## SPEAK UP Against Corruption

EMPLOYEES' Handbook

For Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)





## WE WANT YOU TO SPEAK UP AGAINST BUSINESS CORRUPTION

Transparency International — Malaysia (TI-M) is an independent, non-governmental organization that is an accredited chapter of Transparency International.

For more information, please visit: www.transparency.org.my

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> > Disclaimer: All characters and events in this book are entirely fictional and do not represent or reflect any person or event in real life.

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## **INTRODUCTION**

Small — Medium Enterprises (SMEs) are important engines of growth for the Malaysian economy, contributing to 36.3% of the GDP and 65.5% of total employment as of 2015. SMEs play an integral and substantial part in the economic development of Malaysia. The country's transition to a high income economy depends highly on the contribution of the SMEs to the GDP growth of the country. However, SMEs operate in an intensively competitive environment, breeding the right conditions for the emergence of unethical practices to procure business.

In view of this, Transparency International-Malaysia (TI-M) aims to reach out to the driving force of the Small-Medium Enterprises - the employees - in order to curb corruption and bribery in the field of business before it spreads and stifles economic development.

TI-M dedicates this handbook to all responsible workers in the eventual hope that it will serve as a valuable guide to promote ethics in the business sector. The handbook aims to engage you, empower you and improve your willingness to share your experiences in dealing with corruption at the workplace.

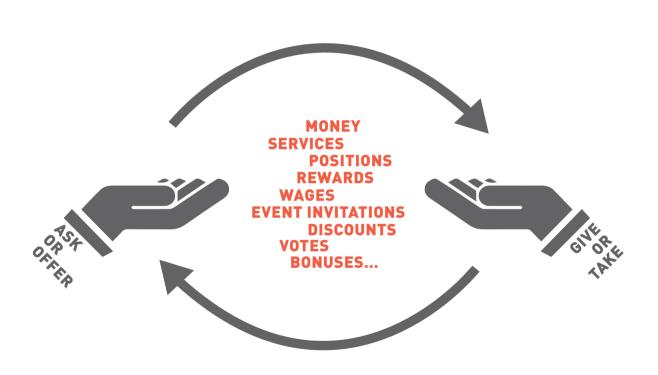
Call our toll free service at 1800-220-122 to share your story and experience, in regards to corruption. Your story will create an opportunity for us to find solutions and work towards forming a corrupt-free business sector in the long term.

Act now to fight corruption.



## CORRUPTION IS THE ABUSE OF ENTRUSTED POWER FOR PRIVATE GAIN.

### WHAT IS A BRIBE?



## **CORRUPTION DATA**

#### ASIA PACIFIC Global Corruption Barometer (GCB) 2017



**60%** of Malaysians feel that the level of corruption has increased.

GCB 2013 – 39% MCB 2014 - 40% \* Malaysia Corruption Barometer



**57%** of Malaysians think the police are involved in corruption.



**48%** of Malaysians think local government councilors and tax officials are involved in corruption.



**46%** of Malaysians think business executives are involved in corruption.

#### Business executives ranked as the 🍊



\*out of 9 key influential institutions & people in Malaysia.

Further reading:

http://transparency.org.my/what-we-do/indexes/global-corruption-barometer/global-corruption-barometer-asia-pacific-2017/

COMMON TYPES OF BUSINESS CORRUPTION

## **FACILITATION PAYMENT**

Speeding up the processes – payments made to officials to obtain or speed up approvals and routine services, which the officials are required to provide.

It does not include payments made directly to obtain or retain business.

"How about you approving my application first?"

0

JUJUR

KOMSEMAK

CEPAT

a

YAKIN

## **FAVOURS**



Going all out to please a company or person in order to gain benefits.

Eg. Sponsoring unnecessary visits to secure a business deal.

## **CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Gaining or providing opportunities "I'll hire my cousin even though he is not fully qualified for the job." to undeserving persons with no matching qualifications. Doing personal work on company's time and money. PROPOSAL CONTRACT PROCUREMENT

## **KICKBACKS**



A kickback is a commission given to encourage the other party to cooperate in the illegal scheme.

Eg. a business deal worth RM 1 million, but before two parties sign the contract, RM 200,000 (20%) was requested from one party to ensure the contract would not be sabotaged.

## **GIFTS & ENTERTAINMENT**

To or from corporation's supply chain personnel, government and enforcement officers, politicians, etc.

Will you LOSE your job or contract if you do not keep up with the gifts or entertainment? If YES, then you are heading towards CORRUPTION!

Ear

## **CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS & SPONSORSHIP**



12

### **POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS**

Contributing to political parties that are in control to obtain contracts or permits pertaining to your company.

> "Let me contribute to your party while you review my tender for the ABC Project."



## **FALSIFYING PAYMENT DOCUMENTS**

Claiming from company or vendors, using false invoices or marking up rates in the supporting invoices that do not reflect the actual costs incurred.

Eg. Somebody uses RM87 to buy office materials, but manipulates receipts to claim RM690.



