"BUILDING INTEGRITY... A WORK IN PROGRESS"
WHAT IS CORRUPTION?
Corruption is when either power or position is misused for personal benefit; and can take place in both private and public sectors. Examples of corruption include bribery, coercion, nepotism, bid-rigging and electoral fraud.

HOW DOES CORRUPTION AFFECT US?
Additionally, corruption causes public funds – which could have been used to develop infrastructure such as roads, improve public institutions such as schools and hospitals, and improve the delivery of necessities such as light and water- to instead be used to increase the wealth of comparatively few people. Corruption increases poverty and reduces opportunities for job creation and investment. It may also cause a brain drain, where former contributors to a country’s economy may choose to leave due to their frustration and disillusionment.

Corruption destabilizes our society. It causes people to live in fear, undermines government and democracy, and impedes development and order. Corruption causes us to lose faith in our politicians, leading to a system that is neither transparent nor trustworthy.

7 STEPS TO FIGHTING CORRUPTION

1. Accept that there is nothing inevitable about corruption.
2. Realise that no one can stop corruption alone - build coalitions!
3. Understand that there is no 'one size fits all' approach to fighting corruption - think local!
4. The best solutions to corruption are those that everyone stands behind.
5. Corruption doesn’t stop at national borders.
6. To stop corruption you have to understand it.
7. We can all do something against corruption.
SIR PATRICK ALLEN ON, GCMG, CD GOVERNOR-GENERAL

A recent survey of public opinion about corruption in the Americas found that people in most of the countries surveyed believed that corruption had increased in the past two years. According to that survey, 62 percent of Jamaicans share that view, despite the campaign being waged by the National Integrity Action. However, it could well be that this campaign has made people more aware of the dangers of corruption, more alert to the evidence of it and therefore more ready to report corrupt practices.

None of us who readily profess “Jamaica, land we love,” could have been satisfied with Jamaica’s ranking of 83 out of 174 countries in Transparency International’s 2012 Corruption Perception Index. It is therefore encouraging that the recent public opinion survey found that 97 percent of Jamaicans would be willing to act to stop corruption.

I commend the National Integrity Action (NIA) which has spared no effort to engage our people in the fight against corruption. Their public awareness campaign seeks to impress on all of us the bald truth that our economy will be stifled and our society insecure, unless we liberate Jamaica from the grip of corruption. I hope that more and more Jamaicans will become NIA Ambassadors, actively diffusing the NIA’s two-pronged message for Jamaicans to desist from corrupt practices and to speak out against them. We must work together in a serious and determined manner to change this negative image of Jamaica.

On the occasion of your second anniversary, I congratulate National Integrity Action for your achievements thus far, and urge you to be relentless in your pursuit of a ‘corruption-free’ Jamaica. Your success is essential to the realization of our Vision for Jamaica’s development and for its peace and prosperity.

THE MOST HON. PORTIA SIMPSON MILLER, ON, MP Prime Minister

The governing principle upon which the National Integrity Action, NIA, exists is that of helping to build integrity and combat corruption. It is a principle to which the nation must respond if we are to achieve the goal of greater accountability and transparency and build trust in public and private life.

This is no easy undertaking, and not only has the NIA signalled well its intentions and remained steadfast in its quest but through its work and advocacy has definitely assisted in raising the bar of public awareness on this vital issue.

No system – socio-economic, interpersonal or political is sustainable with no or low levels of integrity. In the words of Edmond Burke, that famous Irish Statesman: “Among a people generally corrupt, liberty cannot long exist.” Indeed, integrity builds confidence without which there is little trust by the people, and a system without the support of the people will remain weak and ineffective, and eventually collapse.

Our commitment to building integrity and reducing corruption remains paramount. The people’s trust is necessary for good governance and reduced corruption will strengthen ‘Brand Jamaica’ and provide greater leverage to attract investments and pursue our growth and development agenda. We, therefore, welcome the strengthened mechanisms for reducing corruption and building integrity.

As part of that process, important legislative measures have been put in place, including the establishment of a single Anti-Corruption Agency. Recommendations on campaign financing from the Electoral Commission of Jamaica have been approved and drafting instructions for that Bill are now being prepared for submission to Cabinet. These are further important legislative and enhancement measures to build integrity and transparency of our electoral process.

