

NIA

4th National Integrity Action

ANNIVERSARY

DEC 9, 2015

Growing Amongst Our People: Building Integrity, Combatting Corruption



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NIA TEAM following Campaign Finance Reform Bill, passed in the House of Representatives, **December 1, 2015.**

Messages



**SIR PATRICK ALLEN ON, GCMG, CD
GOVERNOR-GENERAL**

The National Integrity Action (NIA) has been exerting tremendous efforts to combat corruption, build trust and restore/repair the moral fabric of the Jamaican society. It is significant how in just four years you have laid a foundation for citizen engagement using the communi-

cation and information technology to raise awareness on the cost of corruption and the need for integrity in the public sphere, private sector, civil society and interpersonal relations.

Arising from your advocacy the Latin American Public Opinion Project, 2010-2014 shows bribery and victimization rates had significantly declined in early 2013 and Global Corruption Barometer, 2013 shows seventy seven percent of the Jamaican citizenry have indicated a willingness to join an anti-corruption organization. Remarkably too, is your support for the office of the Political Ombudsman and litigation for political parties to register the source of their campaign finances.

Your partnerships with a wide range of civic organizations, youth bodies, professional and media entities will no doubt help to pave the way for fixing what is wrong with Jamaica with what is right with Jamaica. This was part of the reason the I Believe Initiative was pleased to host you as a main speaker in our Youth Consultative Conferences this year.

Your vision to create “a Jamaica where government, businesses, civil society and the people manifest integrity in their conduct, are held accountable and apply proper sanctions for corrupt activities” is an essential ingredient for Jamaica to become the place of

choice to live, work, raise families and do business by 2030.

I encourage you to be steadfast in your nationalistic fervor to build capacity and facilitate training to help reap more success in pacifying the perception of Jamaica having an unacceptably high level of corruption in the international community.

As the officially recognized ‘national contact’ for Transparency International in Jamaica, you hold a very delicate position for which I implore you to continue to be fearless, peerless and firm in deterring, detecting and depositing corruption in our country.

As you celebrate your 4th anniversary, coinciding with the UN International Anti-Corruption Day, I join you in calling on all Jamaicans to help break the corruption chain!



**THE MOST HON.
PORTIA SIMPSON MILLER,
ON, MP Prime Minister**

At the heart of any democracy is the ability of the people to hold their Government accountable. The soul of such a system is the machinery that allows citizens to see openly into the activities of their Government and Parliament. A commitment to accountability and transparency is a

fundamental factor in the fight against corruption and the engendering of a system of good governance characterised by integrity.

The commitment of my Administration to transparency and accountability in Government is well known. The creation and support of national institutions committed to truth, honesty and integrity in public life, have been hallmarks of every Government in which I have participated since 1974. Over the years, such institutions have included: The Electoral Advisory Commission; The Electoral Commission of Jamaica; Parliamentary Integrity Commission; National Contracts Commission; The Office of the Contractor General; The Office of the Public Defender; Corruption Prevention Commission; Integrity Commission; The Fair Trading Commission; and The Office of Utilities Regulations.

The commitment of the Government is to be seen in the revolutionary legislation we have led over several Administrations to expand accountability and ensure integrity in public financial management. These include: Access to Information Act; Corruption Prevention Act; Parliament (Integrity of Members) Act; Public Bodies Management and Accountability Act; and others.

In conducting the affairs of the country, we have over the years, taken the lead to reform the Parliamentary system to ensure greater openness and accountability. In this regard, Parliament has been opened to more scrutiny and wider participation; Parliamentary Committees were opened to the media and are now chaired

by Opposition members; and Civil Society groups are invited to present to Committees and so influence the development of legislation.

It is within this context that I am pleased to recognize National Integrity Action and the sterling work it has been undertaking to educate the public on anti-corruption and encourage the highest standards of integrity in national life.

The NIA has commendably carried out its mandate as an advocate against corruption and a champion of building integrity in Jamaica for the benefit of the Jamaican people. I commend your founding Board of Directors for spearheading this worthwhile initiative that is supporting the Government’s continued commitment to integrity and for playing a significant role in our maturing democracy.

