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Concours

Preparatory Classes For Public Concours In
Cameroon
ENAM , NASLA , IRIC , FMBS , EMIA , POLICE, etc

TOPIC: CORRUPTION



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LESSON OUTLINE

- ☒ What is corruption ?
- ☒ Causes of corruption
- ☒ Proposed solutions
- ☒ Instruments for fighting against corruption
 - National instruments
 - International instruments
 - The way forward and recommendations
 - Past concours questions on corruption

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- ❏ Corruption can be defined as the fact of giving money or anything else in exchange of a service. In Cameroon corruption is expressed in several ways. People always use money in exchange of services.
- ❏ For example in the administration people give money to be satisfied faster than the others. In addition, in the domain of competitive entrance examinations, those recruited are always the best because some people give money to "buy" the place of their candidates.
- ❏ We should also note the fact that some civil servants like policemen often take money illegally from the road users and don't even do the work that they are supposed to do.
- ❏ Another dimension of corruption is the embezzlement of public funds. Corruption has many consequences in our nation. First of all because of corruption, the candidates who are recruited to serve the administration are not qualified and consequently the administration cannot function well.
- ❏ Furthermore, corruption increases the ditch between poor and the rich, for the rich people always use money and acquire the best jobs for their people while the poor men do not have any chance.
- ❏ The phenomenon of embezzlement of public funds is really a virus to our economy.

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CAUSES OF CORRUPTION



- ❏ **Low salaries:** Some civil servant are often corrupted because their salary is too low and therefore cannot allow them to solve their problems
- ❏ **Unemployment:** some people venture into corruption because of lack of job opportunities.
- ❏ **Illiteracy:** The phenomenon of corruption is very accentuated because most of our people are illiterate.
- ❏ **Low ethical and moral conscience:** Many servants are not conscious of the effects of corruption on the becoming of the nation.
- ❏ **Lax legislation and a procedural administration:** The phenomenon of corruption also occurs because of the slowness of our administration.
- ❏ **Impunity and immunity:** Most often those caught are not sanctioned. Then the others can continue practicing corruption without any fear. In addition there are so many advantages for certain posts in the administration.

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CAUSES OF CORRUPTION



📌 **Cupidity of Some People:** Cupidity, or excessive greed, can lead individuals to engage in corrupt practices to accumulate wealth and power. This can manifest in various ways, such as:

- *Bribery: Accepting or offering bribes to influence decisions or gain unfair advantages.*
- *Embezzlement: Misappropriating funds or resources for personal gain.*
- *Nepotism: Favoring family members or friends in business or professional matters.*

📌 **Economic Crisis:** Economic crises can create an environment conducive to corruption in several ways:

- **Scarcity and desperation:** In times of economic hardship, individuals may feel pressured to engage in corrupt activities to survive or maintain their standard of living.
- **Lack of effective governance:** Economic crises can weaken institutions and governance structures, making it easier for corrupt practices to go unchecked.
- **Increased temptation:** Economic crises can create opportunities for corruption, such as bribes or kickbacks, as individuals seek to exploit scarce resources or gain an advantage in a competitive environment.

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Proposed SOLUTIONS



**The following are measure to fight against corruption in
Cameroon**

- ❑ Measures should be taken to increase the salary of civil servants
- ❑ Moral and ethical training should be emphasized
- ❑ Measures should be taken to fight against poverty and unemployment:
- ❑ This can be done through massive recruitments and the sensitization of the youths to Income generating activities.
- ❑ Appropriate sanctions should be inflicted towards those practicing corruption. The government should fight against

illegal enrichment.

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INSTRUMENTS FOR FIGHTING AGAINST CORRUPTION



PART 1: NATIONAL INSTRUMENT

A) THE PENAL CODE

The Cameroon penal code condemns the following acts of corruption:

- ❑ Bribery
- ❑ Indulgence
- ❑ Undue demand
- ❑ compulsion of public servants
- ❑ Procuring influence
- ❑ Corruption of employees
- ❑ Misappropriation of public funds

