

**THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA
LAW
ON THE ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMITTEE**

**CHAPTER 1
GENERAL PROVISIONS**

Article 1. Scope of the Law

1. This Law regulates the powers, system, and structure of the Anti-Corruption Committee, the procedure and conditions of its formation and activity, the procedure and conditions of holding positions therein, the classification of its positions and ranks, its servants' rights, duties, and liability, their legal and social safeguards, and other aspects of holding office in the Anti-Corruption Committee.

Article 2. Legislation on the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. Relationships concerning the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be regulated by this Law, the relevant provisions of international treaties ratified by the Republic of Armenia, the Republic of Armenia Criminal Procedure Code, and the Law on Criminal Intelligence Operations, as well as other legal acts.

Article 3. Key Terms in This Law

1. This Law uses the following key terms:

1) **Service in the Anti-Corruption Committee:** a type of state service, the peculiarities of which are prescribed by this Law;

2) **Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee:** a person holding an autonomous position in the Anti-Corruption Committee, and employees of the unit performing criminal intelligence functions;

3) **A person holding an autonomous position in the Anti-Corruption Committee:** the Head and Deputy Heads of the Anti-Corruption Committee, the heads and deputy heads of departments of the Anti-Corruption Committee, with the exception of the head and deputy head of the department performing criminal intelligence functions (the head of the inquest authority), as well as the heads and deputy heads of divisions of the Anti-Corruption Committee (with the exception of heads of divisions performing criminal intelligence functions), investigators and senior investigators for cases of particular importance in the Anti-Corruption Committee, senior investigators, and investigators;

4) A person holding a civil service position in the Anti-Corruption Committee: the General Secretary of the Anti-Corruption Committee and his/her deputy, and servants of the units supporting the performance of the main functions of the Anti-Corruption Committee;

5) **Corruption Crimes:** crimes contained in the list of corruption crimes prescribed by the Criminal Code of the Republic of Armenia;

6) **Structural Unit of the Anti-Corruption Committee:** a department or a division working within the Committee.

CHAPTER 2 POWERS OF THE ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMITTEE; PRINCIPLES OF OPERATION

Article 4. Status and Powers of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. The Anti-Corruption Committee shall be an investigative body that shall organize and conduct pre-trial criminal proceedings for alleged corruption crimes for which it has jurisdiction under the Criminal Procedure Code of the Republic of Armenia.

2. The Anti-Corruption Committee shall, within the limits of its powers, carry out criminal intelligence operations under the procedure prescribed by the Republic of Armenia Law on Criminal Intelligence Operations.

3. The Anti-Corruption Committee shall also exercise other powers provided by this Law.

Article 5. Principles of Operation of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. The activities of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be based on the principles of independence, publicity, financial autonomy, and political neutrality.

2. The Anti-Corruption Committee shall carry out criminal intelligence operations in accordance with the criminal intelligence principles defined by the Republic of Armenia Law on Criminal Intelligence Operations.

Article 6. Independence of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. When exercising its powers, and in adopting decisions concerning its structure and work procedures, the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be independent and shall abide only by the Constitution and laws of the Republic of Armenia.

Article 7. Publicity and Accountability of the Activities of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. The Anti-Corruption Committee shall inform the public about its activities, whilst respecting the confidentiality of the pre-trial investigation, as well as the protection of state secrets and other secrets protected by law.

2. Each year, prior to 31 January, the chairman of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall present a written statement on the previous year's activities to the Government and the National Assembly.

3. Within a one-month period of the end of each semester, the Anti-Corruption Committee shall publish summary information on its activities on its official website. The structure of the information and the scope of issues contained therein shall be defined by the Chairman of the Anti-Corruption Committee. The annual report of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be published on its official website prior to 31 January of each year.

Article 8. Financial Autonomy

1. The financing of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be performed from the state budget.

2. The Anti-Corruption Committee shall, in accordance with the procedure provided by the Republic of Armenia Law on the Budgetary System, and in the time period set by the Prime Minister's decision on initiating the next year's budgeting process, prepare each year and submit to the Government of Armenia the next year's budget financing request of the Anti-Corruption Committee (the draft estimate of costs to be allocated in the state budget for the Anti-Corruption Committee), so that it is incorporated in the next year's draft state budget.

3. The next year's budget financing request of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall, in case of being accepted by the Government, be included in the draft state budget, and in case of an objection, it shall be submitted to the National Assembly together with the draft state budget. The Government shall submit to the National Assembly and the Anti-Corruption Committee the justification of its objection to the budget financing request.

4. To finance contingency expenses for safeguarding the normal functioning of the Anti-Corruption Committee, a reserve fund of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be designated, which shall be presented as a separate line of the budget. The size of the reserve fund shall equal two percent of the common wage fund, as per the current year's state budget law, of persons holding positions in the Anti-Corruption Committee.

5. Allocations from the reserve fund shall be made by decision of the chairman of the Anti-Corruption Committee.

Article 9. Political Neutrality

1. A servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee may not be a member of any political party or otherwise engage in political activities. A servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall, under any circumstances, display political restraint and neutrality.

2. A servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee may participate in elections of the National Assembly and local self-government bodies only as a voter.

CHAPTER 3

THE SYSTEM OF THE ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMITTEE

Article 10. The System of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. The system of the Anti-Corruption Committee consists of core (including territorial units and the internal security unit) and supporting professional structural units.

2. The units of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be its departments and divisions. A department of the Anti-Corruption Committee may have divisions.

3. The General Secretary of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall secure the complete and effective exercise of the powers of the Anti-Corruption Committee and its participation in civil-law relations.

4. Persons working in supporting professional structural units of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be civil servants, who shall be subject to the Law on Civil Service.

5. Persons performing service work in the Anti-Corruption Committee on the basis of a contract shall not be servants and shall be hired in accordance with the procedure stipulated by the employment legislation of the Republic of Armenia.

6. The structure, list of positions, including discretionary positions and positions of persons providing technical services of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be approved by the chairman of the Anti-Corruption Committee.

Article 11. Chairman of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. The chairman of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall manage and oversee the Committee's activities and be responsible for the normal functioning of the Committee.

2. The chairman of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall:

- 1) Approve the guidelines for proper organization of solving and investigation of corruption cases by servants of the Committee and oversee implementation of such guidelines;
- 2) Perform division of work between his deputies;
- 3) Adopt sub-legislative, internal, and individual legal acts and give instructions within the limits of his authority;
- 4) Represent the Anti-Corruption Committee in relations with state and local self-government bodies, and organizations (including international organizations);
- 5) Approve the bylaws, structure, list of position names, and staffing list of the Anti-Corruption Committee;
- 6) Order internal investigations or terminate them, and appoint or change the person conducting such investigations;
- 7) Encourage and discipline servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee, and reward persons facilitating the Committee's work;

- 8) For the performance of the Committee's functions and improving the performance of the servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee, create advisory bodies and approve their operational procedures;
- 9) Take steps to ensure the safety of a servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee and his/her family members, including under the procedure defined by the RoA Law on Police;
- 10) Define the procedure and conditions of checking the integrity of servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee;
- 11) Have the power to regularly check the integrity of servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee through the Internal Security unit, including by provocative means. The integrity checking process shall not hinder the normal functioning of the Anti-Corruption Committee; and
- 12) Exercise other powers provided by law.

3. In the absence of the chairman of the Anti-Corruption Committee or inability to perform his official duties, one of his deputies, as instructed by him, shall replace him, and in the absence of such instruction, the deputy with the longest professional experience shall replace him.

4. The chairman of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall, under the procedure defined by this Law, be appointed by the Government for a six-year term.

5. The same person cannot be appointed as chairman of the Anti-Corruption Committee for more than two consecutive terms.

6. The term in office of the chairman of the Anti-Corruption Committee may not exceed the age limit prescribed by this Law for holding office, irrespective of the fact of being reappointed.

Article 12. Deputy Chairman of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. The Chairman of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall have three deputies.

2. A deputy chairman of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall:

- 1) Coordinate activities in the field assigned to him by the chairman of the Anti-Corruption Committee;
- 2) Within the limits of his authority, adopt internal and individual legal acts and give instructions;
- 3) File motions on encouraging or disciplining servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee; and
- 4) Exercise other powers provided by law.

Article 13. Internal and Criminal-Procedural Hierarchy

1. The Chairman of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be superior to all servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee.

2. The Deputy Chairman of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be superior to all servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee that are under his/her coordination.

3. A unit head of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be superior to all servants in such unit.

4. Other aspects of the service hierarchy in the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be regulated by the By-Laws of the Anti-Corruption Committee.

5. Criminal-procedural hierarchy in the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be regulated by the Criminal Procedure Code of the Republic of Armenia.

