



State Audit & Administrative Control Bureau
Audit & Supervision for Construction
Development & Promotion of Good Governance

Editorial

Corruption: A Question of Reality & Impressions

Corruption is known as misuse of power for private and factional interests, and there is almost no society that is corruption-free, albeit in different shapes and disparate degrees. Corruption is one of the crimes punishable by law that requires supporting documents and sufficient evidences, so that competent authorities would be able to take legal actions against corruptors.

When we talk about corruption and corruptors in the Palestinian society, we notice a big difference, in public view, between impressions and reality, since most stereotyped opinions are based on rumors, not facts. As a result, impressions are amplified as a word of right intended to be fallacious.

Exaggeration of corruption size in P.N.A calls for going after rumormongers as much as corruptors, and this is where State Audit and Administrative Control Bureau steps in.

President Office

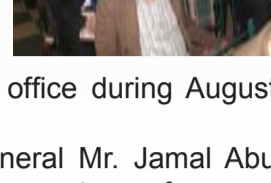
Activities during August 2009 included:

- Dr. Mahmoud Abu-Rub met with Mr. Prime Minister Dr. Salam Fayyad, where Dr. Abu-Rub commended cooperation of ministries and state bodies with SAACB, and also commended cabinet efforts to reinforce integrity and transparency in public money management. Both agreed to complete institutionalization.
- Dr. Abu-Rub had a meeting with minister of foreign affairs Dr. Riad Maliki to discuss ways of obtaining INTO-SAI and ASOSAI memberships, and acceptance within Arab and international transparency and anticorruption bodies.
- Meeting with minister of agriculture Dr. Ismail Deiq. SAACB also aims at solidifying relationships with Arab and foreign countries through visits to embassies and representative offices in the Palestinian territories.



In this context, SAACB president met with Moroccan ambassador Mr. Mohammad Hamzawi to discuss future cooperation with Morocco Court of Auditors. Dr. Abu-Rub pointed out qualitative improvement in management of public money, as well as how transparent and honest the P.N.A systems are compared to other countries'. In addition, Dr. Abu-Rub answered national council invitation –as a member- to attend election of executive committee members.

Director General Office



Activities of director general office during August 2009:

- Commissioning director general Mr. Jamal Abu Baker the following tasks: rapporteur of annual report commission, member at recruitment commission for engineer and pharmacist posts, an observer at bidding commission for pilgrims buses (hajj season 1430), and an SAACB representative in bus inspection commission (northern governorates) for hajj season 1430.
- Coordinating with domestic and foreign bodies.
- Coordinating with, setting up and deploying audit teams at ministries and foundations.
- Following up work progress in all directorates and units.
- Supervising actions of local governance directorate fully.
- Participating in several meetings with SAACB president as well as several internal meetings with personalities and official institutions representatives, such as Russian ambassador assistant.
- Representing SAACB president in inaugural ceremony of Palestinian customs system (TAWASUL) at Best Eastern hotel.

SAACB & Local Community



Dr. Abu-Rub Visits Al-Mazra'a ash-Sharqiya Town
 President of State Audit and Administrative Control Bureau Dr. Mahmoud Abu-Rub discussed with Al-Mazra'a ash-Sharqiya municipal council the accomplished projects as well as those under construction. Dr. Abu Rub underlined need to have internal control units at local governance bodies, and to improve staff efficiency by extensive training courses. Dr. Abu-Rub stated that SAACB is ready to assist the municipality to obtain high level of transparency.

Al-Mazra'a ash-Sharqiya mayor Mr. Marzooq Shalabi presented future needs in light of vast improvement the town is witnessing, and then municipality staff took SAACB delegation on a field tour to review completed projects such as health clinic and projects underway.

SAACB Holds Training Course



State Audit and Administrative Control Bureau inaugurated on Wednesday, August 12, 2009 a training course about "time management", where Dr. Mahmoud Abu-Rub reassured in opening word the importance of time respect to accomplish designated tasks with maximum efficiency and minimum cost. The course trainer and director general of MOF administrative and financial affairs Mr. Basil Ramahi talked about importance of governmental sector training in order to compete with private sector in light of a rapidly changing world, and that Palestinian government sector is keeping up with that development in spite of exceptional conditions the Palestinian people goes through (Israeli occupation), with praising from related organizations such as World Bank and MFI.

Activities of Oversight Directorates

General Directorate for Security Governance &

- Finishing oversight reports such as those on Qalqiliya governorate, preventive security and the Russian grant in ministry of finance.
- Taking part in some commissions such as report revision, procurement, courses, missions, and annual report.
- Receiving new employees.
- Participating in budgeting meeting to prepare 2009 budget
- Preparing and distributing a survey about promoting SAACB according to European standards of uniqueness.
- Attending a workshop at MOF about international accounting standards for public sector.