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INSTRUMENTS FOR FIGHTING AGAINST CORRUPTION



B) OTHER NATIONAL INSTRUMENTS

- ❑ The national Anti-Corruption Commission was created by Decree No 2006/88 of 11th March 2006 to fight corruption. It is a National body that oversees anticorruption efforts in the Cameroonian public service. The body collects information, investigates, studies cases and publishes texts on corruption and proposes solutions to competent authorities.
- ❑ S.66 of the 1972 constitution of Cameroon as amended in 1996 requires the filing of a statement of assets and liabilities for all public officials. Law No 2006/3 of 25/04/2006 was enacted and concerns the said declaration of assets of public officials.
- ❑ (c) On the 21/04/2003, Law No 2003/004 on bank confidentiality was passed. It brought significant improvements such as the prohibition on the invoking confidentiality on information concerning an account when this information is requested by public authorities for the purpose of investigating the account.
- ❑ (d) There also exist the National Agency for the Investigation of Financial Matters. This body is charged with investigating into suspected accounts, in which there is so much money.
- ❑ (c) To these national instruments can also be added, the Cameroon Criminal Procedure Code promulgated by law No 2005/007 of 27th July 2005. Part XI (section 645 to 675) of this code is dedicated to extradition. Extradition is the process whereby a requested state hand over a foreigner found in its territory to a requesting state in order that he is prosecuted for one or more specified offences of ordinary law or subject him to a term of imprisonment passed against him after a criminal trial for an offence of ordinary law.

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INSTRUMENTS FOR FIGHTING AGAINST CORRUPTION



PART 2: INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENT

- ❑ (1) The United Nations Convention Against Corruption The United Nations Convention Against Corruption is the first legally binding international anti-corruption instrument. This convention was adopted on the 31st of October 2003 and ratified by Cameroon on the 25th of April 2004. This convention gives the global community the opportunity to establish an effective set of bench marks for effective anti-corruption strategies.
- ❑ The United Nations Conventions Against Transnational Organized Crime.
- ❑ This convention has been ratified by Cameroon. This convention inspired Cameroon to set up the National Anti-Corruption commission in 2006. 9 The purpose of this convention is to promote co-operation, to prevent and combat transnational organized crime more effectively.
- ❑ (3) African Union Convention on the Fight against Corruption In dealing with international instruments on the fight against corruption, it is worth the while to mention the African Union Convention which was adopted on the 12th of July at the African Union Heads of States Summit at Maputo in Angola.

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THE WAY FORWARD AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Institutional Reforms

- ❑ 1. Strengthen anti-corruption institutions: Empower institutions like the National Anti-Corruption Commission (CONAC) to investigate and prosecute corruption cases effectively.
- ❑ 2. Independent judiciary: Ensure the independence of the judiciary to prevent political interference in corruption cases.
- ❑ 3. Transparent public procurement: Implement transparent and competitive public procurement processes to reduce opportunities for corruption.

Policy and Legislative Reforms

- ❑ 1. Enact and enforce anti-corruption laws: Strengthen existing laws and enact new ones to criminalize corruption, including laws on asset declaration, whistleblower protection, and witness protection.
- ❑ 2. Asset declaration: Require public officials to declare their assets and liabilities to prevent illicit enrichment.
- ❑ 3. Freedom of information: Enact laws to ensure access to information and promote transparency.

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THE WAY FORWARD AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Civic Engagement and Education

- ❏ 1. Civic education: Integrate anti-corruption education into school curricula to promote a culture of integrity.
- ❏ 2. Civil society engagement: Encourage civil society organizations to participate in anti-corruption efforts, including monitoring and reporting corruption cases.
- ❏ 3. Whistleblower protection: Establish mechanisms to protect whistleblowers who report corruption cases.

Economic and Social Reforms

- ❏ 1. Economic diversification: Diversify the economy to reduce dependence on oil and other natural resources, which can fuel corruption.
- ❏ 2. Job creation and poverty reduction: Implement policies to create jobs and reduce poverty, which can help reduce the incentives for corruption.
- ❏ 3. Improved public services: Improve the delivery of public services, such as healthcare and education, to reduce opportunities for corruption.

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THE WAY FORWARD AND RECOMMENDATIONS

International Cooperation

- ❑ 1. International partnerships: Collaborate with international organizations, such as the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), to receive technical assistance and support.
- ❑ 2. Asset recovery: Work with international partners to recover stolen assets and return them to Cameroon.
- ❑ 3. Cross-border cooperation: Strengthen cooperation with neighboring countries to combat cross-border corruption.

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PAST QUESTIONS ON CORRUPTION



- q Criminal sanctions against embezzlement of state funds (**ENAM 2013**)
- q The entrance into the NATIONAL SCHOOL OF LOCAL ADMINISTRATION (NASLA) IS NOT MONEY. ONLY THE BEST IS RETAINED. Comment (**NASLA 2022**)
- q More instock ...

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