I commend the NIA for its bold, progressive and necessary stance in helping to move the process forward as together, we uproot all acts of corruption, wherever they may exist, so Jamaica can truly become the place of choice to live, work, raise families, do business and retire.

Please accept my sincere and heartiest congratulations for a successful anniversary celebration and I wish the NIA all the best in its future undertakings.

ANDREW HOLNESS, MP LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION

There can be no doubt that corruption is a major concern as it impacts on political, economic and social developments in the Jamaican society.

It is therefore of critical importance that we all are made aware of the incapacitating effects and the need to treat this harmful and depressing phenomenon with greater urgency.

The United Nations has “highlighted the costs that corruption has on societies and called on countries to forge partnerships to combat this issue”. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has stated that “Corruption hampers the ability of nations to prosper and grow.” And “Neither can peace, development nor human rights flourish in an atmosphere of corruption.”

It is in this context that I take great pleasure in sending this message of congratulations to the National Integrity Action (NIA) as it commemorates the second year of its mission to “build integrity in Jamaica and contribute to more effective combat of corruption on a non-partisan basis”.

Since the official launch on International Anti-corruption Day on December 9, 2011, the group has increased its strength and recognition to the point where it is now acknowledged as the Anti-Corruption group standing guard in Jamaica.

Two years ago when I spoke at the launch of the National Integrity Action (NIA), I emphasized that Jamaica would have to develop a culture that supports transparency and disclosure.

At the time we were perceived as “highly corrupt” and “among the most corrupt countries in the Western Hemisphere”. Since then we have made some improvement but still remain at a low ranking in the 2012 Global Corruption perception Index.

LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION’S Message continued on pg 4
It is most important that the National Integrity Action (NIA) continues to vigorously and with dogged persistence advocate the "strengthening of anti-corruption agencies and the raising of public awareness of the benefits of combating corruption". This would certainly go a far way towards restoring faith in our institutions public and private, attract investments local and foreign, and create greater opportunities for the poor and deprived.

The Parliament is an important oversight body that must effectively seek to rein in corruption by providing the legislative framework. In this regard the Opposition will remain determined and unwavering.

I want to recognize the efforts of the founding members of the Board of Directors, Professor Anthony Harriott (Chairman), Professor Trevor Munroe (Executive Director), Mr. Martin Henry, Mr. Joseph Mathalon, Mr. Danny Roberts and Ms. Eurica Douglas.

I do hope that in the interest of Jamaica and its citizens you will continue to serve as attentively as you have.

If Jamaica is to have a bright future, if it is to have a chance of truly becoming "the place of choice to live, work and raise children", it must better control and prevent corruption. It is the mission of the NIA to aid the development of a movement for integrity in the administration of the affairs of the country. We, however, can be no more than a midwife. The people will have to find the will and make the collective effort to achieve this outcome. They will have to demand value for every tax dollar that is spent by insisting on greater accountability at both the central and local government levels. The seeds of the work of the NIA have not all fallen on rocky soil. We believe that the justness of our cause has appeal but what gives our cause even greater appeal is its necessity.

Alejandro Salas
Regional Director for the Americas,
Transparency International

For their second anniversary, my sincere congratulations to Professor Munroe and the team of leaders at the Board of Directors as well as the creative and energetic staff members at National Integrity Action (NIA) who are dedicated to improving the quality of life for the people of Jamaica. I am also very grateful to their main donors that have trusted and backed NIA since its origin as they embraced the dream of the founders and have been essential in making it happen.

Transparency International is a global network of over 100 civil society organisations around the world from Malaysia to Argentina, from France to Morocco, from Ukraine to Kenya. Just as Jamaica’s world famous athletes, National Integrity Action has become one of our strongest and most skillful partners in record time.

As the international anti-corruption movement we are indebted to the hundreds of Jamaicans who have joined NIA in their activities fighting corruption, and who are becoming anti-corruption champions in their own sphere. Our Global Corruption Barometer, featuring Jamaica for the first time in 2013 thanks to NIA’s efforts, shows that 77% of Jamaicans are willing to become active in an anti-corruption organisation and 97% in activities supporting the anti-corruption fight. People are ready to stand up to corruption.

An anniversary is an important opportunity to take stock of the achievements so far and to reflect about the future. For me personally, after being part of Transparency International for more than 10 years and knowing most of our national chapters around the world, NIA’s greatest achievement is probably their capacity to be engaging and constructive at every level of society. While the complexities of corruption require a strong technical understanding of laws, governance and knowledge of thematic areas like procurement, political party financing and many others, there is also need to empower and engage in dialogue with people at the community level. This is the future for Transparency International, and NIA is already ahead of the game.