CHAPTER 4 .POSITIONS OF SERVANTS IN THE ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMITTEE, PROCEDURE AND CONDITIONS OF APPOINTING AND DISMISSING SERVANTS AND GRANTING RANKS

Article 14. System of Positions of Servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. Positions of servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be classified into the following groups:

- 1) Top positions;
- 2) Chief positions;
- 3) Lead positions; and
- 4) Junior positions.

2. The top, chief, and lead groups of positions shall be classified into the 1st, 2nd and 3rd subgroups, and junior positions—into the 1st and 2nd subgroups.

3. The first subgroup within the groups of service positions in the Anti-Corruption Committee is the highest subgroup of the given group.

4. The positions of the top service group in the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be classified into the following subgroups, covering the following positions:

- 1) 1st subgroup – Chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee;
- 2) 2nd subgroup - Deputy Chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee; and
- 3) 3rd subgroup - head of a department (including territorial department) of the Anti-Corruption Committee.

5. The chief service positions in the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be classified into the following subgroups, covering the following positions:

- 1) 1st subgroup – deputy head of a department (including territorial department) of the Anti-Corruption Committee;
- 2) 2nd subgroup – Senior Investigator on Particularly Important Cases in the Anti-Corruption Committee;
- 3) 3rd subgroup - Investigator on Particularly Important Cases in the Anti-Corruption Committee, head of division in the Anti-Corruption Committee.

6. The leading service position of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be classified into the following subgroups, covering the following positions:

- 1) 1st subgroup – head of division in the Anti-Corruption Committee;
- 2) 2nd subgroup – Senior Investigator of the Anti-Corruption Committee; and
- 3) 3rd subgroup - Investigator of the Anti-Corruption Committee.

7. The junior service position in the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be classified into the following subgroups, covering the following positions:

- 1) 1st subgroup – senior criminal intelligence officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee; and
- 2) 2nd subgroup – criminal intelligence officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee.

Article 15. Main Requirements on Servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. A citizen the Republic of Armenia residing permanently in the Republic of Armenia may hold the position of a servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee if he/she:

- 1) Has a higher legal education qualification degree of a Bachelor or a specialist with diploma, or an equivalent degree obtained in a foreign state and recognized for equivalence in the Republic of Armenia in accordance with the procedure defined by law;
- 2) Has completed mandatory military service (with the exception of female persons) or has been exempted from such service in accordance with the procedure and grounds defined by law;
- 3) Has a command of the Armenian language;
- 4) Has knowledge of at least one of the following languages: English, Russian, or French, at a corresponding level as tested by a standardized testing system or another procedure approved by the Government. The requirement of this sub-paragraph shall not apply to persons holding junior positions; and
- 5) Meets the requirements on the position, which are prescribed by this Law, and the limitations prescribed by this Law for appointment to office do not exist.

2. A person may not be appointed to a position in the Anti-Corruption Committee if he/she:

- 1) Has by court procedure been declared as having no or limited capacity;
- 2) Has by a final court decision been deprived of the right to hold a position in public service;

- 3) Has been convicted for a crime, irrespective of the conviction having been lifted or having expired under the established procedure;
- 4) Is currently subject to criminal prosecution;
- 5) Was subject to criminal prosecution that was terminated or not pursued based on a non-acquittal ground;
- 6) Has an illness or physical defect hindering the performance of functions in case of holding a public service position, as per the list approved by the Government;
- 7) Is a judge or a former judge who in the last three years received a severe reprimand or a more grave disciplinary penalty provided by law, irrespective of the penalty having been lifted or having expired under the established procedure;
- 8) Is a prosecutor or investigator or a former prosecutor or investigator who in the last three years received a severe reprimand or a more grave disciplinary penalty provided by law, irrespective of the penalty having been lifted or having expired under the established procedure;
- 9) Is an inquest officer or criminal intelligence officer or a former inquest officer or criminal intelligence officer who in the last three years received a severe reprimand or a more grave disciplinary penalty provided by law, irrespective of the penalty having been lifted or having expired under the established procedure; or
- 10) Is an advocate or a former advocate who in the last three years received a severe reprimand or a graver disciplinary penalty provided by law, irrespective of the penalty having been lifted or having expired under the established procedure.

3. The Government shall prescribe the requirements on the health and physical fitness of persons holding positions that carry out criminal intelligence activities in the Anti-Corruption Committee.

4. The maximum age for holding a position in the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be 60. After reaching the maximum age, the Chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee may extend the service term for a term of up to five years. The maximum age for holding the position of the Chair of Chair or deputy Chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be 65.

Article 16. Conditions for Appointment to a Position in the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. A person meeting the requirements of Article 15 of this Law may be appointed as Chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee, who prior to such appointment held a top or chief position in an investigative body or has at least five years' experience as a judge, prosecutor, investigator, advocate, or activities in anti-corruption policy making or fighting money laundering and terrorism financing or criminal intelligence activities, or a total of at least five years' complementary experience of activities in the said fields.

2. A person meeting the requirements of Article 15 of this Law may be appointed as Deputy Chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee, who prior to such appointment held a top or chief position in an investigative body or has at least four years' experience as a judge, prosecutor, investigator, advocate, or activities in anti-corruption policy making or fighting money laundering and terrorism financing or criminal intelligence activities, or a total of at least four years' complementary experience of activities in the said fields.

3. A person meeting the requirements of Article 15 of this Law may be appointed as a Department Head or Deputy Department Head (including territorial departments) of the Anti-Corruption Committee, who has the qualification degree of a Bachelor of Law or a specialist with university diploma in the field of law, or an equivalent degree obtained in a foreign state and recognized for equivalence in the Republic of Armenia in accordance with the procedure defined by law, and who prior to such appointment held a chief or lead position in an investigative body or has at least four years' experience as a prosecutor, investigator, or advocate. A person who does not have legal education, but has at least five years' experience in criminal intelligence activities may be appointed as the head or deputy head of the department performing criminal intelligence functions.

4. A person meeting the requirements of Article 15 of this Law may be appointed as a senior investigator for cases of particular importance in the Anti-Corruption Committee, if he/she has the qualification degree of a Bachelor of Law or a specialist with university diploma in the field of law, or an equivalent degree obtained in a foreign state and recognized for equivalence in the Republic of Armenia in accordance with the procedure defined by law, and who prior to such appointment held a chief or lead position in an investigative body or has at least three years' experience as a prosecutor, investigator, or advocate.

5. A person meeting the requirements of Article 15 of this Law may be appointed as a division head or an investigator for cases of particular importance in the Anti-Corruption Committee, if he/she has the qualification degree of a Bachelor of Law or a specialist with university diploma in the field of law, or an equivalent degree obtained in a foreign state and recognized for equivalence in the Republic of Armenia in accordance with the procedure defined by law, and who prior to such appointment held a chief position in an investigative body or, within the last two years, a lead position, or has at least two years' experience as a prosecutor, investigator, or advocate. A person who does not have legal education, but has at least four years' experience in criminal intelligence activities may be appointed as the head of a division performing criminal intelligence functions.

6. A person meeting the requirements of Article 15 of this Law may be appointed as a deputy division head or a senior investigator in the Anti-Corruption Committee, if he/she has the qualification degree of a Bachelor of Law or a specialist with university diploma in the field of law, or an equivalent degree obtained in a foreign state and recognized for equivalence in the Republic of Armenia in accordance with the procedure defined by law, and who prior to such appointment held a lead position in an investigative body or has at least 1.5 years' experience as a prosecutor, investigator, or advocate. A person who does not have legal education, but has at least three years' experience in criminal intelligence activities or as an inquest officer may be appointed as the deputy head of a division performing criminal intelligence functions.

7. A person meeting the requirements of Article 15 of this Law may be appointed as an investigator in the Anti-Corruption Committee, if he/she has the qualification degree of a Bachelor of Law or a specialist with university diploma in the field of law, or an equivalent degree obtained in a foreign state and recognized for equivalence in the Republic of Armenia in accordance with the procedure defined by law, and who prior to such appointment held a lead position in an investigative body or has at least 1 year's experience of professional legal work.

A person meeting the requirements of Article 15 of this Law may be appointed as a senior inquest officer in the Anti-Corruption Committee, if he/she has at least 1 year's experience of criminal intelligence work or at least 2 years' experience of professional work.

A person meeting the requirements of Article 15 of this Law may be appointed as an inquest officer in the Anti-Corruption Committee, if he/she has at least 1 year's experience of professional work.

10. Autonomous positions in the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be filled on the basis of the results of a competition carried out in accordance with the procedure defined by this Law.

11. Positions in the unit performing criminal intelligence functions within the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be filled on the basis of the results of a competition carried out in accordance with the procedure defined by the Chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee. With the exception of the cases provided by Paragraph 12 of this Article, the competition held for the purpose of filling positions in the unit performing criminal intelligence functions must contain the integrity checking phase, which shall be conducted in accordance with the procedure defined by Paragraph 10(3) of Article 17 of this Law. Persons included in the list of candidates for positions performing criminal intelligence functions shall, after inclusion in such list, undergo a training course. The procedure of conducting the training course shall be approved by a sub-legislative act.

