



Corruption and Governance Challenges: The South African Experience

Address by the Public Protector of the Republic of South Africa, Advocate Thuli N. Madonsela, at the National Conference on Corruption and Governance Challenges, in Nigeria on 21 January 2010

**Chairperson;
Esteemed Dignitaries;
Distinguished Guests;
Ladies and Gentlemen;**

Greetings from South Africa, the country that is proudly hosting the FIFA 2010 World Cup on behalf of the African continent! I deeply cherish the honour and privilege of addressing this August event and sincerely thank the organisers for inviting me to share the South African experience on the fight against corruption and the promotion of good governance.

I was requested to talk on the theme: Corruption and governance challenges from a South African perspective. I was also requested to share some of the strategies my organisation, the Public Protector South Africa, uses in fighting public sector corruption. My brief includes sharing any suggestions I may have for mobilising popular anger against corruption in Africa.

Perhaps the starting point should be a common definition of the concepts “*corruption*” and “*good governance*”. In my view corruption and good governance sit at the opposite ends of the spectrum. While good governance represents the ideal for governments, corporations and nations globally, corruption is a scourge that decent people, organisations and governments seek to eradicate. In the simplest of terms, corruption involves the abuse of power for private gain. Actual acts range from a simple act of bribing someone to skip a

queue or bribing a traffic officer to avoid a speed fine to serious conduct as the irregular award of tenders or even buying political patronage.

We may then want to ask: what will it take to end corruption and to ensure good governance? Most authorities on the issue of corruption and good governance are adamant that the single most important factor is the human element. In other words we need to address human values and behaviour. Off course having good and preferably, transparent governance and administration systems is part of the package.

A huge part of the human element that is critical for promoting good governance involves the values of the community within which we seek to fight corruption. In my view there are three dimensions to the human element. These are the values of each individual, community values and political will at all levels of leadership. It is particular important that the community's understanding of corruption and consensus on what is inappropriate is in synch with that those that a formally charged with combating corruption.

The corruption tolerance levels of the community too can be a force for or against corruption. This includes the opprobrium a society accords blatantly corrupt acts. Political will is undoubtedly a critical factor in the fight against corruption and the promotion of good governance. Off course political will transcends grand speeches. Political will incorporates leading by example and taking prompt and firm action where corruption is detected and supporting law enforcement agencies when they do their work in this regard.

Earlier I mentioned that systems are a critical part of the anticorruption and good governance package. The legal system and respect for the rule of law is an indispensable part of an effective anti-corruption system. Having independent law enforcement and related anti-corruption agencies is a fundamental pillar of a viable anti-corruption and good governance framework. Another important factor is ensuring that anti-corruption agencies not beholden to the government of the day as this undermines their independence, objectivity and, needless to say, effectiveness.

Coming back to our continent and individual societies, we need to ask ourselves if we haven't reached or are approaching a point where people are immune to corruption to the

extent that certain acts of corruption fail to raise eyebrows, and become an acceptable part of life, and of doings things. For example, we lose the fight against corruption when most of us are prepared to raise our voices against corruption involving millions such as in the procurement of armaments, but not think twice before offering a bribe to a traffic officer to avoid a speeding ticket.

It should be a concern to us that in post independence Africa, certainly in South Africa, the accumulation of riches (in most cases, very sudden) is venerated even in the absence of visible means of accumulating the riches. Some would say that the obsession with visible affluence is a historical legacy that started with “taking from the oppressors” or was even a matter of emulating the administrators then. You could even argue that with corruption being a bilateral wrong, it is often contractors from the developed world that seduce our bureaucrats and politicians. We also know about cases of “blood diamonds” or minerals, Blood oil and other resources that are plundered from our continents illegally using armed conflict as a diversion.

The reality though is that ending corruption in our societies and our continent lies in our own hands. It is our countries, our people and our continent that are victims of the underdevelopment that is caused by corruption and our people that suffer poverty and other preventable maladies as a consequence. We cannot deny that corruption is behind a lot of the underdevelopment in our countries and continent. It causes, among others, poor quality goods and services, lack of efficiency, excessive costs, and ineffective public programmes. Corruption basically destabilises societies. In many instances corruption also endangers the security of our states.

According to a newsletter published by the Mvula Trust, a Water and Sanitation Non-Governmental Organisation, in South Africa “it is widely accepted that that the poor are the ultimate victims of corruption. It is they who suffer the most from poor quality services or goods or non-delivery of goods and services often resulting from corruption”. This takes us to the South African experience and the role of the Public Protector in combating corruption and promoting good governance in South Africa.