General Directorate for Infrastructure

- Finishing an oversight report about comprehensive audit on ministry of transport. Audit included governmental vehicles and licensing, where MOT internal control system elevated from "average" in 2008 up to "excellent" in 2009. Increment in governmental vehicle numbers was noticed, besides 82695 unlicensed cars (which form 47% of registered cars).
- Finishing an audit report on Rashaida water well, and another one on outcomes of biddings (12), which included tender opening, referring, re-bidding and delaying.
- Reviewing some reports through report review committee on Municipality Fund, Women Union Association, ministry of local governing, Palestine Technical College, Tulkarm and Qalqiliya governorates and Anabta Municipality.
- Participating in several commission meetings (budgeting, receipt and creativity group).
- Participating in meetings of budgeting commission, teams of finance and planning ministries to discuss budget and main objectives.

General Directorate for Economy

- Finishing a report about audit outcomes on Palestinian Apprenticing Fund.
- Commencing audit on P.N.A accounts (2009 first half).
- Attending tenders as an observer at some audited bodies and reporting outcomes.
- Participating in meetings of PCBS biddings for agricultural census.
- Holding directorate regular meetings.
- Resuming work of commissions formed by SAACB president (procurement, budgeting, receipt and creativity group).

General Directorate for NGOs

- Finishing audit at al-Haq Palestine, Palestinian Foundation for Loaning & Development (FATEN) and Arab Women Union Hospital/Nablus.
- Following up a complaint filed by Ramin Charitable Women Association/Tulkarm, and writing a report in this respect.
- Preparing a plan to audit University Graduates Union/Hebron and Bisan Center for Research and Development/Ramallah.

General Directorate for Local Governance Bodies

- Auditing municipalities of Anabta, Beit Sahur and Al-Mazra'a ash-Sharqiya.
- Attending tenders as an observer at Beitunia municipality, el-Bireh municipality, Water Authority and Ramallah municipality.
- Attending workshops and meetings arranged by SAACB.
- Participating in an assessment and overseeing course at National Institute and in cooperation with the Palestinian Council for Development and Reconstruction (PECDAR).
- Commissioning Mr. Faisal Masri to give integrity reward for public sector and local governing bodies as a member in technical team.

General Directorate for Legal Affairs & Public Complaints

- Completing follow-up of 24 complaints at competent authorities and preparing legal consultations.
- Attending a workshop at Birzeit University/Law Institute about law governing security sector, as well as another one about health insurance law draft.

- Participating flour disposal committee at store-houses of ministry of social affairs.
- Activating internal control unit at ministry of agriculture.

Planning, Improvement & Capacity Development Unit

- Preparing a midrange action plan for 2010-2011.
- Examining the international audit standard No. 230 and publishing it on SAACB portal.
- Drafting a working guideline on procedural oversight plan.

General Directorate for Information Technology and Technical Support

- Preparing and holding an internal workshop on software developed by GDIT.
- Conceptualizing new internal correspondence systems such as files and memos among different administrative levels.
- Connecting Nablus office to Ramallah H.Q. electronically for safe consolidation of data.
- Developing different work models to be approved as final work procedures.



General Directorate for Financial & Administrative Affairs

- Executing 2009 budget and examining unused items to provide all work needs.
- Offering suggestion on 2010 budget to come up with a typical budget that goes in line with most important needs.
- Cooperating with other directorates to identify essential needs to be included within next year budget.
- Following up staff affairs administratively and financially.

Operational Expenditures Financial Report-August 2009

Fund resources for August 2009 were 76793.8 NIS as accumulated balance from July 2009 (33418.81 NIS) and the cash advance No. "3" with a bank transfer of 43374.99 NIS, which covers period 1/5/2009-31/5/2009 (transfer of cash advance No. "2" was suspended by MOF), while expenses for August 2009 were 21180.7 NIS, and they were divided into:

- Paid expenses: 11001.51 NIS.
- Due expenses: 10179.19 NIS.

Social News

- Congratulations:
- Mr. President of P.N.A Mahmoud Abbas (electing as general leader of FATAH).
- New members of PLO executive committee and revolutionary council.
- Majdi Maytani and Abdullah al-Ali (marriage).
- Ma'an Malaisha and Majed Turkman (engagement).

- Condolences:
- Hebron governor Dr. Hussein al-Araj (passing away of his sister).

For further information about SAACB news and activities please log on:

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