12. In such positions in the Anti-Corruption Committee, in which the identity of the person is under cover and they perform their activities in conditions of full confidentiality, the procedure and terms of appointment to such position (testing, re-training, and

transfer to another position) shall be approved by the Chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee.

13. In the cases provided by Paragraph 12 of this Article, appointment to such position shall be made by the Chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee within a month of the position becoming vacant.

14. An acting official may be appointed to a vacant position in the Anti-Corruption Committee, but not for more than one year.

Article 17. Competition for Holding a Position in the Anti-Corruption Committee and Appointment to a Position

1. The list of candidates for office in the Anti-Corruption Committee (except for candidates for the position of the chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee) shall be compiled by the Competition Commission (hereinafter referred to as the "the Commission").

2. The Commission shall be formed and its work procedures shall be approved by the Chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee. The Commission shall be composed of 3 servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee appointed by the chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee, one person nominated by the RoA Government, and one representative of civil society. Persons that are not servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee may join the Commission if they have at least five years' professional work experience of a lawyer.

3. The procedure of engaging the civil society representative shall be approved by the chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee.

4. The Commission shall be chaired by the Chair of the Commission, who shall be appointed by the Chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee from the among the Commission members.

5. In case of a vacancy in the Anti-Corruption Committee, the Chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall organize a competition within one month after the position has become vacant (except for Paragraph 12 of Article 16 of this Law).

6. An announcement on holding a competition for a vacancy shall be published not later than one month before the competition on the official website of public notices (www.azdarar.am) and on the official website of the Anti-Corruption Committee.

7. The Commission shall prepare and submit to the chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee for approval the form of the announcement held for filling autonomous positions in the Anti-Corruption Committee, as well as the competition organization and implementation procedure, including the list of documents necessary for checking the candidate's professional knowledge, three versions of the testing questionnaire

consisting of questions prepared for checking the candidate's professional knowledge (hereinafter "the Questionnaire"), and testing conditions and the passing score, the maximum evaluation score for requirements presented to the candidates, the breakdown of the maximum score by separate requirements subject to evaluation, the criteria for exploring the substance of the requirements subject to evaluation, the maximum evaluation score for each criterion—within the maximum score prescribed for each requirement, and the evaluation and score calculation procedure.

8. 20 percent of the questions in the testing questionnaire for autonomous positions in the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be related to the RoA Constitution, the jurisprudence and case law of an international court or other international tribunal in the area of human rights protection in which the Republic of Armenia participates, 20 percent shall be related to the criminal legislation, 20 percent shall be related to the criminal procedure legislation, 20 percent shall be related to the legislation on asset forfeiture, money laundering, and terrorism, financing, and 20 percent shall be related to the legislation or regulations on accounting and the status and activities of legal entities.

9. The announcement shall contain the following information, as a minimum:

1) The requirements on the candidate;

2) The list of documents attached to the application for participating in the competition, including the template of the integrity questionnaire;

3) The conditions of conducting the competition, at least one sample of the test assignments, the maximum evaluation score for requirements on candidates, the breakdown of the maximum score by separate requirements subject to evaluation, the criteria for exploring the substance of the requirements subject to evaluation, the maximum evaluation score for each criterion—within the maximum score prescribed for each requirement, and the evaluation and score calculation procedure; and

4) The deadline and place of presenting the documents.

10. The competition for autonomous positions in the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be held in the following stages:

1) The documentary review stage, within three days of receiving the application and the attached documents (hereinafter also referred to as "the Application"), the Commission shall check whether the documents presented by the participant, except for the filled integrity questionnaire, conform to the requirements prescribed by this Law. A candidate may provide clarifications on the information contained in his/her documents. If the required documents are incomplete, the applicant shall be informed thereof immediately, and if it is impossible to inform, then within a one-day period. Shortcomings may be rectified within the time period prescribed for accepting applications. Acceptance of applications presented in violation of the deadline prescribed for presenting documents or applications that do not meet the requirements

prescribed by law shall be rejected, and they shall be returned by the Commission within three working days. The competition shall be conducted even if only one applicant has applied to participate in the competition;

2) The testing stage—within a 10-day period after the end of the documentary review stage, the Commission shall organize a testing stage for participants that overcame the documentary review stage, and the participants' professional knowledge shall be checked during the testing stage. On the day of the test, the list of participants that overcame the testing stage shall be prepared and published on the official website of the Anti-Corruption Committee, together with the interview date and place;

3) The integrity checking stage: within a one-day period after the end of the testing stage, the Commission shall present to the Corruption Prevention Commission the filled integrity questionnaire for participants that overcame the testing stage, for the purpose of obtaining an advisory opinion within a one-month period;

4) The interview stage: the Commission shall, within a five-day period of receiving the advisory opinion on integrity, conduct an interview, having published on its official website information about the interview date and place at least three days prior to the interview. A non-voting psychologist may also participate in the interview stage, who shall be engaged by the Commission. During the interview stage, the Commission members shall evaluate the participant's career achievements, analytical abilities, conduct in different situations, sense of responsibility, communication skills, motives for wanting to be appointed to the particular position, expectations, and other personal qualities and merits needed to hold that position. During the interview, questions may be posed to the participant also about the data contained in the integrity advisory opinion provided by the Corruption Prevention Commission. The questions posed to the participant shall not pursue the aim of checking the participant's legal knowledge;

5) Results summarization stage: a questions form shall be provided to each member of the Commission, in which the elements subject to evaluation shall be marked. Each member of the Commission shall evaluate each participant and write down his/her comments about the evaluated elements. As a result of the interview, the Commission shall prepare a list of the participants declared as winners in the competition, which shall contain the candidates that received the highest total score. If the winner cannot be decided because of a tied score between participants, then an open vote shall be conducted, in which each member of the Commission shall vote, according to his/her inner conviction, for one or other of the candidates that received the highest equal number of votes. During the voting, each member of the Commission may cast one vote. The final results of the competition shall, within a one-day period, be published on the official website of the Anti-Corruption Committee.

11. Within a two-day period of the publication of the competition results, a participant may appeal them in writing to the chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee. The answer to the appeal shall be given within one day.

12. If there is no written appeal after publishing the competition results, and if there is an appeal—within a one-day period of receiving the answer to the appeal, the Commission shall present the list of the competition winning candidates to the chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee. The advisory opinions presented by the Corruption Prevention Commission shall be attached to the list.

13. Persons included in the list of candidates for autonomous positions shall, in accordance with the procedure defined by the RoA Law on the Justice Academy, undergo professional training in the Justice Academy. A person shall be removed from the list of candidates for autonomous positions if the exam score received for a subject course taught in the Justice Academy is lower than the minimum score set by the Justice Academy Board for completing a course, or if the candidate did not pass the probation period defined by the RoA Law on the Justice Academy, or missed without any excuse at least five percent of the planned subject courses while studying in the Justice Academy.

14. A person shall be exempted of the education requirement provided by Paragraph 11 of Article 16 and Paragraph 13 of this Article , if the person has two years' professional experience as a judge, prosecutor, investigator, inquest officer, or advocate, provided that five years have not passed since leaving such position or terminating such practice.

15. The chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall, within three working days of receiving the list of candidates that graduated from the relevant training or the list provided by Paragraph 14 of this Article , make an appointment to the relevant position, and for a competition announced to fill the vacancy of a deputy chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee, the Commission shall, within three working days of receiving the list of the competition winning candidates, propose to the RoA Prime Minister a candidate from among the list of the competition winners, and shall attach the advisory opinion received on such candidate from the Corruption Prevention Commission.

16. If none of the participants received the required score and no winner was found in the competition, a new competition shall be conducted, which shall be announced and conducted in accordance with the procedure prescribed by this Article.

17. If no application for participation in the competition was received, or if the applicants do not meet the requirements prescribed for the respective position under this Law, or if none of the applicants showed up for the competition, the competition shall be deemed failed, and a new competition shall be announced within a ten-day period, which shall be conducted in accordance with the procedure prescribed by this Article.

Article 18. Formation and Functions of the Competitions Board

1. A Competitions Board (hereinafter “the Board”) shall be formed for selecting the candidates for the position of the chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee.

2. The Board shall be formed from one candidate nominated by each of the Government, the National Assembly Council, the Supreme Judicial Council, the Prosecutor General, and the Human Rights Defender, and two representatives of civil society.

3. With the exception of the representatives of civil society, a person may become nominated as a Board member if he/she has a higher legal education qualification degree of a Bachelor or a specialist with diploma, or an equivalent degree obtained in a foreign state and recognized for equivalence in the Republic of Armenia in accordance with the procedure defined by law, has strong professional and moral qualities, does not belong to a political party, and has at least five years' experience as a criminal specialization judge, prosecutor, investigator, inquest officer, advocate, or activities in anti-corruption policy making or fighting money laundering and terrorism financing, or a total of at least five years' complementary experience of activities in the said fields.