By improving good governance as a means to improving the quality of life for millions of Jamaicans, Transparency International joins NIA in its aspirations and takes the opportunity of their second anniversary to renew its commitment to continue supporting them in achieving the dream of a corruption-free Jamaica in the years to come.
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PROFESSOR ANTHONY HARRIOTT
Professor of Sociology and Director of the Institute of Criminal Justice and Security at The University of The West Indies
Chairman

PROFESSOR TREVOR MUNROE
Honorary Visiting Professorial Fellow at the Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies, The University of the West Indies
Executive Director

MS. EURICA DOUGLAS
General Manager, National Association of Parish Development Committees (NAPDEC)
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Director

MR. DANNY ROBERTS CD, JP
Head of the Hugh Lawson Shearer Trade Union Education Institute
Director

MR. LENWORTH BURKE
Attorney-At-Law
Company Secretary
In advancing its own and Jamaica’s mission to build integrity and combat corruption, our second year has seen NIA building on the solid foundations laid in year one. We are seeing definite signs of progress. According to data provided by the respected Latin American Public Opinion Project (LAPOP) 2012, the percentage of Jamaicans asked to pay a bribe declined to 7.5% from a high of 34% in 2006. Jamaica’s rate is now among the lowest of the 26 countries surveyed in Latin America and the Caribbean. Similarly, the Global Corruption Barometer, 2013, in which Jamaica was included amongst one hundred and seven countries, found that almost 8 out of 10 Jamaicans were willing to join an organization that works to reduce corruption. This is significantly above the global average as well as that of the countries of the Americas.

NIA’s contribution to these positive developments is unquestioned. Not least of all because of the impact of a very intensive program of building public awareness. The flagship for our second year in this regard was the full length, one-hour documentary film “The Cost of Corruption: Jamaica’s Barrier to Prosperity”. Based on the responses there can be no doubt that this documentary has built on the commercial ads of our first year and is greatly impacting people’s understanding of corruption, the different forms it takes how and why it is holding back Jamaica’s development.

But we were not content with building the awareness from the television screens, so to speak. NIA went on the ground, in town hall meetings and public forums talking with the people about integrity and listening to their experience of corruption. Such ‘face to face’ interaction built on the first year experiences in Runaway Bay and Mandeville and carried NIA to May Pen, Port Maria, Spanish Town, Portmore, Port Antonio, Hopewell and Half Way Tree in Kingston. The questions and the comments from the people were invaluable in grounding NIA’s message in the people’s experience and in attracting their support for our mission. Largely, from these meetings, the numbers of volunteers have now grown to over five hundred.

In carrying the message, invitations to speak went well beyond the town hall meetings. We were happy to experience first hand the positive response to the need to build integrity and to combat corruption during my speeches to bodies as varied as the Jamaica Banker’s Association, the Shortwood Teachers College, the Jamaica Credit Union League General Meeting, the Association of Methodist Men’s Fellowship and the 94th Annual General Meeting of the Jamaica Civil Service Association, amongst others.
Our work was significantly advanced by NIA’s reaching out to new partners and working collaboratively in carrying the message along with them. We maintained our links with the Jamaica Civil Society Coalition and forged new relations with our journalists through the Press Association of Jamaica in jointly sponsoring National Journalism Week in December 2012 and World Press Freedom Day in May 2013. We joined forces with our Accountants through the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Jamaica to host a public forum under the theme “Combatting Corruption: The Role of the Professional”. The youth are of course critical. Hence, our ready acceptance of the invitation to speak at the Biennial Jamaica Youth Advocacy Yute X Conference. More significantly, has been our recent partnership with the Social Development Commission in carrying the message of the need for greater transparency and accountability at the local and national level to community leaders across the country. Equally important has been NIA’s consultation and dialogue with the Umbrella Group of Churches.

Our second year also saw us intensifying the previous partnership with Transparency International; we attended the Annual Members Meeting of Transparency International in Brazil (2012) and in Berlin (2013). In addition, we contributed to and benefitted from Transparency International sponsored gatherings in Germany, as well as the 15th Anti-Corruption Conference in Brazil. In this last case, we were encouraged to learn that a main issue confronting us here in Jamaica, namely, challenging the impunity of the corrupt “was also central to the work of our counterparts in one hundred and forty other countries”. Our networking with friends in the Caribbean intensified with our speaking engagements in Cayman, Trinidad and Tobago and in the Bahamas.