I extend best wishes and sincere congratulations on the occasion of the 4th anniversary of National Integrity Action.



**ANDREW HOLNESS, MP
LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION**

Accountability, transparency and integrity are hallmarks of self-respecting democracies and should always be promoted and upheld in furtherance of good governance, social cohesion and economic advancement. It goes without saying that we do ourselves a grave disservice as a fledgling democracy when we turn a

blind eye to corruption and other undesirable conduct. We must all endeavour to be agents of change and play our part in securing a better Jamaica.

The valiant campaign being waged by National Integrity Action (NIA) is deserving of public commendation and continued broad base support. NIA has emerged as our nation’s premier anti-corruption watchdog, and that is a legacy of achievement of which you should be proud and endeavour to build on. I am particularly heartened by the partnership you have forged with key stakeholders, including the Opposition, as you carry out your admirable work.

That NIA has spent the past 4 years raising the profile of anti-corruption efforts and increasing public awareness through a range of targeted outreach initiatives aimed at highlighting the need for optimal levels of transparency and integrity in national life, is testament to its unwavering commitment to Jamaica and it’s continued economic and social development.

There is no denying that whilst we have made significant strides as a politically independent country, we could have achieved much more were it not for, among other things, revenue leakage due to corrupt practices, misuse of public funds, and the taint of pervasive perceptions of corruption, all of which have served to

compromise the flow of foreign direct investments into our country.

The Opposition pledges its continued support for efforts aimed at ridding Jamaica of the scourge of corruption and most importantly, restoring public trust and goodwill in the institutions of the State.

I have every confidence that NIA will continue standing in the vanguard of our anti-corruption efforts as a country, and mobilize resources and build public consensus around the need to safeguard our democracy by promoting and adhering to the principles of accountability, transparency and integrity.

Happy 4th anniversary and best wishes as you continue “combating corruption, building integrity; growing amongst the people”.



**Senator the Hon. Mark Golding
Minister of Justice**

National Integrity Action has become a leading civil society organization focusing on how Jamaica country is being governed, from the standpoints of accountability, transparency and ethical conduct. Being committed to strength-

ening of national institutions to combat corruption, the Ministry of Justice welcomes the proactive and constructive role that NIA has played in this area.

Corruption has been identified as one of the greatest challenges to achieving our national development goals, and it is against this background that we have brought the Integrity Commission Bill to Parliament. Given its far-reaching impact, the legislation was sent to a Joint Select Committee of the House of Parliament, where there have been thorough and fruitful deliberations on the Bill. The Joint Select Committee of Parliament has completed its review of the Bill, and its report is expected to be tabled before the Parliament breaks for Christmas, after which the Bill will return to the Senate to be debated. We are confident that the Bill, when enacted, will provide a strong and effective platform for fighting the scourge of corruption in our society.

Two other very significant recent developments have been the passing in 2014 of legislation to provide for the registration and regulation of political parties, and the passing by the House of Representatives on December 1, 2015 of legislation to regulate campaign financing. These initiatives will ensure greater transparency in the conduct of political parties and elections, and reduce the scope for corruption and improper influences in public life.

Collectively, these are important and far-reaching reforms. I wish to commend Professor Trevor Munroe and his team for the important supportive role that National Integrity Action has played in these achievements. It is an impressive track record for a new institution that is only venturing into its 5th year of existence.

There remains a long road ahead, as we continue our work to ensure that the legislative foundations that have been laid are leveraged into the realization of actual improvements in our country's democratic processes and public institutions. Our goal is the emergence of a society in which the use of public resources and the conduct of public affairs are characterized by ethical and transparent practices which enjoy the confidence and support of the entire society.



**Hon. Dorothy Pine-McLarty, OJ
Chairman, Electoral Commission
of Jamaica**

Congratulations to the National Integrity Action on achieving another milestone – its 4th anniversary. The NIA has, in this short period of time, distinguished itself as a reputable non-governmental organisation which advocates for a corruption-free Jamaica built on integrity, transparency and accountability, not

only in governance but in the wider society. The NIA has been actively building public awareness of the negative consequences of corruption and advocating for necessary policies and legislative changes.