4. For membership in the Board, the Chief of Staff of the Prime Minister shall, 90 days before the end of the term in office of the chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee or within a ten-day period of a vacancy emerging, apply to the Government, the National Assembly Council, the Supreme Judicial Council, the Prosecutor General, and the Human Rights Defender for nominating one member each during a ten-day period. In the same timeframe, the Chief of Staff of the Prime Minister shall secure the publication of an announcement on the engagement of civil society organizations.

5. Within a ten-day period of the publication of an announcement on the engagement of civil society organizations, non-governmental organizations shall present to the Staff of the Prime Minister an application on becoming members of the Board, attaching documents confirming their anti-corruption experience. If more than two non-governmental organizations apply, preference shall be given to the one that has longer anti-corruption experience. Each non-governmental organization may have only one representative in the Competitions Board.

6. The Board shall be deemed formed when at least four members joined it. If at least four members have not joined during the established timeframe, the Board shall be deemed not formed, and the Chief of Staff of the Prime Minister shall form a new Board in accordance with the procedure prescribed by this Law.

7. Sessions of the Board shall be open to representatives of civil society and the mass media. Sessions of the Board shall be video and audio recorded.

8. Information on holding Board sessions shall be published on the official website of the Staff of the Prime Minister not later than 48 hours before holding a session.

9. The activities of the Board shall be organized by the Staff of the Prime Minister.

10. A session of the Board shall have quorum if at least more than half of the Board members attend. The first session of the Board shall be chaired by the eldest Board member in attendance.

11. The Board members shall elect a chair and secretary from among the members.

12. The Board shall:

1) Define its work procedure;

2) Ensure the publication of information on the conditions and timeframes of conducting the competition;

3) Check the conformity of the candidates with the requirements prescribed by this Law (documentary evaluation stage);

4) Define the Questionnaire for purposes of conducting the interview stage, as well as the maximum evaluation score for requirements presented to the candidates, the breakdown of the maximum score by separate requirements subject to evaluation, the criteria for exploring the substance of the requirements subject to evaluation, the maximum evaluation score for each criterion—within the maximum score prescribed for each requirement, and the evaluation and score calculation procedure;

5) Select the candidates that pass to the interview stage as a result of the documentary evaluation stage;

6) Apply to the Corruption Prevention Commission to conduct an integrity review on candidates that passed to the interview stage and to issue an advisory opinion;

7) As a result of the interview stage, select at least two and at most three participants that were declared as winners in the competition and to the greatest extent conform with the presented requirements, except when only one candidate has applied to participate in the competition;

8) Prepare and submit to the Government a list of the participants that were declared as winners in the competition, and at the same time, publish it on the official website of the Anti-Corruption Committee and the official website of the Staff of the Prime Minister.

Article 19. Competition Held for Selecting Candidates for the Position of the Chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee; the Appointment

1. The Board shall, through the Staff of the Prime Minister (in this Article also referred to as “the Staff”) announce a competition not earlier than 90 and not later than 50 days prior to the end of the powers of the chair of the Anti-Corruption, or within 40 days of the chair’s position becoming vacant.

2. The announcement shall be published on the official website of public notices (www.azdarar.am), on the official website of the Anti-Corruption Committee, and the official website of the Staff of the Prime Minister.

3. The announcement shall contain the following information:

1) The requirements on the candidate;

2) The list of documents necessary for participating in the competition, including the template of the integrity questionnaire;

3) The conditions of conducting the competition and the Questionnaire; and

4) The deadline and place of presenting the documents.

4. The list of documents necessary for participating in the competition shall be prescribed by the RoA Government.

5. A person aspiring to participate in the competition (hereinafter “the Aspirant”) shall, within 10 days of publishing the announcement, present the necessary documents to the Staff.

6. The Board shall conduct the competition in the following stages:

1) The documentary review stage, within three days of receiving the application and the attached documents (hereinafter also referred to as “the Application”), the Board shall check whether the documents presented by the participant, except for the filled integrity questionnaire, conform to the requirements prescribed by this Law. A candidate may provide clarifications on the information contained in his/her documents. If the required documents are incomplete, the applicant shall be informed thereof immediately, and if it is impossible to inform, then within a one-day period. Shortcomings may be rectified within the time period prescribed for accepting applications. Acceptance of applications presented in violation of the deadline prescribed for presenting documents or applications that do not meet the requirements prescribed by law shall be rejected by a decision of the Board, and they shall be returned by the Board within three working days. The competition shall be conducted even if only one applicant has applied to participate in the competition;

2) The integrity checking stage: within a one-day period after the end of the documentary review stage, the Board shall present to the Corruption Prevention Commission the filled integrity questionnaire for participants that overcame the documentary review stage, for the purpose of obtaining an advisory opinion within a 20-day period;

3) The interview stage: the Board shall, within a five-day period of receiving the advisory opinion on integrity, conduct an interview, having published on the Staff's official

website, and through the Staff, information about the interview date and place at least three days prior to the interview. The interview shall be conducted in the following stages:

a. In the interview stage, the Board shall, through an interview, check the leadership and managerial skills necessary for holding the position, as well as other personal features necessary for holding the position (self-control, demeanor, listening ability, communication skills in official and non-official relationships, analytical abilities, etc.); and

b. Analysis of a brief legal issue in the relevant specialization field (a provision of a law or other legal act, or positions expressed in a judicial act, etc.) by the candidate and presenting a position, for the purpose of evaluating the qualities needed for quick impromptu orientation, self-control, demeanor, communication skills, analytical abilities, and qualities necessary for holding the position;

4) Results summarization stage: a questions form shall be provided to each member of the Board, in which the elements subject to evaluation shall be marked. Each member of the Board shall evaluate each participant and write down his/her comments about the evaluated elements. As a result of the interview, the Board shall prepare a list of the participants declared as winners in the competition, which shall contain the no fewer than two and no more than three candidates that received the highest total score, except when only one candidate applied to participate in the competition.

7. Within two days of preparing the list of candidates, the Board shall present to the Government the list of the participants that were declared as winners in the competition, and at the same time, publish it on the official website of public notices (www.azdarar.am) and on the official website of the Staff.

8. The Government shall discuss the issue of appointment to the position of the Chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee and adopt an appropriate decision within a 10-day period of the presentation of the candidates by the Board.

9. If no winner was found in the competition or if the Government did not make the relevant appointment, The Board shall schedule a new competition within a maximum of 30 days.

Article 20. Appointment to Other Positions in the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. The deputy chairs of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall, in accordance with the procedure prescribed by this Law, be appointed and dismissed by the Prime Minister.

2. Other servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be appointed and dismissed by the chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee.

3. The technical support staff of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be appointed and dismissed by the General Secretary of the Anti-Corruption Committee in accordance with the procedure defined by the Republic of Armenia labor legislation.

4. Persons holding a discretionary position in the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be appointed and dismissed by the chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee.

Article 21. Oath of a Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. A person appointed to a position in the Anti-Corruption Committee for the first time shall, in accordance with the procedure prescribed by the chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee, take the following oath in front of the flag of the Republic of Armenia:

“I, (name, patronymic, surname), by assuming a position in the Anti-Corruption Committee, hereby swear:

To serve the Republic of Armenia people loyally, to comply strictly with the Republic of Armenia Constitution and laws, to protect human and civil rights and liberties from corrupt criminal encroachments, to contribute to building zero tolerance in society towards corruption, and to perform my duties unreservedly and in good faith.”

2. A servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall take oath once, individually, by means of reading the oath text.

3. A servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall sign the oath text read by him/her, which shall be kept in his/her personal file.

Article 22. Staff Reserve of Anti-Corruption Committee Servants

1. Servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be registered in a staff reserve in case of cutting positions or liquidating or reorganizing the headquarters or subdivisions of the Anti-Corruption Committee, if the Anti-Corruption Committee servant cannot be appointed to an equivalent position, or if he/she has in writing refused to be appointed to another equivalent or higher or lower position.

2. The positions specified in Paragraph 1 of this Article shall be proposed to a servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee sequentially.

3. The maximum period of staying in the staff reserve of servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be six months, but in any event not longer than the maximum age prescribed by this Law for holding a position in the Anti-Corruption Committee, or until the end of the extended term of service in case the term of service has been extended in accordance with the procedure prescribed by this Law.

4. If a person who is in the staff reserve of the Anti-Corruption Committee is removed from the reserve on the basis of his/her application, then the length of his/her work experience shall be calculated in accordance with the actual time of staying in the staff reserve.

5. For the first two months of being in the staff reserve of the Anti-Corruption Committee, servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be paid the official pay rate established for the most recent position held by them. If a servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee is, on the basis of his/her application, removed from the staff reserve before two months have passed, payment shall be made for the actual time of staying in the staff reserve.