Our second year also saw NIA making its first ever face to face contact with the Jamaican diaspora. I spoke to compatriots in London sponsored by the Jamaica All Party Parliamentary Group chaired by MP, Diane Abbot and in Toronto under the aegis of the Black Action Defence Committee and the Jamaica Canada Diaspora Foundation. These initial meetings reflected and enhanced developing support for NIA in sections of the diaspora.

Breaking new ground, however, went hand in hand with building on critical activities from our first year. In recognition that the strengthening of the will and capacity of our anti-corruption professionals is critical to our mission, we joined with the Justice Training Institute and the Court Management Services to sponsor the 2nd Annual Prosecutors Training, 2nd Annual Training Seminar for Resident Magistrates and the 1st ever weekend Sensitization Seminar on Corruption for Supreme Court and Appeal Court Judges. These went well in deepening NIA’s understanding of the challenges facing our professionals in the justice system, as well as in strengthening these pillars of our anti-corruption edifice.

Critical elements of this structure are of course legislation for Campaign Finance Reform and for the establishment of a Single Anti-Corruption Agency. In response to NIA, the government has recommitted to both measures. Nevertheless, a combination of circumstances has made these slower in coming than the public interest demands. Not least among these are the legislation priorities relating to the economy following Jamaica’s agreement with IMF the on May 1, 2013; reservations on both measures amongst key people in the political directorate on both sides of the political aisle; insufficient appreciation of the urgency of these measures by some of our leaders and finally, the need for more robust advocacy by all who appreciate that these anti-corruption measures are an essential component of Jamaica’s growth agenda. As such, as we conclude our 2nd Anniversary and enter our third year, NIA is raising the level of its lobbying and advocacy in relation to Campaign Finance Reform and the Single Anti-Corruption Agency. This call for support not only goes out to our own people but has to embrace our international development partners who have an interest in ensuring that aid and grants to Jamaica reach their target in meeting the priorities of our people and are not diminished by waste or by corruption. Towards this end we continue to engage our international partners in encouraging their support for Jamaica’s anti-corruption agenda.

Finally, our non-partisan character, a foundational principle for NIA, reflected itself in the invited presence of both JLP and PNP representatives and other leaders at our public forums, in our speaking out without fear or favour, commending the government and opposition where appropriate and making constructive criticism of both when necessary. Our people’s response shows that they appreciate this independence even as we are criticised by hard core partisans on each side of the political fence. We shall guard this independence as the apple of our eye as we continue to build integrity and combat corruption in year 3 and beyond. The addition of former Contractor General, Greg Christie as Principal Advisor and the enhancement of our staff with new blood, in particular, Deputy Director – External Relations, Ms. Nadiya Figueroa, was welcomed and has increased our capacity to better fulfil NIA’s mission.
2013: BUILDING ON INTERNATIONAL

Prof. Munroe embraces Valerie Steel, President of the Jamaica-Canada Diaspora Foundation at a fund-raising dinner, at which Professor Munroe was keynote speaker.

Prof. Munroe met with President of Guyana Donald Ramotar, during a visit to make the Keynote presentation at TI Guyana's Annual Fund Raising Dinner.

Professor Munroe being interviewed by Fitzroy Gordon on Canada’s #1 Diaspora Radio Station G88 FM.

Prof. Munroe makes a presentation entitled “Fighting the world's fight - against corruption for integrity” at the 110th Rhodes Scholarship Anniversary at Oxford University in England.

NIA’s Research Coordinator Omar Lewis and Executive Director Trevor Munroe with members of the Transparency International team from North Africa at the 15th International Anti-Corruption Conference in Brazil.

Prof. Munroe addresses the 12th Caribbean Shipping Executives Conference in Nassau, Bahamas.

NIA Events Coordinator Marlon Moore participates in a training seminar in Berlin, Germany.
Mrs. Zaila McCalia, Chief Justice (left) joins Professor and Mrs. Munroe in a light moment with the Rt. Rev. Dr. Howard Gregory, Anglican Lord Bishop of Jamaica and the Cayman Islands at the 1st anniversary church service (St. Andrew Parish Church).