The South African experience

South Africa has battled with corruption since the days of apartheid. Post apartheid South Africa is a more open society and more opportunities have been created for detecting, exposing and prosecuting corruption.

Some have argued that it is this legitimate use of the state to redirect resources to distribute services and resources equitably to all in an attempt to address the legacy of colonialism and apartheid heightens the risk of corruption¹. In many instances the inherited bureaucracy was corrupted. Under the new dispensation, a decision was taken to use of the state machinery to drive the redistribution of economic opportunities to achieve an inclusive economy as part of normalising society. Often the mechanisms for this purpose are used for unjust accumulation of personal wealth by individuals in flagrant violation of procurement and other requirements. A combination of these and systemic inherited tendencies, particularly in the pseudo states that had been created under apartheid, has multiplied the problem.

South Africa's approach to corruption is multipronged. The main pillars are the law or legal framework, anticorruption agencies, and public mobilisation. I will provide an overview of each below.

Legal Framework

South Africa has enacted various pieces of legislation in the fight against corruption. These are:

The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa Act, 1996

¹ Richard Levin, Anticorruption and Ethics

Chapter 10 of the Constitution sets out the basic values and principles that govern public administration in every sphere of government, organs of state, and public enterprises. The values and principles promote a public administration that is free from corruption and bad governance. The values and principles include that:

- a high standard of professional ethics must be promoted and maintained;
- the efficient, economic and effective use of resources be promoted;
- public administration be development-oriented;
- services should be provided impartially, fairly, equitably and without bias;
- public administration must be accountable; and
- transparency must be fostered by providing the public with timely, accessible and accurate information.

The Prevention and Combating of Corrupt Activities Act, 2004

The Act provides inter alia, (for) the following:

- creates the offence of corruption²;
- authorises the National Directorate of Public Prosecutions to investigate any individual with unexplained wealth, or any property suspected to be used in the commission of a crime prior to instituting asset forfeiture or criminal proceedings;
- the creation of a Register for Tender Defaulters within six months by the Minister of Finance;
- places a duty on any person who holds a position of authority³ to report corrupt transactions; and
- grants the courts extraterritorial jurisdiction in respect of corruption offences committed outside South Africa in certain circumstances, for example, if the person

² This encompasses the abuse of a position of authority, breach of trust or the violation of a legal duty or a set of rules

³ Such persons include Directors-General of Departments, Municipal Managers, any public officer in the senior Management Service of a public body, any head of a tertiary institution, any Manager, Director or Secretary of a company, the Executive Manager of a bank or financial institution, any partner in a partnership, the CEO or equivalent of an agency, authority, board, commission, committee, corporation, council, department, entity, financial institution, foundation, fund, institute, service or any other institution or organisation whether established by legislation, contract or any other legal means

who committed the crime is a citizen of South Africa or ordinarily resides in the Republic.

Prevention of Organised Crime Act, 1998

The Act inter alia provides the following:

- that any person who is in charge of a business undertaking has to report activities relating to unlawful activities or proceeds⁴;
- makes it an offence to belong to a criminal gang or to aid any criminal activity by a criminal gang;
- the civil forfeiture of criminal assets used to commit offences or are the proceeds of unlawful activity;
- the obtaining of restraint orders by the Directorate of National Prosecutions against any person charged or to be charged with an offence from dealing with the property specified in the order.

Protected Disclosures Act, 2000

This Act encourages whistle-blowing, and provides for the protection of employees in both the public and private sectors from occupational detriment by reason of having made a protected disclosure⁵ relating to unlawful or irregular conduct by an employer or employee of the employer.

Promotion of Access to Information Act, 2000

⁴ Failure to do so constitutes an offence

⁵ This includes disclosures to legal advisers, employers where made in good faith, Members of Cabinet or Executive Councils, and to bodies such as the Public Protector and Auditor-General

This Act promotes transparency by giving effect to the Constitutional right of access to any information held by the state, and information held by any other person that is required for the exercise or protection of any rights.

Promotion of Administrative Justice Act, 2000

Like the previous Act, this Act also promotes transparency which is a cornerstone of good governance by giving effect to the Constitutional right to administrative action that is lawful, reasonable and procedurally fair, and the right to written reasons where one's rights have been adversely affected by administrative action.