6. The procedure of registration in and removal from the staff reserve of staff of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall, in accordance with this Law, be approved by the chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee.

Article 23. Limitations Applied in Respect of Servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. The limitations prescribed by the Law on Public Service shall apply to servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee.

Article 24. Dismissal of a Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. A servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee, except for the chair and deputy chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee, shall be dismissed:

- 1) In case of losing citizenship of the Republic of Armenia;
- 2) By his/her own initiative, based on a written application, in case of completing 20 years of professional work experience;
- 3) In connection with reaching the maximum age prescribed by this Law, unless it was extended in accordance with the procedure prescribed by this Law;
- 4) In case of cutting positions or liquidating or reorganizing the Anti-Corruption Committee, unless it is possible to appoint the servant to a relevant position in the Anti-Corruption Committee, and the cutting of positions is due to a reduction in the total number of positions;
- 5) In case of not being fit for service due to an illness or a physical defect;
- 6) In case of having been declared by a final court decision as having no or limited capacity;
- 7) In case of having been declared by a final court decision as deceased or missing;
- 8) In case of being subject to criminal prosecution that was terminated or not pursued based on a non-acquittal ground;
- 9) In case of entry into force of a convicting court judgment in respect of him/her;

10) In case of receiving a disciplinary penalty in the form of dismissal;

11) In case of not reporting for duty for over 120 consecutive days or over 140 days in total during the last 12 months due to temporary work inability, excluding leave for pregnancy and child birth or child care;

12) In case of the attestation concluding that he/she is not in conformity with the position held;

13) In case of two consecutive failures, without any excuse, to appear for the attestation prescribed by this Law;

14) In case of emergence of any of the limitations prescribed by Paragraph 2 of Article 15 of this Law; or

15) In case of having been appointed to the position in violation of the requirements of this Law.

2. The duties of a servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be deemed terminated in case of his/her death.

3. The powers of the chair and deputy chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall terminate prematurely in the following cases:

1) Reaching the maximum age for holding the position;

2) Losing citizenship of the Republic of Armenia;

3) Being declared by a final court decision as having no capacity or deceased or missing;

4) Death;

5) A convicting court judgment in respect of him/her;

6) A decision in respect of his/her criminal prosecution that was terminated or not pursued based on a non-acquittal ground; or

7) Filing a resignation with the RoA Government and the latter approving it.

4. The powers of the chair and deputy chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be terminated prematurely if:

1) During his/her term in office, he/she has acquired an illness or physical defect that does or will over a long period of time hinder the performance of his/her official functions;

- 2) Any of the limitations prescribed by Paragraph 2 of Article 15 of this Law has emerged;
 - 3) He/she violated the restrictions and incompatibility requirements prescribed by the Law on Public Service;
 - 4) He/she violated the prohibition of engagement in political activities; or
 - 5) New facts have emerged, showing that he/she did not meet the requirements at the time of appointment.
5. The term in office of the chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall expire on the same day of the sixth year following his/her appointment.

Article 25. Grades of Anti-Corruption Committee Servants

1. The following grades shall be awarded to servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee:
 - 1) Second Class State Counselor of Justice;
 - 2) Third Class State Counselor of Justice;
 - 3) First Class Counselor of Justice;
 - 4) Second Class Counselor of Justice;
 - 5) Third Class Counselor of Justice;
 - 6) First Class Counselor;
 - 7) Second Class Counselor; and
 - 8) Third Class Counselor.
2. The grades of second class state counselor of justice and third class state counselor of justice shall be the highest grades, which shall be awarded in accordance with the procedure prescribed by the Law on Public Service.
3. Other grades shall be awarded to servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee by the chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee.
4. Grades shall be awarded to servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee individually and for life.
5. In case of dismissal based on the grounds prescribed by Paragraphs 1(8), 1(9), or 1(14) of Article 24 of this Law, the servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee may be

deprived of the Anti-Corruption Committee service grade by decision of the official who has the power to award the respective grade.

Article 26. Grades Corresponding to Positions of Servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. The upper boundary of the grade corresponding to the position of the chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be the grade of the Second Class State Counselor of Justice, and the lower boundary shall be the Third Class State Counselor of Justice.

2. The upper boundary of the grade corresponding to the position of deputy chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be the grade of Third Class State Counselor of Justice, and the lower boundary shall be the First Class Counselor of Justice.

3. The upper boundary of the grade corresponding to the positions of the third subgroup of top positions and the first subgroup of chief positions shall be the grade of First Class Counselor of Justice, and the lower boundary shall be the Second Class Counselor of Justice.

4. The upper boundary of the grade corresponding to the positions of the second and third subgroups of chief positions shall be the grade of Second Class Counselor of Justice, and the lower boundary shall be the Third Class Counselor of Justice.

5. The upper boundary of the grade corresponding to the positions of the first and second subgroups of lead positions shall be the grade of Third Class Counselor of Justice.

6. The upper boundary of the grade corresponding to the positions of the third and junior subgroups of lead positions shall be the grade of First Class Counselor.

7. The upper boundary of the grade corresponding to the positions of the second subgroup of junior positions shall be the grade of Second Class Counselor.

8. When appointing to a position in the Anti-Corruption Committee persons that performed public service/worked in other bodies and have a military or special rank (or grade or qualification rank), their military or special rank (or grade or qualification rank) shall be aligned with the grade of a servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee. The correspondence of military or special rank (or grade or qualification rank) with the grades prescribed by this Law shall be defined by the Government.

Article 27. Time Periods of Awarding Grades

1. The grade of a third class counselor shall be the inception grade, which shall be awarded upon appointment to a position in the Anti-Corruption Committee, save for the case provided by Paragraph 8 of Article 26 of this Law. When being appointed to other position in the Anti-Corruption Committee, the minimum grade corresponding to the

relevant position as per Article 26 of this Law shall be awarded to the servant in question.

2. If the alignment of the grade under Paragraph 8 of Article 26 of this Law results in the class rank being higher than the maximum grade prescribed by Article 26 of this Law for appointment to the respective position, then a grade that is one degree higher than such maximum grade for rush position shall be awarded.

3. Grades shall be awarded to servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee in sequence, within the boundaries of maximum grades for the position held, within 15 days of completing the required term of service in the preceding grade, except for cases provided by this Law.

4. To award the next grade under the procedure defined by this Law, the following time periods of service shall be prescribed:

1) Two years: for a servant who has the grade of a Third Class Counselor;

2) Three years: for a servant who has the grade of a Second Class Counselor;

3) Two years: for a servant who has the grade of a First Class Counselor;

4) Four years: for a servant who has the grade of a Third Class Counselor of Justice; and

5) Five years: for a servant who has the grade of a Second Class Counselor of Justice;

5. No time period of service shall be prescribed for awarding the highest grade to a servant who has the grade of a First Class Counselor of Justice.

6. The time period of service within the preceding grade shall be calculated from the date of signing the legal act on awarding such grade, and in case of alignment with the grade under Paragraph 8 of Article 26 of this Law, from the date of signing the legal act on awarding the military or other special rank.

7. The awarding of the next grade to a servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be postponed if:

1) It was decided after the attestation to postpone the attestation and to send the person in for training;

2) The person has a disciplinary penalty; or

3) His/her powers have been suspended in accordance with the procedure prescribed by law, or an internal investigation is underway.

8. Within 15 days of disappearance of the grounds prescribed by Paragraph 7 of this Article for postponing the awarding of the next grade, the next grade shall be awarded to the Anti-Corruption Committee servant.

CHAPTER 5

RIGHTS AND DUTIES, ATTESTATION, TRAINING AND LIABILITY OF THE SERVANT OF THE ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMITTEE

Article 28. Rights of a Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. A Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall have right to:
 - 1) Familiarize herself/himself with all the materials of her/his personal file, notes on her/his performance evaluation and other documents as well as provide explanations;
 - 2) Receive information and other materials necessary for performing her/his official duties as per the prescribed procedure;
 - 3) Discuss questions and take decisions within her/his authority;
 - 4) Receive remuneration prescribed by law;
 - 5) Receive remedies, social protection and security;
 - 6) Participate in career promotion and receive a higher grade matching her/his position in accordance with the prescribed procedure;
 - 7) Be trained with funding from the state budget as well as other resources not prohibited by the legislation of the Republic of Armenia pursuant the prescribed procedure; and
 - 8) Make recommendations on improving the activities of the Anti-Corruption Committee.
2. A Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall have other rights prescribed by law and other legal acts.
3. Servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee and their family members shall enjoy the protection of the state. If there is a threat of unlawful interference with the immunity of such servants or their family or residential or office space occupied by such servants, the Servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee may apply to the Chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee with a request to provide security measures.