NIA Research Coordinator Omar Lewis addresses the Trelawny leg of the Islandwide SDC-SDC conference series.

NIA staff and volunteers gather for an interchange of ideas.

NIA Deputy Director Nadiya Figueroa delivers the keynote presentation at a forum in Hanover entitled ‘Integrity and Good Governance’ staged jointly with the JCSC and the Hopewell DAC.

Children from the Spanish Town Primary School perform a cultural item during the town hall meeting in Twickenham Park, St. Catherine.

Open Session of the 72nd Moravian Synod - Prof. Munroe is joined by Ms. Carol Narcisse, Ms. Nadeen Spence and Bishop Stanley Clarke, as Rev. Dr. Paul Gardner chairs.

Professor Munroe addresses the 2013 GOJ Audit Commissioner Conference.
Jamaica featured for the first time

The Transparency International Global Corruption Barometer (GCB) 2013 report examines how corruption features in peoples’ lives around the world. It addresses peoples’ direct experiences with bribery and details their views on corruption in the main institutions in their countries. The 2013 Barometer, the eighth edition, offers the greatest country coverage to date and is the first edition in which Jamaica has been included, as one of 107 countries surveyed worldwide and 14 in the Americas region. This was made possible with NIA support. Significantly, Transparency International’s Global Corruption Barometer also provides insights into how willing and ready people are to act to stop corruption.

Worldwide, the findings indicate that more than one in four persons paid a bribe (27%), but it is noteworthy that in Jamaica this is less than one in seven. Other findings of the GCB 2013:

- Personal connections are seen as corrupting the public administration; almost two out of three people around the world believe that personal contacts and relationships help to get things done in the public sector.

- Importantly, people state they are ready to change the status quo of widespread corruption; with more than three in four persons in Jamaica indicating a willingness to join an organisation that works to reduce corruption, with a remarkable 97% of Jamaicans indicating a willingness to get involved in this or other ways.
PARTNERSHIPS IN CAPACITY BUILDING

National Integrity Action in collaboration with the Office of the Chief Justice, the Court Management Services and the Justice Training Institute staged three seminars in 2013 for Prosecutorial and Judicial Officers:

- 2nd Annual Prosecutors’ Anti-Corruption Training Seminar – March 15-17, 2013
- Judges’ Sensitisation Seminar on Corruption – July 12-14, 2013

An array of eminent and qualified presenters addressed the seminars. These included:

- Justice Seymour Panton, President of the Court of Appeal
- Justices Bryan Sykes and David Fraser, Supreme Court Judges
- Mr. Owen Ellington, Commissioner of Police
- Dr. Shazeeda Ali, Senior Lecturer in the Faculty of Law, UWI, Mona
- Justice F. Algernon Smith C.D., (retired) Judge of the Court of Appeal
- Justice Karl Harrison, (retired) Judge of the Court of Appeal
- Professor Trevor Munroe, Executive Director of NIA
- Mr. Selvin Hay, Assistant Commissioner of Police and Head of the JCF’s Anti-Corruption Branch
- Mr. Francis Burak, Criminal Justice Advisor, British High Commission.
- Mr. Justin Felice O.B.E. Chief Technical Director, Financial Investigation Division
- Mr. Carl Williams, Deputy Commissioner of Police

This breadth of presenters allowed for the subject matters to be covered in great detail, while allowing for feedback from participants. An example of this was the discussion around the Law Reform (Fraudulent Transactions) (Special Provisions) Act 2013, otherwise referred to the as the “Lotto Scam Act” which was passed earlier this year.

NIA considers these seminars resounding successes, not least for the building of professional will and capacity that these weekend seminars facilitate, but importantly as well for the interchange of perspectives and ideas that occur. In this regard, it is worth noting that each seminar has included a presentation by at least one representative of the Jamaica Constabulary Force. In this way NIA is pleased to be facilitating communication between various arms of the criminal justice system to facilitate more effective administration of justice.
Deepening Public Awareness on the COST OF CORRUPTION

During its second year NIA carried public education on the cost of corruption to Jamaica to a new level with the launch of the one hour documentary film “The Cost of Corruption: Jamaica’s Barrier to Prosperity” on January 17 at the Palace Cineplex, Sovereign Centre in Kingston. Following months of research the film exposed four episodes of corruption in Jamaica’s post-independence history, related to the 1966 school building loan from the World Bank; Operation Pride in the 1990’s; the David Smith/OLINT Ponzi Scheme and Jamaica’s extradition of Christopher “Dudus” Coke.

