

Promote integrity, Resist corruption

I. Introduction

In order to promote good governance in Rwanda especially in decentralized entities, the Office of the Ombudsman organized competition on good governance and fighting corruption in all thirty districts of the country. This competition was prepared for the special events of anti-corruption week which takes place in December of each year and closes on 9th December, the international anti-corruption day.

For the competition to be successful, terms of reference were prepared and submitted to all districts; they were required to make their self assessment by filling a form and submitting it to the Office of the Ombudsman. This form captures information relating to district's achievements in good governance and their indicators. Secondly, after receiving the filled form, the Office of the Ombudsman evaluated basing on the following points: Governance, audit, public procurement, declaration of assets and best practices in fighting corruption.

II. Results of the competition

All districts participated in competition because they had received the terms of reference and the form to be filled on time. However, some districts did not make their self assessment and they got zero for this part of competition. These are Rusizi, Bugesera, Gasabo, Musanze, Karongi, Kirehe, Nyagatare and Rwamagana. It is to be noted that Rwamagana not only failed to make its self assessment but also refused to be evaluated by the Office of the ombudsman and has got zero out of a hundred for that effect.

The table below shows the results of competition:

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Place	District	Self assessment and submission of report to the Office /30	Evaluation by the Office of the Ombudsman /50	Best practices in fighting corruption /20	Total /100
1	GISAGARA	30	42	15	87
2	NYAMASHEKE	30	41	15	86
3	KAMONYI	30	40	15	85
4	RULINDO	30	39.5	14	83.5
5	GATSIBO	30	39	14	83
6	NYARUGENGE	30	40.5	12	82.5
7	KICUKIRO	30	40	12	82
8	NGORORERO	30	39.5	12	81.5
9	BURERA	30	40	11	81
10	NYABIHU	30	38	12	80
11	HUYE	30	36	12	78
12	NYAMAGABE	30	37	10	77
13	NYARUGURU	30	34	12	76
14	RUTSIRO	30	35	11	76
15	GICUMBI	30	35	11	76
16	RUBAVU	30	35	10	75
17	KAYONZA	30	34	10	74
18	RUHANGO	30	33	10	73
19	MUHANGA	30	30	12	72
20	NGOMA	30	30	10	70
21	GAKENKE	30	25	11	66
22	NYANZA	30	20	10	60
23	RUSIZI	0	41	13	54
24	BUGESERA	0	40.5	10	50.5
25	GASABO	0	40	10	50
26	MUSANZE	0	39.5	10	49.5
27	KARONGI	0	30	10	40
28	KIREHE	0	30	10	40
29	NYAGATARE	0	30	10	40
30	RWAMAGANA	0	0	0	0

III. Findings

Gisagara and Nyamasheke districts continued to keep the first places in good governance and have strengthened the measures of preventing and fighting corruption.

Comparing to the year 2009-2010, there are some districts which tremendously improved in the ranking; Kamonyi district moved from the 16th place in 2010 to the 3rd place in 2011. Gatsibo district also moved from the 26th to the 5th; Nyarugenge moved from the 27th to the 6th; Rutsiro moved from the 30th to the 14th; Nyamagabe moved from the 25th to the 12th. There has been also an improvement in other districts like Rulindo, Kicukiro, Kayonza, Huye, and Gicumbi.

IV. Best practices in fighting corruption

During this evaluation some activities were judged as best practices in preventing and fighting corruption.

In Gisagara, they have what they call *Impuruza* in the village (people of integrity helping to report injustice and corruption) have been trained and given materials like mobile phones; Documentary films have been launched; debates on RC Huye; News papers and magazines helping people to be aware of their rights.

In Nyamasheke district, *Inteko y'Akarere* was established and swearing ceremony by different local leaders shows the commitment to the service delivery. This practice was firstly started in Nyabihu district. Anti-corruption clause in every contract with economic operators; preventing and fighting corruption in performance contracts; the district has a magazine called *Jyambere* which help the population to be aware of their rights.

In Ngororero district, the Film on fighting corruption was spread in different sectors and debates on radio help people to be aware of their rights in as far as service delivery is concerned.

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In other districts, commissions of fighting injustice were established and the people were given an opportunity to call for free (Hotline) in case of injustice and corruption.

V. Conclusion

The Office of the Ombudsman thanks the districts for their efforts in preventing and fighting corruption and promoting good governance in our country. The Office calls on the districts to put more efforts in different activities of fighting corruption and think of other best practices in this regard. It is also recommended that the functioning of the District Anti-Corruption Advisory Council be improved.