Witness Protection Act, 2000

This Act encourages state witnesses to give evidence in trial proceedings and commissions of enquiry by providing them with protection.

The Public Finance Management Act, 1999⁶

This Act promotes the effective and efficient use of resources by departments and constitutional institutions. Accounting Officers of these institutions are required to maintain inter alia:

- effective, efficient and transparent systems of financial and risk management and internal control;
- a system of internal audit under the control and direction of an audit committee; and
- an appropriate provisioning and procurement system which is fair, equitable, transparent, competitive and cost-effective.

Financial Intelligence Centre Act, 2001

This Act aims to combat money laundering activities, and to this end establishes a Financial Intelligence Centre. The objectives of the Centre are to assist in the identification of the proceeds of unlawful activities, the combating of money laundering activities, making

⁶ The Municipal Finance Management Act regulates the municipal sector along the same lines as the Public Finance Management Act.

information available to it to investigating authorities⁷, and to exchange information with similar bodies in other countries.

In order to combat money laundering activities, it requires Accountable Institutions⁸ to establish and verify the identity of a client before concluding a single transaction with such client, and to keep a record of such identity for at least five years. Accountable institutions are also required to report transactions exceeding a certain amount. The Act also places a duty on business owners or managers to report suspicious and unusual transactions to the Centre.

Compliance by Accountable Institutions overrides any duty of secrecy or confidentiality, or any other restriction on the disclosure of information, whether imposed by legislation, common law or agreement.

Anticorruption Agencies and other bodies

The Public Protector is one of various agencies established by the Constitution, legislation and administrative instruments to combat corruption and promote good governance. These constitute a critical pillar of the multipronged approach I referred to earlier.

However, there are debates from time to time which pit this multi-agency approach against the single agency approach. The matter was debated as recently as at the 3rd National Anticorruption Summit that took place in 2008. The general consensus was that it is better to strengthen independent institutions such as the judiciary, Parliament and its institutions, the media and the SAPS⁹. I now proceed to outline the role of each of the key anti-corruption agencies.

The Public Protector

⁷ As well as to the Intelligence Services and SARS

⁸ A list of Accountable Institutions is contained in Schedule 1 to the Act. The common denominator is that such institutions and persons deal with money in their ordinary course of business and include banks, casinos, long term insurance companies, etc.

⁹ Public Service Commission, Special Edition Newsletter for the 3rd National Anticorruption Summit, August 2008

The Public Protector is an Ombudsman Office. It was created in terms of Chapter 9 of the Constitution.¹⁰ The Public Protector's anti-corruption mandate derives from its broad mandate relating to investigating and correcting improper and prejudicial conduct in state affairs as per section 182 of the Constitution and the Public Protector Act of 1994; and its power as the sole agency for enforcing the Executive Ethics Act and the Executive Ethics Code.

Some of the conduct that the Public Protector ordinarily investigates would constitute corruption. The Public Protector's role in anticorruption is also recognised in the key anticorruption statutes including the Prevention and Combating of Corruption Act, the Protected Disclosures Act and the Public Finance Management Act. For example, the Prevention and Combating of Corrupt Activities Act specifically gives the Public Protector the authority to investigate any improper or dishonest act, or omission or offences referred to in the Act, with respect to public money.

The South African Police Service (SAPS)

The Directorate for Priority Crime Investigation

Besides its general criminal investigative role, the SAPS has a separate division, the Directorate for Priority Crime Investigation.¹¹ This division is a successor to the Directorate of Special Operations (Scorpions) that used to fall under the National Prosecuting Authority. The functions of the Directorate are to prevent, combat and investigate national priority offences, in particular, serious organised crime, serious commercial crime and serious corruption¹².

Independent Complaints Directorate (ICD)

Although the ICD is established in terms of the South African Police Service Act, 1995, it functions independently of SAPS. Its responsibilities include the investigation of criminal acts and misconduct by members of SAPS and the Municipal Police Service, which would include corruption.

¹⁰ Section 18

¹¹ Created in terms of the South African Police Service Amendment Act, 57 of 2008

¹² Section 17B read with section 17D of the Act

National Prosecuting Authority

Asset Forfeiture Unit

This Unit falls within the National Prosecuting Authority, and is the one responsible for confiscation and restraint orders in terms of the Prevention of Organised Crime Act, already discussed.

Witness Protection Unit

This Unit is responsible for Witness Protection under the Witness Protection Act already discussed.