The documentary - drawing lessons for Jamaica’s future - is narrated by NIA’s Executive Director, Professor Trevor Munroe, with commentary and in-depth analysis from leading Jamaican scholars and prominent persons in the private sector whilst also giving much voice to the ordinary man in the street. The launch was attended by upwards of one hundred specially invited persons comprising Jamaicans from all walks of life.

Following the launch, the documentary was shown on local free to air television – TVJ, CVM and on JNN. By the end of November, almost sixty thousand persons had also viewed the documentary on the YouTube video sharing website. The link to the video is http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PEznDCMyO8. The feedback from those viewing the video at home and abroad was generally positive – the overwhelming response being that the documentary was “an eye opener”, “balanced” and “informative”.

Noted Dub Poet Mutabaruka provided social commentary throughout the documentary
“JAMAICA’S ANTI-CORRUPTION MOVEMENT... ON THE RUNWAY, READY TO TAKE OFF!” Joseph Kamara

Additionally, the two made a number of media appearances on Jamaica Speaks on Hot 102FM, Beyond the Headlines on RJR, Nationwide at 5 on Nationwide 90FM, Blaine and Crawford on Hot 102FM and Live at 7 on CVM TV.

Mr. Kamara made two luncheon presentations, the first attended by donor partners as well as private sector leaders and members of civil society. The second by public officials of Jamaica’s anti-corruption agencies.

Joseph Kamara stressed that he was here to learn as much as possible and to expose Jamaicans to Sierra Leone’s experience. Among the points he stressed was that Sierra Leone’s strong anti-corruption Commission was firm in carrying out its responsibilities while being equally clear that such a body should not treat the government nor politicians as enemies. Prior to leaving Jamaica, Kamara expressed satisfaction with his visit and stated that he felt that NIA and Jamaica’s anti-corruption movement was “on the runway, ready to take off”.

In reaching out to experiences beyond Jamaica relevant to combating corruption, NIA’s Executive Director held discussions with Mr. Joseph Kamara, Commissioner of the Sierra Leone Anti-Corruption Commission while both were attending the 15th International Anti-Corruption Conference in Brazil. Mr. Kamara accepted Professor Munroe’s invitation and visited Jamaica from January 28 to February 2, 2013.

The main purpose of the visit was to build public awareness amongst Jamaicans on the importance to Sierra Leone, in challenging the impunity of the corrupt in high places, of the granting in 2008 of prosecutorial powers to Sierra Leone’s Anti-Corruption Commission.

During the visit Mr. Kamara, accompanied by NIA’s Executive Director, attended several courtesy calls and working meetings including the Governor General, Sir Patrick Allen; Minister of Justice, Senator The Honourable Mark Golding and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade, Senator The Honourable A.J. Nicholson.
STARTING WITH THE YOUTH
INTEGRITY AMBASSADORS

In partnership with the Jamaica Civil Society Coalition (JCSC), National Integrity Action launched a student leadership development programme, Integrity Ambassadors, in three corporate-area high schools - Holy Trinity, St. George’s and St. Hugh’s. The programme commenced with the start of the 2013-2014 academic year and will span ten weeks. It is geared towards encouraging reflection, leading to commitment and action around issues of integrity. The student participants’ experiences will be used as the building blocks for new learning and insights. The methodology is participatory and will include a variety of activities including role play, games, use of technology, field trips, discussions and guest presentations.

The curriculum of the programme, around which a detailed teacher manual and a student handbook have been developed, focuses on five themes:

1) Understanding Integrity and Corruption
2) The Self and Integrity
3) The Country and Integrity: Jamaica’s Journey – How Far Have We Come?
4) The World and Integrity: It’s a Global Movement
5) I Can Make a Difference: Accountability and Courage.

ESSAY COMPETITION

NIA in collaboration with the Ministry of Education staged a National Essay Competition for Sixth Form students, themed “Combatting Corruption, Building Integrity in Jamaica,” in support of the Research and Advocacy Component of the Ministry of Education’s New Civics Programme. This was a thrust at creating greater public awareness and getting youth to engage in the discussion on building integrity in the Jamaican society. The competition was launched on September 23, 2012, International Peace Day, with submissions closing on December 9, 2012 UN International Anti-Corruption Day.

