**[Activity and Plans 2000](http://ti.or.kr/xe/108053)**

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**1. Background**

The Anti-Corruption Network in Korea (ACNK) was established in August 1999. It was jointly founded by 27 organizations to actively pursue the fight against corruption. Including the branches, there is now an established network of more than 900 citizens' groups. The problem commonly experienced by such networks of cooperating organizations after a certain period of time is that they lose their enthusiasm, leaving the secretariat as the only active part. The ACNK, however, is addressing this problem by grouping city and provincial branches into regional headquarters, thereby strengthening their activities. As a result, there are currently 10 regional headquarters; furthermore, we are establishing sub-regional branches on a city/province basis.

**2. Basic Focus of Activities**

The basic foci of activities for the year 2000 can be summarized as popularization, everyday activity and nation-wide effort. First, popularization aims at overcoming the defects of past citizens' movements which limited their activities to a few specialists and activists. We want our movement to be not just one which the public only hears about, but a movement in which the public actively participates. Second, until now the issue of corruption has received attention only after a particular large-scale corruption or bribery case has been revealed; not much attention has been given to it otherwise. ACNK aims to overcome the tendency to regard corruption as only a periodic incident, and to instill the view that the elimination of corruption is an everyday goal. Lastly, most NGOs have concentrated their activities in the metropolitan area, making it difficult to efficiently fulfill their goals. NGOs have had the further weakness of being overly dependant on media coverage. Our nationwide movement is an effort to overcome these limitations.

**3.Tasks**

**1) People's Participation in Anti-Corruption Activities**

**"People's *Shinmungo"\****

ACNK manages the "People's *Shinmungo"* where anyone can report cases of corruption, and receive and give advice about how to fight against corruption. The "People's *Shinmungo"* takes three forms - regional centers that people can visit, the internet, and a mobile "People's *Shinmungo"* in the form of a bus which travels to various sites. Good examples of the use of "People's *Shinmungo* and their results will be published in the *Shinmungo* web site and as a book also.

\* Originally, "*Shinmungo"* was the name of the big drum located in front of the royal palace in past Korean history. If anyone who had suffered heavily by corruption or had been falsely accused, hit the drum, he or she could tell the story directly to the king.

**Making Year 2000 the Foundation of a Clean Society**

Last year ACNK proposed an anti-corruption movement in which citizens, government and private sectors could all participate. Together with [the Presidential Commission for Rebuilding Korea Movement](http://www.reko.go.kr/) and other sectors, ACNK declared the first day of the new millennium as the beginning of a new society. We are continuing to carry out the anti-corruption movement in each sector, through regular meetings between the private sector, public sector, and civil society.

**Business Ethics System**

ACNK recommends that the private sectors adopt the Business Ethics System. In particular, ACNK began at the beginning of this year to investigate the top 30 companies to determine whether they had a Code of Ethics (or equivalent), and to then investigate the specific contents of any such Codes. ACNK is planning to research the perception of the Ethics System among employees and also their actual practices within the business activities.

**Integrity Pact**

In accordance with the recommendation of [Transparency International (TI)](http://www.transparency.org/) to adopt the Integrity Pact (IP) in public procurement, ACNK is continuously urging the implementation of the IP. As a result, the Dongjak District Office of the Seoul Metropolitan City adopted the IP for the first time in Korea. And the SMC government itself will follow TI's guidance by accepting the IP this year. The Presidential Commission on Anti-Corruption will advise other governmental institutions to adopt the IP in the near future.

**Integrity Circle**

In addition, we are recommending that workplaces such as private sectors, governmental institutions or schools and religious groups organize diverse forms of integrity circles. We hope that they will lead the anti-corruption activities of regional headquarters and branches. Some Christian churches have already come up with a new system of providing financial support to government officials who are members of those churches and who claim lack of living expenses, to prevent those officials from resorting to corruption.

**Evaluation of Candidates and Promoting Participation in Elections**

For the general election of April 13th, ACNK organized 'the Voters Movement for Evaluation of Candidates and Participation in the Elections'. Last year, ACNK contributed to the amendment of election laws by requesting the disclosure of past criminal records of candidates. Accordingly, records providing background information about the candidates were revealed to the public for this election, and will be provided in future elections as well. Taking these into account, ACNK developed an evaluation sheet by which voters can rank candidates and consequently choose the best candidate, thus fully participating in the election. A source at the National Election Commission expressed the view that this was one of the best way of activities in the voters' movement.