# NEGATIVE IMPACT OF CORRUPTION

# TO INDIVIDUALS AND BUSINESSES



LOSS OF JOB OPPORTUNITIES AND LOWER SOCIAL ACCEPTANCE







### PERCEIVED AS AN UNETHICAL PERSON

## LOW FAMILY COHESION AND DISTRESS

#### **DAMAGES FAMILY REPUTATION**

hoto. Allbum



DROP IN STOCK VALUE AND PROFITS





JEOPARDIZES BUSINESS EFFICIENCY AND PRODUCTIVITY



## **OFFENCES**



#### **SOLICIT OR RECEIVE BRIBE**

Any person soliciting or receiving bribes as an inducement or reward in an official transaction. s.16(a) and 17(a) MACC Act 2009

#### **OFFER O** Any person of

#### **OFFER OR GIVE BRIBE**

Any person offering or giving bribes to public or private sector officials in an official transaction. s.16(b) and 17(b) MACC Act 2009



#### **FALSE CLAIM**

Any person submitting false claims in payment requisitions.

s.18 MACC Act 2009



#### **ABUSE OF PUBLIC OFFICE**

Abuse of office or position by a public official in making decisions for purposes of self interest. s.23 MACC Act 2009

## PENALTY



#### **IMPRISONMENT AND FINE**

Imprisonment: Up to 20 years, and Fine: RM10,000/- or 5 times the bribe amount; whichever is higher.

s.24 MACC Act 2009

## WHAT YOU CAN DO TO FIGHT CORRUPTION?

PRACTICE GOOD VALUES

Uphold integrity, justice and fairness

**SELF-DECLARATION** Say no to corruption and bribery

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS Ask questions and be informed



#### **BE OUR EYES AND EARS! SPEAK TO US!**

Share your stories

## **HOW TO SPEAK TO TI-M**



1800 220 122 (TOLL FREE)

speakup@transparency.org.my

03 7960 8690

You have nothing to fear, no liability, no obligation and we will keep you anonymous.

## **INFORMATION NEEDED FOR HOTLINE CALL**

### **SHARE WITH US:**



Location of the incident (café, office, factory..).

How many parties involved?



What and how it happened?



Transaction amount and type.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



#### 1 What is the TI-M Toll Free Service 1800 220 122?

Employees are encouraged to call our toll free hotline to state issues concerning corruption and bribery. We will provide free guidance and support on a strictly confidential basis.

The hotline serves as the right avenue for frustrated, but honest employees to vent out feelings of disappointment and resentment.

TI-M aims to raise awareness and educate employees on their duty and rights to fight corruption.

#### Note: TI-M is a voluntary body with no authority to investigate

## FAQs

#### 2 What kind of support is provided by TI-M?

- Assist to identify corrupt practices.
- Suggest solutions to manage the situation.
- Provide tips to prevent the situation from occurring again.
- Assist in referring the matter to the relevant authorities if the need arises.

#### 3 What does TI-M do with the information?

- The callers will remain anonymous to us.
- The information provided by you will be treated confidentially.
- Your case will be compiled and published as a generic case study for educational purpose to raise awareness amongst society.

## **GLOSSARY**

#### BRIBERY

The offering, promising, giving, accepting or soliciting of an advantage as an inducement for an action which is illegal, unethical or a breach of trust. Inducements can take the form of gifts, loans, fees, rewards or other advantages (taxes, services, donations, favours etc.).

#### **GIFTS & ENTERTAINMENT**

Giving or accepting gifts or entertainment presents bribery risks, especially to influence a business decision or gain an unfair business advantage. It may be used by third parties to make employees feel obligated to act corruptly.

#### **FACILITATION PAYMENTS**

A small bribe, also called a 'facilitating', 'speed' or 'grease' payment; made to secure or speed up the performance of a routine or necessary action to which the payer is entitled to.

#### **CONFLICT OF INTERESTS**

A situation where an individual or the entity for which they work, is confronted with choosing between the duties and demands of their position and their own private interests.

#### **KICKBACK**

A "commission" that is given to someone in return for helping in a secret and dishonest business deal.

## **GLOSSARY**

#### **FAVOURS**

Giving unfair preferential treatment to one person or group at the expense of another.

#### FALSIFYING PAYMENT DOCUMENTS

Altering, changing, or modifying a document for the purpose of deceiving another person.

#### **CHARITABLE DONATIONS & SPONSORSHIPS**

Donations, financial or in kind, given to support a good cause. This can be loans, gifts of property, services, sponsorship of tables at events or sporting clubs, advertising or promotional activities. Charitable contributions may be used as a subterfuge for bribery and asked to be part of a business agreement.

#### **POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS**

Any contribution, made in cash or in kind to a political cause to gain improper business advantages. This includes: gifts, services, advertising activities endorsing a political party and the purchase of tickets to fundraising events.

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Special thanks to:



## STAND UP AGAINST CORRUPTION

ACT NOW! CALL 1800 220 122

TOLL FREE, 9am - 4pm, Monday - Friday

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