The Auditor General

The Auditor General is established in terms of the Constitution to audit and report on the accounts, financial statements and financial management of all national and provincial departments, municipalities, or any other institutions required by national legislation to be audited by them. As the Supreme Audit Institution of South Africa, it enables oversight, accountability and good governance in the public sector.

The Auditor General can also conduct investigations or special audits whenever it considers it to be in the public interest or on receipt of a complaint or request.

The Department of Public Service and Administration (DPSA)

The Anticorruption Coordinating Committee (ACCC)

The ACCC¹³ is an intergovernmental structure comprising departments and agencies that have anticorruption work part of their functional mandate. The ACCC was established in terms of Strategic Consideration 2(b) of the Public Service anticorruption Strategy to coordinate the implementation of the Strategy and to integrate anticorruption work in the country. It falls within the DPSA. The ACCC is also a platform where information on anticorruption best practices, including initiatives on prevention, detection and investigation of corruption can be shared amongst departments and agencies to better equip them in the fight against corruption.

The objectives of the ACCC include to:

- ensure full coordination and integration of anticorruption initiatives in the public service;
- ensure that there is no duplication of initiatives and efforts in the fight against corruption in the public service;
- provide a platform where information on anticorruption initiatives, including prevention, detection and investigation can be shared amongst departments;
- oversee and monitor the implementation of the Public Service Anticorruption Strategy;
- and
- ensure an enriched process of implementation of the Public Service Anticorruption Strategy.

Public Service Commission

¹³ Membership of the ACCC is aimed at institutions that conduct anticorruption work. However, more departments were identified for inclusion. Membership to ACCC comprises of senior officials from the following departments and agencies: the DPSA (Convener), Correctional Services, Defence, Financial Intelligence Centre, Foreign Affairs, Government Communications and Information Systems, Justice and Constitutional Development, Home Affairs, Housing, National Intelligence Agency, National Prosecuting Authority, National Treasury, Office of the Premier of each Province, Office of the Public Service Commission, Provincial and Local Government, South African Local Government Association, South African Management Development Institute, Education, South African Police Service, South African Revenue Service, Special Investigating Unit, and Trade and Industry.

The Public Service Commission manages the Anticorruption Hotline that was established in 2004. The Commission also serves as the secretariat to the National Anticorruption Forum.

It also has a very specific constitutional mandate which is, inter alia to:

- promote a high standard of professional ethics in the public service;
- investigate, monitor and evaluate the organisation and administration, and the personnel practices of the public service.

Other anticorruption mechanisms, particularly public mobilisation strategies, include the following:

Anticorruption summits

South Africa held its first summit in 1999. A second summit was held in 2005, and the third in 2008. At the first Anticorruption Summit, a resolution was taken to form a National Anticorruption Forum (NACF). The NACF comprises three sectors, namely civil society, business and government.

It was established to combat and prevent corruption, build integrity and raise awareness, and was launched in 2001. In particular, it coordinates sectoral strategies against corruption and advises government on national initiatives to combat corruption.

*The Public Service Anticorruption Strategy*¹⁴

Cabinet adopted this Strategy in 2002. It has 9 Strategic Considerations.

¹⁴ A Local Government Anticorruption Strategy was developed by the Department of Provincial and Local Government and signed by the Minister responsible for the Department. It is modelled around the Public Service Anti-Corruption Strategy but tailored to be applicable in Local Government

Strategic Consideration 1 deals with the review and consolidation of the Legislative Framework. The Prevention and Combating of Corrupt Activities Act, 2004, was born of this Consideration.

Strategic Consideration 2 deals with Increased Institutional Capacity. This has to do amongst others with improving the functioning of existing institutions that have anticorruption mandates. As shall be seen below, South Africa has a number of institutions that fight corruption as part of a broader functional mandate. Government departments are also required to create a minimum capacity to fight corruption. By 2006, 57 of government departments had a dedicated anticorruption unit¹⁵.

Strategic Consideration 3 deals with ways of improving reporting wrongdoing and protecting whistleblowers by institutions, as well as reviewing anticorruption hotlines.

Strategic Consideration 4 deals with the prohibition of corrupt individuals and businesses. The intention is to establish mechanisms to prohibit corrupt employees from employment in the public sector and corrupt businesses and agents of such businesses from doing business with the public service for a certain period.

Strategic Consideration 5 deals with improving management policies and practices. Managers in organs of state are required to sign performance agreements that hold them accountable for corruption prevention through managing discipline, risk, and information systems, and following proper procurement and employment practices.

