

INDEPENDENT COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION CONTROLLING OFFICER'S ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT 2007

Introduction

This Environmental Report accounts for achievements made and measures taken by the ICAC in green management in 2007.

2. The Independent Commission Against Corruption (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 2007, the Commission had an establishment of 1,354 accommodated in offices in 9 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 actively identifies new green initiatives.

Our Green Measures and Performance in 2007

6. In pursuit of our environmental commitment, we follow the principles of reduction, reuse and recycling in workplace to economise our use of resources. We continue to explore measures to foster a green culture and promote green habits among staff. The measures adopted and results achieved in 2007 are set out below –

(a) *To Reduce Paper Consumption*

- ✧ Staff have got used to printing on both sides of paper, 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.
- ✧ With the green practices, we reduced paper consumption by 11% from 26,000 reams in 2006 to 23,200 reams in 2007. Toner consumption also reduced by 3.2% from 1,444 in 2006 to 1,398 in 2007.

(b) *To Reduce Power Consumption*

- ✧ We assigned staff to patrol office areas each evening after work to ensure that all lights and electrical equipment were turned off in areas where no officers remained working and to remind officers still at work to turn off the remaining lights and equipment before leaving.
- ✧ As air-conditioning constitutes a significant share of power requirement, we have adjusted room temperature to the optimal level of 25.5°C in summer months.
- ✧ We have procured Energy Star compliant items for office equipment and electrical appliances.

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

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

(d) ***To Recycle Office Waste***

- ✧ We arranged for recycling of waste paper and used toner cartridges. 29,000 kg of waste paper were recycled in 2007, a decrease of 38.7% compared to 47,300 kg in 2006 due to reduced use of paper.

(e) ***To Use 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 light bulbs, energy efficient electrical appliances and rechargeable batteries.

(f) ***To Maintain A Clean Environment***

- ✧ We continued to provide an environmentally friendly and healthy work place for staff by arranging regular cleansing of air-conditioning units to keep them clean and energy efficient and conducting periodic indoor air quality checks in office premises.
- ✧ We have required officers performing driving duties to switch off the engines of their vehicles while waiting to minimize emission.
- ✧ We have placed order for environmentally friendly vehicles to replace seven existing vehicles that are due for replacement.

(g) ***To Promote Green Awareness***

- ✧ We always aim at inculcating environmental protection into the culture of the Commission and enhancing our staff's green awareness so that they would act in an environmentally responsible manner. Green messages have been posted in conspicuous locations to remind staff of daily energy and resources saving practices. Consumption statistics on electricity, paper and envelopes have been announced periodically with a view to reminding staff of the consumption pattern and the need to economise.

7. 2007 also saw the completion of the ICAC building. The environmental features built into the building and its systems offer a wider scope of control over energy consumption while the sustainable fitting-out design helps minimise maintenance cost, renovation effort and wastage in future office alterations.

(a) *Energy Saving Design*

- ✧ Insulated glazed units and sun-shading devices have been installed to reduce solar heat penetration, thereby reducing energy required for indoor cooling.
- ✧ Sensors have been put in place to monitor the level of natural illumination and correspondingly adjust lighting requirements to save energy.
- ✧ Under-floor air-conditioning system design has been adopted in all computer complexes to cool down computer equipment directly by injecting cooled air into equipment cabinets, thus enhancing cooling efficiency and reducing energy requirement as against the traditional air-conditioning system.

(b) *Sustainable Fitting-out Works*

- ✧ In fitting out the new building, we followed the principle that the materials used would be environmental friendly, durable and easy to maintain, and the design standardised, of modular format and timeless to enhance sustainability.

Way Forward

8. With our removal to the ICAC building, there would be more scope for us to explore and adopt new green measures. We would continue to play an active part in protecting the environment and keep up the momentum in green management.

Feedback and Comments

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