagya Ratna Tuladhar, Secretary General Shree Hari Aryal, Treasurer Komal Chitracar, Executive Director Ashish Thapa.

Area of activities:

- Implement approved programs of TIN;
- Formulate annual programs and budget;
- Administer and manage funds;
- Assist sub-committees in their work and activities;
- Assist in execution of sub-committees' decisions;
- Appoint staff and experts;
- Submit progress reports to the EC;
- Do everything on behalf of EC whenever it cannot meet.

2. Government/ Political Parties Cooperation Sub Committee:

Surya Nath Upadhaya (Coordinator), Ram Dayal Rakesh, Khem Raj Regmi, Puruswotam Baskota.

Area of activities:

- Initiate and assist in formulation of anti-corruption national strategies and plans;
- Advocate for improvement and strengthening of public services;
- Help Constituent Assembly (CA) for strengthening anti-corruption provisions in the forthcoming constitution;
- Advocate for accession to the UN convention against corruption by the parliament;
- Work for incorporation of code & conduct in the policies and programs of political parties.
- Work for transparency of financial statements of political parties;
- Work for declaration of assets in political parties;
- Work for total enforcement of electoral laws and code of conduct by Election Commission.

3. Judicial Reforms and Cooperation Sub-Committee:

Mahadeo Prasad Yadav (Coordinator), Sarbagya Ratna Tuladhar, Krishna Prasad Bhandari, Bharat Bahadur Thapa, Kanak Bikram Thapa.

Area of Activities:

- Cooperate with the Supreme Court to make judiciary more transparent;
- Initiate work in controlling policy-level corruptions;
- Strengthen ALAC to address people's grievances and legal advice;
- Cooperate and work with Nepal Bar Association to access and evaluate decision of judiciary related to corruption;
- Advocate for transparent criteria for appointing judges;
- Work and cooperate with Law Commission to update and improve anti-corruption laws.
- Help courts for enforcement and implementation of their decisions and directives.

4. Civil Society Coalition Sub-Committee:

Mukunda Bahadur Pradhan (Coordinator), Ananda Raj Mulmi, Ramesh Nath Dhungel, Biswa Keshar Maskay, Padmini Pradhannaga.

Area of activities:

- Form a national alliance of all anti-corruption organizations and groups for joint-action;
- Advocate for observation of code of conduct by various non-governmental, professional and business organizations;
- Strengthen networking and cooperation with all support groups and organizations;
- Cooperate with local chapters, group and organization for effective enforcement of citizens' charter;
- Seek commitment of VDCs, municipalities and DDCs leaders for development;
- Build and enhance capability of support group and other organizations.

5. Research, Education and Publicity Sub-Committee:

Suresh Raj Chalise (Coordinator), Bishnu Bahadur K.C., Toya Gurung, Sarachandra Wasti, Iswor Raj Onta, Sagar Raj Sharma.

Area of activities:

- Study and research in subject related to corruption;
- Work for incorporation of anti-corruption reports of Nepal in global corruption reports;
- Work for transparency of bi- and multilateral assistance;
- Train investigative journalists, civil society organization representatives and government officers;
- Present TIN's positions to people through press conferences and publication;
- Present TIN's message and create awareness among people;
- Launch movement for enforcement of the right to information law;
- Organize programs to observe anti-corruption day nationwide;
- Mount studies on climate change.

6. Program and Resource Mobilization Sub-Committee:

Anusuya Joshi (Coordinator), Narayan Manandhar, Prem Raj Pant, Bijaya K.C.

Area of activities:

- Mobilize resources for implementation of TIN Strategic Framework 2008-2011;
- Formulate Short and long-term programs to achieve objectives of TIN;
- Mobilize resources for implementation of programs;
- Build and enhance capability of both- organization and employees;
- Identify areas where donors' assistance could be availed to fight corruption.