Article 29. Duties of a Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. A Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be obliged to:
 - 1) Have a command of the legal acts defining his/her rights and duties in the position held;
 - 2) Comply with the requirements of the Constitution, laws and other legal acts;
 - 3) Achieve the required professional qualification and practical skills;
 - 4) Ensure that human and civil rights and lawful interests are protected while exercising her/his authorities;
 - 5) Maintain service discipline;

- 6) Adhere to the requirements set for working with information containing state, official or other secrets guarded by law including after ceasing to hold office;
- 7) Work on duty shifts according to the procedure defined by the Chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee;
- 8) Undergo attestation and training pursuant to the procedure and within the timelines prescribed by this Law; and
- 9) Comply with the restrictions and incompatibility requirements for Servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee prescribed by this Law.

2. Servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall have other duties prescribed by law.

Article 30. Rewards Applied to Servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. The following rewards may be applied to Servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee for long service as well as for proper performance of official duties and assignments and for specific indicators:

- 1) Expression of gratitude;
- 2) Lump-sum monetary reward;
- 3) Souvenir reward;
- 4) Providing 10 additional days of paid leave;
- 5) A medal or a badge;
- 6) Assigning a grade prematurely;
- 7) Assigning a grade that is one rank higher than the upper boundary prescribed for the given position.

2. Early withdrawal of a disciplinary sanction previously imposed on the Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee may be used as an encouragement.

3. The reward provided for in Paragraph 1(6) of this Article may be applied to the Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee only once during service.

4. The types of rewards prescribed by Paragraph 1(1) to 1(5) of this Article shall be applied by the Chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee.

5. The types of rewards prescribed by Paragraph 1(6) and 1(7) of this Article shall be applied by the official who has authority to assign such grades.

6. The reward provided for in Paragraph 2 of this Article shall be applied to the Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee by the official who imposed the disciplinary sanction.

7. The procedure for proposing to reward Servants holding positions in the third subgroup of the top group, and in the chief, lead, and junior groups of positions of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be set by the Chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee.

Article 31. Rewarding Persons Supporting the Activities of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. Persons supporting the activities of the Anti-Corruption Committee may be awarded by the Chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee with a letter of gratitude, a souvenir, or a monetary reward.

2. The procedure for rewarding persons supporting the activities of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be established by the Chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee.

Article 33. Grounds for Disciplinary Liability of Servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. The grounds for imposing disciplinary liability on a Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee are:

- 1) Violation of the code of conduct of Servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee;
- 2) Failure to perform or improper performance of his/her duties;
- 3) Regular violations of the internal rules of work discipline;
- 4) Failure to comply with the restrictions or incompatibility or conflict of interest requirements prescribed by law;
- 5) Negative outcome of the integrity check.

2. The code of conduct of Servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be approved by the chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee on the basis of model rules set forth by the Corruption Prevention Commission.

Article 33. Disciplinary Sanctions Imposed on Servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. Depending on the gravity of disciplinary violation, the following disciplinary sanctions may be imposed on Servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee;

- 1) Warning;
- 2) Reprimand;
- 3) Severe reprimand;
- 4) Lowering of grade by one degree;
- 5) Lowering of position by one level; and
- 6) Dismissal.

2. The disciplinary sanctions provided for in part 1 of this Article shall be imposed on Servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee by the official who has authority to appoint him/her.

3. The disciplinary sanction provided for in Paragraph 1(4) of this Article shall not be imposed on the Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee who has the top grade.

Article 34. Procedure for Imposing Disciplinary Liability on Servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. A disciplinary sanction may be imposed if less than six months have passed since the date of discovering the disciplinary violation, excluding period of leave or illness, and provided that the disciplinary sanction imposed corresponds to the nature of the committed violation.

2. A disciplinary sanction shall be documented in writing. Only one disciplinary sanction may be imposed for one disciplinary violation.

3. A servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be informed about a disciplinary sanction within a five-day period of its imposition.

4. If the Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee within one year of the date of imposing a disciplinary sanction has not been subjected to a new disciplinary sanction, she/he shall be deemed as not having a sanction. This Paragraph shall not apply to the disciplinary sanctions prescribed by sub-paragraphs (3)-(6) of Paragraph 1 of Article 33 of this Law.

5. A disciplinary sanction may be imposed on a Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee only on the basis of the results of an internal investigation.

6. During an internal investigation, the powers of the Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee may be temporarily suspended if sufficient grounds exist to assume that he/she will obstruct the internal investigation in case of remaining in office. In such case, the Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall continue to receive his/her salary.

7. In case of criminal prosecution of a Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee, his/her powers may be temporarily suspended until the termination of the criminal prosecution or entry into legal force of the court judgment in the criminal case.

8. A Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall have a right to appeal against the decision on imposing a disciplinary sanction on her/him in the court according to the procedure prescribed by law.

9. The Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee subjected to disciplinary sanction shall not be relieved from civil, administrative or criminal liability for the same deed prescribed by law, except when the disciplinary sanction was imposed on the basis of a violation committed in the framework of the integrity check.

Article 35. Attestation of Servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. Attestation of Servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be carried out in order to determine the suitability of professional knowledge and job competencies of the Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee to the position held, as well as for official promotion purposes.

2. A Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall undergo attestation once every three years.

3. A premature attestation of the Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee may be conducted not earlier than one year after the regular attestation.

4. The premature attestation of the Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be conducted based on a decree of the Chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee or if the Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee so wishes.

5. The attestation shall be conducted with the direct participation of the Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee.

6. No attestation shall be conducted for:

- 1) The Chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee and her/his deputies;
- 2) Servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee who are pregnant and on under three-year child care leave unless they express a wish to undergo attestation;
- 3) Servants who have held their position for less than a year, unless they have asked to undergo attestation; and
- 4) Persons who shall be dismissed from their current position due to reaching the retirement age.

7. The Servants of the Anti-Corruption on leave related to pregnancy and child care shall be subject to attestation not sooner than one year after returning from leave unless they express a wish to undergo attestation earlier.

8. The Servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee who are subject to attestation but are on leave, on a business trip as well as temporarily incapable of work shall undergo attestation within one month of reporting for work.

9. The Servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee subject to attestation shall be given at least one month early notice on conducting the attestation.

10. The immediate supervisor shall provide a reference letter on the performance of the Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee at least two weeks before the attestation.

11. The reference letter on performance shall contain information on the Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee, his/her practical and personal characteristics, and a substantiated evaluation of the results of his/her performance. This evaluation shall be based on the conclusion of his/her immediate supervisor on the performance of the Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee regarding the period since the previous attestation.

12. The Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall, at least a week before the attestation date, familiarize himself/herself with his/her official reference letter.

13. Failure to provide an official reference letter as prescribed by this Article may not affect the attestation results for the Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee.

14. The functions of the attestation commission shall be performed by the competition commission provided for by this Law.

15. The Commission shall adopt one of the following decisions based on the attestation results:

- 1) A decision finding that the servant matches the positions held;
- 2) A decision finding that the servant matches the position and may be included in the promotion list of Servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee;
- 3) A decision finding that the servant matches the position held, on condition of passing additional training;
- 4) A decision finding that the servant matches the position held and requesting to assign the next grade prematurely;
- 5) A decision finding that the servant does not match the position held and proposing to transfer him/her to a lower position; and
- 6) A decision finding that the servant does not match the position held and requesting to dismiss him/her.

16. The Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall have right to familiarize himself/herself with the attestation results, and in case of disagreeing with them, appeal them to the Chair of the Anti-Corruption Commission within a three-day period.

17. The commission chair shall present the conclusion of the Commission to the Chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee within a three-day period after attestation.

18. The Chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall take a decision on additional training based on the results of attestation no later than within two weeks of receiving the attestation results; while in the event of temporary incapacity of the Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee to work and being on leave as well as during the training the relevant decision based on the attestation results shall be taken within a two-week period from the date on which she/he reports for work. If there are requests for

assigning a class rank prematurely, transferring to a lower position or dismissing, the Chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee may take the relevant decision within the same period.

19. The attestation procedure of Servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be established by the Chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee.

Article 36. Training of Servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee and Participation in Other Educational Programs

1. A Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee, except for the Chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee and her/her deputies, are required to undergo training no less than once every two years.

2. The mandatory training may last up to one month.

3. The training of persons holding autonomous positions shall be conducted pursuant to the procedure prescribed the Republic of Armenia Law on the Academy of Justice. The training of persons performing criminal intelligence functions shall be conducted pursuant to the procedure prescribed by a sub-legislative act.

4. A Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee may participate in other educational programs, conferences, and other professional gatherings of lawyers. Permission for absence during working hours for attending such events shall be granted by the respective deputy Chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee. The absence of a servant having obtained such permission in connection with attending such events shall be treated as excused and the salary shall be paid.