The Awards Ceremony was held on April 23, 2013 - World Book & Copyright Day - in collaboration with the Jamaica Intellectual Property Office, at the Jampro Building in Kingston. Most of the participants from across the island were on-hand to collect their awards and celebrate with their fellow entrants.
PLUGGING LOOPHOLES IN JAMAICA’S DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM AND THE SINGLE ANTI-CORRUPTION AGENCY

During its second year, NIA intensified its lobby and advocacy for political parties and campaign money to be regulated and for Jamaica’s three anti-corruption institutions to be rationalized into a single agency with prosecutorial powers. Towards this end NIA’s Executive Director accepted an invitation from the Minister of Justice to serve on an Advisory Committee, chaired by retired Justice Karl Harrison, to propose a design for the Single Anti-Corruption Agency. The resulting report was taken to Cabinet and also formed the basis of presentations sponsored by NIA and the Jamaica Civil Society Coalition in public forums on the subject. At these forums, Minister Mark Golding and then Opposition Spokesperson on National Security and Justice Delroy Chuck M.P., made presentations supportive of the need for the Single Anti-Corruption Agency, joining together the Parliamentary Integrity of Members Committee, the Corruption Prevention Commission and the Office of the Contractor General. Despite continuing reservations amongst sections of the political class, the government has drafted a Bill to lay before Parliament hopefully by the end of the calendar year, given the urgency of this matter.

Similarly, two legislative enactments are being drafted – one for the registration of Political Parties and the other for Campaign Finance Reform with commitments to lay on the table, despite missed deadlines, by the Parliamentary recess in December. They represent the culmination of an extended process of consultation with NIA, the private sector, the Jamaica Civil Society Coalition, a wide range of civic groups including the churches, coordinated and led by the Electoral Commission of Jamaica. The need to prevent ‘money power’ from taking away ‘people power’ was perhaps the most consistent theme of town hall meetings held by NIA in capital towns across the country, as well as in presentations by the Executive Director to a wide range of private sector, professional, church and civil society groups across Jamaica. During these presentations, NIA supported the ECJ that there should be some limit on how much money any donor can give to a political party, that big donors should be disclosed and that all unregulated financial institutions such as OLINT should be prohibited from contributing to political parties.
About NIA

National Integrity Action (NIA) is a registered not-for-profit organization with the objective of combating corruption and building integrity in Jamaica. The establishment of NIA grew out of the necessity to raise levels of national integrity and to combat corruption more effectively in Jamaica.

NIA furthers the work of its predecessor, the National Integrity Action Forum – a non-partisan network of heads of anti-corruption agencies established in January 2009.

NIA was launched on UN International Anti-Corruption Day, December 9, 2011. Consistent with its non-partisan character, the then Prime Minister of Jamaica, the Honorable Andrew Holness, MP, was keynote speaker at the launch and the Opposition Spokesman on Finance, Peter Phillips, MP, made a presentation on behalf of the then Leader of the Opposition, the Most Honorable Portia Simpson Miller.

NIA is the National Chapter in Formation of Transparency International (TI), the global movement and leading civil society organization working against corruption worldwide.

GET INVOLVED:

Empower yourself to play a role in combating corruption in Jamaica

• Educate:
  - Visit the NIA website and read our factsheet and presentations on the Single Anti-Corruption Commission and Campaign Finance Reform
  - Watch the NIA Advertisements and the Cost of Corruption Documentary on our website
  - Attend one of our events
  - Keep abreast of developments in the Anti-Corruption landscape.

• Engage:
  - Track the progress of critical anti-corruption legislations
  - Visit the Cabinet Office website
  - Watch the proceedings of our elected parliament
  - Host discussions in your organizations and communities on the issues of integrity that matter to you most

• Be Empowered:
  - Write to the newspapers and call in to the talk shows
  - Visit, write letters or sign petitions to your MP and Councillor, hold your elected representatives accountable
  - Develop your own integrity initiatives and invite NIA to partner with you

• Donate:
  - NIA needs your support. Contact our offices for further details.

Holding ourselves and our leadership accountable plays a role in building integrity in your organizations, in your communities and throughout Jamaica.

PARTNERING WITH NIA

For further information on assisting NIA in the Building of Integrity please contact our offices.

National Integrity Action

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