The Electoral Commission of Jamaica shares the NIA's vision for building integrity, which is a fundamental element of strengthening the democratic process. We too are committed to practices of transparency, as we endeavor to build and maintain public trust in the electoral system.

During these four years the NIA has given significant support to the ECJ. In particular, we appreciate their relentless support and advocacy for campaign financing legislation, a topic that the Executive Director, Professor Trevor Munroe has passionately promoted. The NIA has played a key role in achieving meaningful results as it relates to this important legislation.

We are pleased to have partnered with the NIA to host a series of town hall meetings this year which facilitated interaction with the public about electoral matters and maintaining the integrity of the electoral process.

We salute the NIA for their valiant efforts to combat corruption, their invaluable contribution toward building national integrity and strengthening transparency and accountability in governance.

THE ECJ extends best wishes to the NIA and looks forward to continued collaboration as we work together to strengthen the democratic process.



**Alejandro Salas, Americas
Regional Director, Transparency
International**

**Message for Jamaica: Reflections on
Corruption in the Caribbean and Latin
America, 2015**

2015 has seen a series of large scale and high profile corruption scandals throughout most countries in the region, which opens the question, is corruption

getting worse, is it spiralling out of control?

At Transparency International we believe there is no proof to state that in 2015 there is more corruption than there was 2 years or twenty years ago. What we believe is that corruption has become in 2015 a more visible and talked about issue, and it is being addressed increasingly more by the authorities in some countries, thus creating a perception of growing corruption. This is mainly thanks to the many reforms and efforts that have been taking place in the region in the past 15 years, which are starting to show results.

From the Petrobras scandal in Brazil to the corruption of top level football association leaders in the Caribbean, the enhanced use of technology and the implementation of better policies and laws are helping uncover corruption. Not less important is the brave voice of journalism and active citizens demanding an end to corruption and impunity.

Jamaica is not an exception. While corruption continues to be one of the main challenges faced in the country, the authorities and society as a whole face the challenge of deciding if they want to stay in the past and pretend corruption is not an issue, or move forward and join those countries that are already at the forefront of good governance. Certainly Jamaica has shown progress this

year, with some public officials leading change, some citizens being more engaged and private and civil society organizations being more outspoken, among others. But, is this enough, or more needs to be done? This is a question for Jamaicans to answer and act upon. From the international perspective we will continue supporting and standing behind our national chapter, National Integrity Action in raising awareness, promoting constructive criticism and putting pressure for change when needed.

The year in review

In 2015, NIA cemented its role in building integrity as a national advocacy group, spreading its roots amongst Jamaicans and enhancing its legitimacy in the international community.

Substantial representations were made to Jamaica's Parliament and Government on the increasingly urgent need for strengthened anti-corruption legislation. In particular, NIA made submissions to the Joint Select Committee considering the Integrity Commission Act and argued that while the Bill could be strengthened, it nevertheless represented an advance, especially with the provision for a Special Prosecutor on Corruption. NIA, along with other civil society organisations also made submissions to Parliament resisting any attempt to muzzle CSOs. In commercial ads, press statements, radio and television appearances and columns in the Daily Gleaner, NIA also successfully urged the need to register political parties and regulate campaign finance.

Historic advances were made on both these counts.

NIA took part in Town Hall meetings and conferences (in partnership with the Social Development Commission (SDC), the Electoral Commission of Jamaica (ECJ) and the Office of the Governor

General. Through this presence "on the ground" in almost every parish capital, on university campuses and in presentations to associations representing Jamaicans from all "walks of life", as well as first time appearances in the 10,000 Man and Families Marches, NIA's organisation and message was carried far and wide.

