

INDEPENDENT COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION CONTROLLING OFFICER'S ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT 2009

Introduction

This Environmental Report accounts for the achievements made and measures taken by the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) in green management in 2009.

2. The ICAC is an independent public service organisation responsible for the following areas of work –

- (a) seek out and eradicate corruption through effective investigation and prosecution;
- (b) identify and eliminate opportunities for corruption in government departments and public bodies and advise the private sector on corruption prevention;
- (c) educate the public against the evils of corruption and actuate support for the ICAC; and
- (d) promote better public understanding of the corruption problem and encourage target groups to take positive action.

3. The Commission comprises three functional departments – Operations, Corruption Prevention and Community Relations, and the Administration Branch. As at 31 December 2009, the Commission had an establishment of 1 380 accommodated in offices at different locations.

Our Environmental Commitment

4. The ICAC is committed to ensuring that our operations are conducted in an environmentally responsible manner. Whilst our daily businesses are primarily office-based, we are mindful that the way we conduct them can have an impact on our environment. We are, therefore, always alert in exploring opportunities to integrate environmental concept into our daily operations.

Our Environmental Management Structure

5. To promote and sustain green practices, we have since 1999 established a

dedicated Environmental Management Committee, headed by a Commission Green Manager, assisted by a team of Departmental Green Managers and Assistant Green Managers, to review and monitor the Commission's environmental performance at each level. The Committee also receives feedback and suggestions on green management, and actively identifies new green initiatives. Through this Committee, we strive to keep up our efforts in fostering a green culture and promoting green habits among staff.

Our Green Measures and Performance in 2009

6. In our drive to environmental protection, we mainly make use of reduction, re-use and recycling of resources, implementation of energy saving measures, and procurement of environmentally friendly equipment in workplace. Exploiting the built-in environmental features and new facilities offering flexible control over energy consumption in the ICAC Building, we continue to emphasize energy conservations in 2009. The measures adopted and results achieved in 2009 are set out below –

(a) *Energy Conservation*

- ✧ We installed heat-insulating solar films on the glass panels of the ICAC building to reduce heat gain, thus saving the total energy required for cooling indoor air.
- ✧ We replaced normal light bulbs empowered by electricity with solar lights in the side garden and balconies of the ICAC building where appropriate with a view to partaking in the use of renewable energy.
- ✧ We commenced a project to replace all exit signages in the ICAC Building with LED lights and explore further use of LED lights in the ICAC Building.
- ✧ The full year effect of the various energy savings measures implemented in 2008, together with the new measures implemented in 2009 had reduced the energy consumption of the ICAC by 9.5 % from 15 158 596 kWh in 2008 to 13 724 795 kWh in 2009.

(b) *Reduced Use of Paper and Printer Toners*

- ✧ We follow the practice of printing on both sides of paper, double-side photocopying, re-using loose minute jackets and envelopes, using clean side of used paper for printing and draft, reducing use of fax leader pages, sending and receiving messages electronically and

minimizing the printing of hard copies.

(c) ***Re-use of Office Items***

- ✧ We put in offices boxes to collect re-usable stationery items such as clips, envelopes, file tags, file jackets, etc., so that staff could readily pick up items they need instead of asking for new supply.

(d) ***Recycle of Office Waste***

- ✧ We arrange for recycling of waste paper and used toner cartridges. 19 000 kg of waste paper were recycled in 2009. Though there was an increase of 26.7% over 15,000 kg in 2008, the figure had significantly dropped, compared to an average figure of 35 000 kg from 2005 to 2007. The trend reflects the increased general awareness among staff to reduce production of paper waste.
- ✧ We continue to use recycled toner as far as possible and a total of 1 393 toners in recyclable cartridges were consumed in 2009, compared to 1 315 in 2008.

(e) ***Procurement of Environmentally-Friendly Products***

- ✧ We actively procure environmentally sound products including recycled paper, refillable ball-pens, non-chlorinated correction fluid, recycled toners and clutch pencils. Other items include bio-degradable plastic garbage bags, energy saving fluorescent tubes and light bulbs and energy efficient electrical appliances.
- ✧ Since moving to the ICAC building, we have turned to the use of water purifying systems to minimize consumption of carboy-size or bottle-size distilled water. With satisfactory results, we have extended this practice to out-post offices where the facilities allow.
- ✧ We procure Energy Star compliant office equipment and electrical appliances when replacement or new items are required.

(f) ***Maintenance of a Clean Environment***

- ✧ We continue to provide an environmentally friendly and hygienic workplace for staff by arranging regular cleansing of air-conditioning units to keep them clean and energy efficient, and conducting periodic indoor air quality checks on office premises.
- ✧ In view of the Government's legislative proposal to ban idling vehicles

with running engines, we continue to require officers performing driving duties to switch off the engines of their vehicles while waiting to minimize emissions.

- ✧ We replaced five vehicles that were due for replacement with environmentally friendly models.

(g) *Promotion of Green Awareness*

- ✧ We believe that sustained efforts are essential to inculcate environmental protection in the culture of the Commission so that staff are aware that environmental protection is not merely the corporate or management's responsibility, but also a lifestyle adopted by individuals. Green messages are posted in conspicuous locations to remind staff of daily energy and resources saving practices. Consumption statistics on electricity, paper and envelopes, etc. are announced periodically in bulletin board on LAN system to alert staff to the consumption pattern and the need to conserve.
- ✧ To reinforce this initiative, we organised a hiking event for staff and family members in 2009. The event was featured by a photo-taking cum green message competition and green picnicking where the use of reusable utensils was encouraged. The event had aroused general awareness among staff on the importance of conservation for the earth.

Way Forward

7. We have actively explored ways to leverage on the environmental features in the ICAC Building for green causes. Though a considerable number of measures have been implemented with the desired results, there is no room for complacency because green management has become an integral part of our daily management and environmental protection an obligation of everyone. We would keep up with our efforts in this area and encourage colleagues to follow suit.

Feedback and Comments

8. We remain open and active in identifying means to achieve our green objective. If you have any feedback or suggestions, please e-mail us at general@icac.org.hk.

Independent Commission Against Corruption
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