Strategic Consideration 6 deals with management of professional ethics in the fight against corruption. It provides for the development of codes of conduct for various sectors, which codes should provide for declarations of conflict of interest and financial interests and assets.

Strategic Consideration 7 recognises the role of society in the fight against corruption and encourages partnerships with them.

¹⁵ Hennie van Vuuren, National Integrity Systems: Transparency International country study Report, Final Draft, South Africa 2005, p 110

Strategic Consideration 8 encourages society particularly organisations to undertake ongoing research on corruption.

Strategic Consideration 9 aims at awareness, training and education to support the many initiatives on corruption. It recognises that public awareness is very poor and recommends a targeted public communication campaign and raising awareness and training amongst employees.

Other initiatives

As result of this Strategy, there has been a concerted effort to also establish anti-corruption hotlines in government departments. A national hotline was established in 2004. In 2009, a Presidential Hotline was established to deal with issues pertaining to non-delivery of services.

Commissions of enquiry are also appointed to look into certain corrupt activities, such as the Jali Commission, that looked at the Department of Correctional Services.

Specialised Commercial Crimes Courts have also been established to deal with white-collar crime.

There are also Codes of Conduct for the Public Service, for Municipal Staff Members, and for Councillors. There is also a Code of Conduct for Assembly and Permanent Council Members which requires Members of Parliament to declare their interests.

South Africa also forms part of the African Parliamentarians Network Against Corruption (APNAC).

National Challenges

Bad governance and corruption are essentially “failure to make a clear separation between what is public and what is private, hence a tendency to direct public resources for private gain...”¹⁶ It is therefore attractive to those who think they can get away with it.

As indicated earlier, one of the critical factors in the fight against corruption and entrenchment of good governance is political will. Then President Mandela¹⁷ recognised this when he said:

“Our hope for the future depends also on our resolution as a nation in dealing with the scourge of corruption. Success will require an acceptance that, in many respects, we are a sick society.

It is perfectly correct to assert that all this was spawned by apartheid. No amount of self-induced amnesia will change this reality of history.

But it is also a reality of the present that among the new cadres in various levels of government, you find individuals who are as corrupt as - if not more than - those they found in government. When a leader in a Provincial Legislature siphons off resources meant to fund service by legislators to the people; when employees of a government institution set up to help empower those who were excluded by apartheid defraud it for their own enrichment, then we must admit that we are a sick society”

A multipronged approach to anticorruption has its own challenges relating to coordination. An audit by the Public Service Commission in 2001 found that coordination between different agencies was the worst obstacle to their proper functioning. It is also important that these agencies are seen to lead by example.

The last challenge relates to awareness on the part of society. This has to do with inculcating a culture of revulsion at acts of corruption and bad governance. All such acts should be accompanied by opprobrium and a sense of duty to bring such acts to light where known. Without the active participation of society, the fight will not be effective.

¹⁶ WB, Governance and Development, Washington DC, 1992, p9

¹⁷ Opening address to Parliament in 1999

Whistle-blowing without fear of reprisals is a very important factor. Currently we are also battling as a society to encourage whistle blowing and to assure potential whistle blowers that they will not be victimised¹⁸.

Role of the Public Protector

Shortly after assuming office as South Africa's third Public Protector, I decided to add a unit that focuses on Anti-corruption and Good Governance on the establishment of the Office of the Public Protector. I also publicly committed the institution to the strengthening of its forensic competence. The implementation of these initiatives is underway and is included in our draft institutional vision and strategy.

However, the Public Protector has, as indicated earlier, a long history of playing an effective role in the combating of corruption. This is not surprising as maladministration often involves abuse of power for personal gain, which is corruption. The approach of the Public Protector is two pronged. The first element of the approach is ensuring remedial action and ending impunity where the state's action has been improper or prejudicial. The second element is to introduce or support systemic improvements with a view to promoting good governance.

Many of the investigations have decisively dealt with corruption at all levels of governance. A few of our cases studies are summarised below. For further information, I recommend a visit to our website at www.publicprotector.org

Case studies

Joint Investigation into the Strategic Defence Procurement Packages

This was a joint investigation by the Public Protector, the Auditor General and the National Director of Public Prosecutions into the Strategic Defence Procurement Packages for the

¹⁸ Hennie van Vuuren, National Integrity Systems: Transparency International Country Study Report, Final Draft, South Africa 2005

acquisition of armaments for the South African National Defence. The investigation found no evidence of any improper or unlawful conduct on the part of the government.