**Pledge Against Corruption**

Since last year, government officials, private sector employees, and ordinary citizens can make a pledge against corruption. Citizens can publicly declare their intention not to engage in corruption; these kinds of pledges can also be made through the Internet.

**2000 SEACSI\*: Seoul Exhibition on Anti-Corruption for Systematic Integrity**

The ACNK is preparing to hold an anti-corruption fair in November of this year in which the private and public sectors and civil society can participate. On this occasion governmental organizations, public enterprises, private enterprises, economic organizations, civil society, and some foreign countries as well, will exhibit their most effective practices of anti-corruption. The intention of the exhibition is to promote possible benchmarking between them. The major contents will be aired through the Internet and will be uploaded on the homepage after documentation. Please visit the official website <http://www.seacsi.org/>

\* "*Seacsi"* is the Korean word for "bride". It symbolizes that which is clean and new.

**Clean Fund**

We are considering the establishment of a fund gathered from individuals, private businesses and the government which will be used for anti-corruption causes, research on anti-corruption, the movement itself, the protection of whistle-blowers and the establishment of Anti-Corruption Awards.

**2) Education and Seminars on Anti-Corruption**

**Developing Anti-Corruption Teaching Materials**

We are currently developing teaching materials, which will be differentiated into materials for ordinary citizens, government officials, employees at private businesses and elementary, middle and high school students.

**Fostering Anti-Corruption Teachers**

270 people from all areas of the nation will be selected and trained, and then commissioned to provide education in fighting corruption.

**New Millennium Anti-Corruption Classes**

ACNK is organizing anti-corruption classes focusing on the current situation, the background of corruption, prevention of corruption, and anti-corruption activities. The classes, led by the above-mentioned 270 trained people, will educate some 270,000 citizens, government officials, and public sector workers, equipping them to guard against corruption and to be the main participants in the anti-corruption movement.

**Providing Ways to Reform School Curriculum**

School education in Korea today does not deal adequately with the issue of corruption. We are preparing ways to develop a school curriculum which will teach ways to promote the anti-corruption movement and to more actively fight against corruption.

**Establishing the Korean Anti-Corruption Awards**

The main goal of establishing the Korean Anti-Corruption Awards is to promote consensus against corruption and increase active participation in the anti-corruption movement. These are thesis awards, best practice awards and literary-arts awards.

**3) Advertisement, Publication**

**Publication of Bimonthly "*BanBuPae"\****

After launching this bimonthly publication last December, we are currently distributing approximately 8000 copies of *"BanBuPae".* We have already published 3 issues.

*\* "BanBuPae"* is the Korean word meaning "anti-corruption".

**Publication of Books Related to Anti-Corruption**

Apart from teaching materials for anti-corruption, ACNK is planning to publish many booklets and books; among these is the TI Source Book translated by Mr. Chan-Gon Kim, an auditor of Seoul Metropolitan City government.

**Managing the Homepage of ACNK**

Ever since its establishment, ACNK has managed its own homepage. The anti-corruption databank is of special interest to many people. The ACNK homepage can be reached at [http://ti.or.kr](http://ti.or.kr/)/ or [http://www.transparency.or.kr/.](http://www.transparency.or.kr/)

**4) Investigation and Research on Anti-Corruption**

**The Policy Committee**

The Policy Committee, composed of scholars, researchers, managers of private businesses and activists, proposes anti-corruption policies and prepares ways to structure the national anti-corruption system.

**Anti-Corruption Seminars**

ACNK holds seminars on such issues as establishing an anti-corruption bill, the development of an Anti-Corruption (perceptions) Index, systematic integrity in the private sector, anti-corruption systems including the IP, and other issues.

**5) International Exchange of Anti-Corruption Activities**

**Organization of the National Chapter of TI in Korea**

Last year ACNK was appointed as the national contact of TI and currently is forming a national chapter.

**Delivering Foreign Anti-Corruption Materials**

ACNK introduces highly effective anti-corruption practices used by foreign countries, translating and publishing these in anti-corruption related books or materials. ACNK also enables Koreans to access the main contents of TI's homepage in Korean.

**Introducing Korean Anti-Corruption Activities Worldwide**

ACNK furthermore promotes Korean anti-corruption activities to other countries. Utilizing English mailing lists, we will provide periodical English newsletters. We are also preparing an English version of our homepage.