CHAPTER 6

PROCEDURE FOR SECONDMENT, TRANSFER TO A LOWER POSITION, AND SUSPENSION OF POWERS OF A SERVANT OF THE ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMITTEE

Article 38. Secondment of a Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. A Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee may, without her/his consent, be seconded to an equivalent or higher position at the headquarters or field units of the Committee for other service due to temporary absence of a Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee, heavy workload or vacancies in the latter, or in order to become included in an investigative task force. The Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall not be transferred if, according to a doctor's conclusion, it may deteriorate her/his health condition or the health condition of a family member residing with her/him.

2. The transfer of a Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee to service elsewhere shall be performed on the basis of a decree of the Chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee.

3. The secondment may be extended with the written agreement of the Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee.

4. Upon the end of the secondment period, the Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee may not be again seconded without her/his consent during one year.

Article 38. Transferring the Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee to a Lower Position

1. The Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee may not be transferred to a lower position except in the following cases:

1) The transfer to the lower position is based on the application of the Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee;

2) The transfer to the lower position is performed as a disciplinary sanction of “demotion”;

3) The transfer to the lower position is based on the decision defined in paragraph 15(5) of Article 35 of this Law; or

4) The transfer to the lower position is performed when staff positions are cut, and based on an application of the Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee.

Article 39. Suspension of the Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. The powers of a Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be suspended:

1) If a criminal prosecution is initiated against the Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee in the cases and procedure provided by law; or

2) When a disciplinary proceeding is initiated against the Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee, if the violation attributed to her/him is such that it may, according to this Law, serve as a basis for her/his dismissal; such suspension shall last until the adoption of the final decision in the disciplinary proceedings initiated on such basis.

2. In the cases provided by Paragraph 1(2) of this Article, the Chair and deputies of the Chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee may be suspended by the official who has the power to appoint them to the position.

3. In the cases provided by Paragraph 1(2) of this Article, other Servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee may be suspended by the Chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee.

4. In the cases provided by Paragraph 1(2) of this Article, the base salary of the Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be paid during the period of her/his suspension.

CHAPTER 7

MATERIAL, SOCIAL, AND OTHER GUARANTEES OF THE PERFORMANCE OF SERVANTS OF THE ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMITTEE

Article 40. Remuneration of a Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. The remuneration of servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be regulated by the RoA Law on the Remuneration of Persons Holding State Positions and State Service Positions.

Article 41. Pension and Social Security of Servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee; Compensation for Property Damage

1. Pension security of a servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee, and social security of the Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee and her/his family members if identified as having a disability with 3rd level limitation on the ability to work, or in case of death of the Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee resulting from injury or impairment occurring while performing official duties or in relation to the performance thereof shall follow the procedure prescribed by the Republic of Armenia Law on Safeguards, Support, and Social Guarantees for Persons Holding Public Positions. A servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be entitled to retire in connection with lengthy service; such entitlement shall arise from the moment of gaining 20 years of professional work experience, calculated in accordance with the procedure stipulated by Article 46 of this Law. The lengthy service pension calculation of a person who on 1 July 2017 was an investigator or on 1 July 2014 a prosecutor, but was subsequently appointed to a position of a servant in the Anti-Corruption Committee under Paragraph 1 of Article 48 of this Law shall be performed in accordance with the procedure defined by Article 9 of the RoA Law on Support, Services, and Social Safeguards for the Activities of Public Officials.

2. Lump-sum financial assistance may be provided to a servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee in accordance with the procedure and in the cases and amounts defined by the RoA Law on the Remuneration of Persons Holding State Positions and State Service Positions, from savings in the wage fund.

3. The insurance and insured sums and their calculation and payment procedure and terms shall be defined by the Government.

4. Property damage caused to a servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee or her/his family members related to performance of duties, shall be compensated by the state.

5. The damage compensation procedure and conditions shall be defined by law.

Article 42. Leave of a Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. Servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be entitled to regular paid annual leave of 30 working days and to additional leave, the duration of which shall be defined by the Government.

2. The regular paid annual leave of a servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be provided in such manner as to not hamper the normal operation of the Anti-Corruption Committee.

Article 43. Providing Living Space to a Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. If necessary, due to the appointment of a Servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee to service in a different location or secondment, living space shall be provided to the servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee.

2. When the provision of living space is impossible, monetary compensation shall be provided according to the procedure and in the amount set by the Government.

Article 44. Emblem of the Anti-Corruption Committee, the Servants' Uniform, ID, and Seal

1. The form and description of the emblem of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be defined by the Government.

2. Servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be provided with a uniform funded from the state budget.

3. The description of the uniform and insignia of the Anti-Corruption Committee and the procedure of wearing it shall be established by the Government.

4. Servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be issued IDs with identical design approved by the Chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee, as well as personal numbered seals registered with the Anti-Corruption Committee in their name.

Article 45. Security of Servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee and Personal Protective Equipment

1. A servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall have the right to keep and carry official registered weapons and special personal protective equipment. The official registered weapons and special personal protective equipment shall be provided to servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee by the Government's authorized body.

2. The procedure of keeping and carrying official registered weapons and special personal protective equipment shall be defined by a decree of the chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee.

3. In case of threat of an unlawful interference with the immunity of servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee or their family or residential or office space occupied by such servants, the Servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee may apply and the authorized state bodies shall be obliged to immediately take all the necessary measures to ensure the security of the servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee or his/her family or residential or office space occupied by such servant.

CHAPTER 8

FINAL PART AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

Article 46. Calculating the Length of Service

1. When appointing officers of the Republic of Armenia Police, State Revenue Committee, and National Security Service, or persons holding autonomous positions in the Investigative Committee, the Special Investigative Service, or the Prosecution Office to the relevant units of the Anti-Corruption Committee, their length of service in the Republic of Armenia Police, State Revenue Committee, Investigative Committee, Special Investigative Service, National Security Service, and Prosecution Office shall be included in the calculation of their length of service in the Anti-Corruption Committee.

Article 47. Titles (Class Ranks) Awarded in the Past

1. Titles (class ranks) awarded to the officers of the bodies specified in Article 46 of this Law shall be, in case they start to serve in the Anti-Corruption Committee, survive irrespective of the position held in the Anti-Corruption Committee and shall be aligned with the class ranks prescribed by this Law.

2. The titles aligned under this Law shall survive if the persons appointed to a position in the Anti-Corruption Committee have a title (class rank) that is higher than the upper boundary prescribed for the respective position.

3. When awarding class ranks under this Law, the length of service with a title (class rank) awarded in the past shall be taken into account.

Article 48. Entry into Force and Other Provisions

1. Articles 10 and 15-21 of this Law shall enter into force on the on the tenth day following its official publication.

2. This Law shall enter into force on the day following the filling of 20 autonomous vacant positions under Paragraph 12 of this Article, except for the cases prescribed by Paragraph 1 of this Article.

3. Within a one-month period of entry into force of Articles 10 and 15-21 of this Law, the RoA Government shall define the list of documents necessary to participate in the competition for the position of the chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee, the procedure of checking and required level of linguistic knowledge for the Anti-Corruption Committee, and the procedure of engaging international experts in the composition of the competition board to select candidates for the position of the chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee.

4. Within five days after a month of entry into force of Articles 10 and 15-21 of this Law, the Chief of Staff of the Prime Minister shall apply to the National Assembly, the

Government, the Supreme Judicial Council, the Human Rights Defender, and General Prosecution Office for nominating one member each within a 10-day period.

5. The Chief of Staff of the Prime Minister shall, within the time period specified in Paragraph 4 of this Article, ensure the publication of the announcement on engagement of representatives of civil society organizations.

6. Aspects of the formation of the competition board to select candidates for the position of the chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee, which are not regulated by this Article, shall be regulated in accordance with the procedure stipulated by Article 18 of this Law.

7. In the competition board for the first time of selecting candidates for the position of the chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee, up to three international experts shall be engaged in an advisory capacity in accordance the procedure defined by the Government. The engagement of the international experts shall be performed within the time period stipulated by Paragraph 4 of this Article. Persons having a minimum of five years of professional work experience in the anti-corruption field may be engaged as international experts.

8. Within a one-month period of formation, the board shall approve its work regulation, approve the Questionnaire for conducting the interview stage, set the maximum evaluation score for requirements presented to the candidates, the breakdown of the maximum score by separate requirements subject to evaluation, the criteria for exploring the substance of the requirements subject to evaluation, the maximum evaluation score for each criterion—within the maximum score prescribed for each requirement, and the evaluation and score calculation procedure.

9. Within a five-day period of approval of the acts specified in Paragraph 8 of this Article, the competition board shall, through the Staff of the Prime Minister, announce a competition to select candidates for the position of the chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee.

10. The competition held to select candidates for the position of the chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee and the appointment of the chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be performed in accordance with the procedure defined by Article 19 of this Law, taking into account the peculiarities prescribed by the present Article.