An investigation of a complaint of improper conduct by the President of the Republic of South Africa, Mr T Mbeki

The Public Protector investigated a complaint lodged by a member of the official opposition in Parliament. He alleged that the President had abused his office by calling a medical centre insisting that the Minister of Health receive a liver transplant operation as soon as an organ became available, irrespective of other patients on the waiting list. It was also alleged that the doctors at the medical centre were instructed to describe the Minister's condition as being the result of autoimmune hepatitis rather than its true cause, which was alleged to be alcoholism.

The investigation found that allegations against the President were without foundation or substance.

Investigation of an allegation of the misappropriation of public funds by the Gauteng Department of Housing

This was also a complaint lodged by a member of the official opposition in Parliament. He alleged that the placement of an advertisement by the Gauteng Housing Department in a newspaper of a tribute to a deceased Member of the Executive Council responsible for Housing in KwaZulu Natal amounted to abuse of public funds in an attempt to benefit the ruling party, as well as abuse of power.

It was found that the expenditure was unauthorised, and fruitless and wasteful, and did not comply with the requirements of the Public Finance Management Act, as the advertisement did not directly or indirectly relate to the purpose for which public money was allocated to the department.

Investigation into allegations of the misappropriation of public funds by the Tsantsabane and Mier Municipalities

The ANC had made an invitation to its members to attend a fundraising banquet on 13 January 2006. In response to this invitation, the two municipalities made payments of R20 000 and R10 000 respectively into the bank account of the ANC on 13 January. The ANC did not accept the donations as they were made by municipalities and returned the money on 19 January.

It was found that the payments amounted to fruitless and wasteful expenditure and that the CEOs of both municipalities had committed acts of financial misconduct and breached the Code of Conduct for Municipal Staff Members. By requesting authorisation of the payments, the Mayors of both municipalities had breached the Code of Conduct for Councillors and acted contrary to the Municipal Finance Management Act.

Investigation into allegations of irregular appointments at the Premier's Office in Limpopo

The Public Protector investigated an anonymous complaint relating to the appointment of different levels of managers in the Premier's office. It was alleged that 11 posts had been advertised as a mere formality as individuals had already been earmarked for the posts.

It was found that:

- the Premier's office did not abide by the requirements of the advertisement when making some of the appointments, and that this prejudiced other candidates who met all the advertised requirements, as well as those who did not apply under the impression that they did not qualify as they were not informed of alternative competencies that would be taken into consideration;
- the Premier's office failed to implement recommendations made by its Risk Management section when making the appointments; and
- That this creates the impression that there was nepotism and favouritism in the Premier's office, and that public funds were wasted by advertising posts that were already earmarked for certain individuals.

Conclusion

I have sought to sketch out the framework within which anticorruption and the promotion of good governance are pursued in South Africa and the role of the Public Protector in this regard. As indicated earlier it is a multi-pronged approach. At the heart of it is the changing of societal values with a view to ensuring that society understands that venal acts are against society itself. The big cars and houses that corrupt people own are financed from funds that should go to the building of schools, health care, maintenance of roads, provisioning of houses and other public projects.

Without society owning the fight against corruption and seeing as an affront on it, we will not win the fight. It's important that each ordinary person understands that corruption deprives them of what is rightfully theirs. It is also important that the dangers of corruption are understood by all, including school going children. We also need to enforce international instruments such as the OECD Convention on Bribing Corruption of Foreign State Officials.

One of the strategic entry points for the Public Protector is the monition of government pronouncements on corruption and to use these as points of leverage in holding state entities accountable. For example, the ruling party has identified as a priority, the eradication of corruption and ending impunity for those responsible for corruption.¹⁹ In our interface with state entities we draw attention to such pronouncements, especially when our interventions seem to be resisted. Furthermore, in all our interactions with state entities and other stakeholders we consistently refer to the values of accountability, integrity and responsiveness as pillars of the good governance that the Public Protector seeks to promote.

As you may have noted, our own framework constitutes work in progress. I do hope, however, that it is of some help in your gallant fight against this global scourge.

I hope to see you all in South Africa in June this year for the FIFA 2010 World Cup.

¹⁹ See among others the January 8th Statement of the National executive Committee of the African National Congress, page 7.

Thank you.

Advocate Thuli (Thulisile) N. Madonsela