11. Within a one-month period of his/her appointment, the chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall approve the structure of the Anti-Corruption Committee, as well as the list of position names (including discretionary positions), and the list of support staff positions.

The chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall, within a three-day period of the approval of the acts specified in this Paragraph 11, propose to persons holding an autonomous position in the Special Investigative Service to temporarily fill 20 of the vacant autonomous positions in the Anti-Corruption Committee. The persons specified

in this sub-paragraph shall present their agreement or disagreement with such proposal within a three-day period of receiving the proposal. When the number of persons giving agreement exceeds 20, preference in appointment to a temporary position shall be given to persons that conduct pre-trial investigation of corruption crimes in the Special Investigative Service, and if their number too exceeds 20, then to the person with the longer experience, and in case of equal experience, to the older one. The persons referred to in this Paragraph shall be appointed to equivalent positions in the Anti-Corruption Committee (unless it is impossible), as acting interim, whilst preserving their right to receive monetary compensation for unused annual leave in the Special Investigative Service.

13. The chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall, within a two-month period of appointment to his/her position, approve the acts stipulated by Article 17 of this Law as acts necessary for the activities of the competition commission formed for selection to autonomous positions in the Anti-Corruption Committee (hereinafter also referred to as “the Competition Commission”), the procedure of engaging a civil society representative in the Special Investigative Service, and the procedure and conditions of the competition held to fill positions in the unit performing criminal intelligence functions in the Anti-Corruption Committee.

14. Within a one-month period of the appointment of the chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee, the procedure of conducting the training course for persons performing criminal intelligence functions in the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be approved. Within a five-day period of the approval of the acts specified in Paragraph 11 of this Article, the chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall apply to the body authorized to develop anti-corruption policy, the General Prosecution Office, and the Human Rights Defender for nominating, within a 10-day period, two, one, and one member, respectively, to the Competition Commission formed for the selection of the first composition of servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee.

15. In addition, one representative of civil society shall be engaged in the Competition Commission formed for the selection of the first composition of servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee. The engagement of the civil society representative shall be performed in accordance with the civil society representative engagement procedure approved by the chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee, within the time period prescribed by this Paragraph. International experts, too, may be engaged in the activities of the Competition Commission in an advisory capacity. The competition shall be conducted in accordance with the procedure defined by Article 17 of this Law, taking into account the peculiarities prescribed by the present Article.

16. To become selected as a servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee, the persons specified in Paragraph 12 of this Article shall participate in a competition in accordance with the procedure prescribed by this Law. In case of being declared as a winner as a result of the competition and being appointed to the relevant position by the chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee, or in case of not being declared as a winner as a result of the competition, the persons specified in Paragraph 11 of this Article shall be dismissed.

17. Within a two-week period of the date of publishing the announcement for accepting applications for selecting the first composition of autonomous positions in the Anti-Corruption Committee, the chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee and the Justice Minister shall present to the Justice Academy rector their proposals on the subject courses or topics for inclusion in the professional training programs for persons included in the list of candidates for autonomous positions in the Anti-Corruption Committee. The professional training and probation period of persons included in the list of candidates for autonomous positions in the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be conducted within a two-month period in accordance with the procedure set by decision of the Governing Board of the Justice Academy under the Law on the Justice Academy.

18. The chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall, within three working days of receiving the list, appoint to the respective positions the persons that were under Paragraph 14 of Article 17 of this Law exempted of the training and included in the list of candidates for autonomous positions in the Committee. Within a year of appointment, the chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall, jointly with the Justice Academy rector, define the training procedure for the persons specified in this Paragraph and shall organize their training process.

19. For the first composition of servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee, persons not meeting the requirement in Paragraph 1(4) of Article 15 of this Law may be appointed, if they shall, within three years of being appointed, present a document confirming the required level of knowledge of foreign languages. In case of failure to present such document in such time period, the servant of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be dismissed, and if it is the chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee, his/her powers shall be terminated.

20. From the date of entry into force of this Law, Law HO-255-N (adopted on 28 November 2007) on the Special Investigative Service shall be repealed, and the activities of the RoA Special Investigative Service shall be deemed to have ceased. Persons that held an autonomous position in the Special Investigative Service and had 20 years of professional work experience as a prosecutor or investigator shall gain the right to retire in connection with lengthy service. The lengthy service pension calculation of a person who on 1 July 2017 was an investigator or on 1 July 2014 a prosecutor shall be performed in accordance with the procedure defined by Article 9 of the RoA Law on Support, Services, and Social Safeguards for the Activities of Public Officials.

21. After approval of the structure and list of position names and staffing list of the Anti-Corruption Committee, prior to filling the positions according to the competition procedure defined by the Law on Civil Service, the civil service positions in the Anti-Corruption Committee may be filled in accordance with the Government-approved procedure for concluding employment contracts for a term, including from among persons that found themselves in the civil service staff reserve due to the termination of the activities of the RoA Special Investigative Service.

22. After the entry into force of this Law, for alleged corruption crimes prescribed by law, the power to decide to initiate criminal cases and to conduct pre-trial investigations shall be transferred to the Anti-Corruption Committee. Criminal cases (materials) pending before other investigative authorities shall not be transferred to the Anti-Corruption Committee, with the exception of the cases prescribed by this Article.

After appointment of the persons specified in Paragraph 12 of this Article, criminal cases (materials) initiated in respect of alleged corruption crimes pending before the Special Investigative Service, as well as all cases pending in the stage of criminal case initiation in respect of alleged corruption crimes shall be transferred to the Anti-Corruption Committee.

Criminal cases (materials) initiated in respect of alleged corruption crimes pending before other investigative authorities prior to entry into force of this Law may be taken from investigators of such authorities by the RoA Prosecutor General and be assigned to investigators of the Anti-Corruption Committee subject to the agreement of the chair of the Anti-Corruption Committee.

Article 49. First Attestation of servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. The first attestation of servants of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be conducted 12 months after the entry into force of this Law.

Justification

Decree of the RoA Prime Minister

Decree of the RoA Government

CONCLUSION

On a significant decrease in RoA state budget revenues or a significant increase in RoA state budget expenditures in connection with the adoption of the package of the draft RoA Law on the Anti-Corruption Committee and draft laws amending the Law on Criminal Intelligence Activities, the Law on Service in National Security Bodies, the Criminal Procedure Code, the Criminal Code, the Law on the Remuneration of Persons Holding State Positions and State Service Positions, the Law on Weapons, the Law on the Justice Academy, the Law on Safeguards, Support, and Social Guarantees for Persons Holding Public Positions, the Law on the Regulation of Administrative Relationships, and the Constitutional Law on the By-Laws of the National Assembly

In connection with the adoption of the RoA Law on the Anti-Corruption Committee and the amendments to related laws, the following expenditures will emerge in the context of medium-term expenditures:

Wages, utilities, office expenses, and miscellaneous: for 2021-2023, total of AMD5,163,483,900 (preliminary estimate)

Buildings: for 2021-2023, total of AMD2,563,000,000

Equipment and supplies: for 2021-2023, total of AMD285,500,000

Transport: for 2021-2023, total of AMD192,000,000.

AMD1 billion of the aforementioned expenditures is already provided for in the draft 2021 RoA State Budget, and the remainder is provided for in the 2021-2023 Medium-Term Public Expenditure Framework (approved by RoA Government Decree 1212-N dated 10 July 2020) as new initiatives arising out of strategies for the period from 2021 to 2023 (Annex 6).

For the attention of: Mr. Ararat Mirzoyan
Speaker of the RoA National Assembly

Dear Mr. Mirzoyan;

In accordance with Article 109 of the RoA Constitution and Article 65 of the Constitutional Law on the By-Laws of the National Assembly, the RoA Government hereby presents to the RoA National Assembly the package consisting of the draft RoA Law on the Anti-Corruption Committee and draft laws amending the Law on Criminal Intelligence Activities, the Law on Service in National Security Bodies, the Criminal Procedure Code, the Criminal Code, the Law on the Remuneration of Persons Holding State Positions and State Service Positions, the Law on Weapons, the Law on the Justice Academy, the Law on Safeguards, Support, and Social Guarantees for Persons Holding Public Positions, the Law on the Regulation of Administrative Relationships, and the Constitutional Law on the By-Laws of the National Assembly.

The package is presented together with the justification for the adoption of the laws, statements on the existing articles in which amendments are proposed, the RoA Government's conclusion on a significant decrease in state budget revenues or a significant increase in state budget expenditures, and RoA Government Decree 1922-A (dated 3 December 2020) on the legislative initiative.

We hereby inform you that, in the discussion of the said legislative package in the RoA National Assembly, the RoA Government shall be represented by (keynote reporter) RoA Justice Minister Rustam Badasyan.

Regards, **NIKOL PASHINYAN**