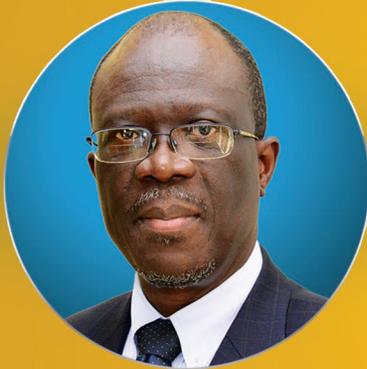
In response to growing interest, particularly from the youth, NIA opened itself for the first time to membership and have accepted almost 200 applicants by year end. Internationally, Transparency International (TI) accepted NIA as a full chapter; TI's Head, Jose Ugaz, visited Jamaica on NIA's invitation and NIA's Executive Director, Prof. Trevor Munroe was the only Caribbean person invited to serve on the Transparency International Strategy 20/20 Task Force. The Board also reconfirmed

Professor Trevor Munroe for a second 2 year term as an Individual Member of TI while the Government of Jamaica conferred on him the national honour, Order of Distinction, Commander Class (CD). In June, on the invitation of the Governor of St. Marteen, the Executive Director also delivered the keynote address in the Governor's Annual Symposium on Governance, renewing the Caribbean reach of NIA.



Audience members at a NIA/ECJ Mandeville Town hall meeting

The Board of Directors



MR. MARTIN HENRY

Gleaner Columnist / Academic Manager,
University of Technology
Chairman



PROFESSOR TREVOR MUNROE CD

Executive Director NIA
(Ex Officio Member)



MS. EURICA DOUGLAS

General Manager, National Association of
Parish Development Committees (NAPDEC)
Director (Until June 30, 2015)



PROFESSOR ANTHONY HARRIOTT

Professor of Sociology and Director of the
Institute of Criminal Justice and Security at
The University of The West Indies
Director



MR. DANNY ROBERTS CD, JP

Head of the Hugh Lawson Shearer Trade
Union Education Institute
Director



PROFESSOR ROSALEA HAMILTON

Utech Vice President of Community
Services and Development



MR. DENNIS CHUNG

President of the Institute of Chartered Accountants
of Jamaica, CEO of the Private Sector
Organization of Jamaica. Chairman of Board
of the National Solid Waste Management Authority



DR. K'ADAMAWE K'NIFE

Head of Office of Social Entrepreneur
UWI, Mona

On the 15th March 2015, National Integrity Action became a National Chapter of Transparency International, the global coalition against corruption. As a Full Chapter NIA confirmed acceptance of the vision, values and guiding principles of Transparency International and renewed its commitment to advance transparency, accountability and integrity at all levels of Jamaican society. At each stage in its 3 year transition to full chapter status, NIA worked diligently to raise the

Jamaican people's understanding of the harmful effects of corruption, to advocate necessary legislation for good governance, to strengthen the people's will in the public and private sector and civil society to confront corruption and to enhance integrity at all levels in Jamaica. This work in Jamaica as well as wider afield in the Caribbean accounted for NIA's relatively rapid achievement of full

chapter status. The accreditation agreement was signed in Kingston by the Chair of the TI Board of Directors himself, Jose Ugaz, and the Executive Director of NIA, Professor Trevor Munroe. NIA's full membership status was announced at the Annual Members Meeting of TI in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, in November 2015 and was greeted with acclaim by delegates from over one hundred countries in which TI has a presence.

NIA Becomes a Chapter of Transparency International.



Mr. Jose Ugaz, Chairman of Transparency International signs the accreditation agreement making NIA an official chapter of Transparency International

NIA

membership induction

Sunday March 15, 2015 marked NIA's first membership Induction ceremony; the event was held at the Pegasus Hotel and saw forty (40) inductees being presented as official members of NIA. Of this number seventy five (75) percent were under the age of 30, twenty four (24) or sixty (60) percent were females with the corresponding number being males. Chair of Transparency International Jose Ugaz accepted NIA's invitation to attend the function and welcomed the inductees to the TI movement.

Professor Munroe in welcoming the new inductees to NIA stated that the ceremony represented a milestone for the inductees, a milestone for NIA and, ultimately, a milestone for Jamaica. He mentioned the importance of NIA transitioning from an advocacy group to becoming the core of a social movement to build and sustain successes in the anti-corruption and integrity building drive. He also reminded the gathering that NIA alone

cannot bring the needed change but it would take the support of this set of inductees and others to come as well as the forging of other partnerships. He ended by reminding them that they had an obligation to abide by, support and promote the values of NIA.

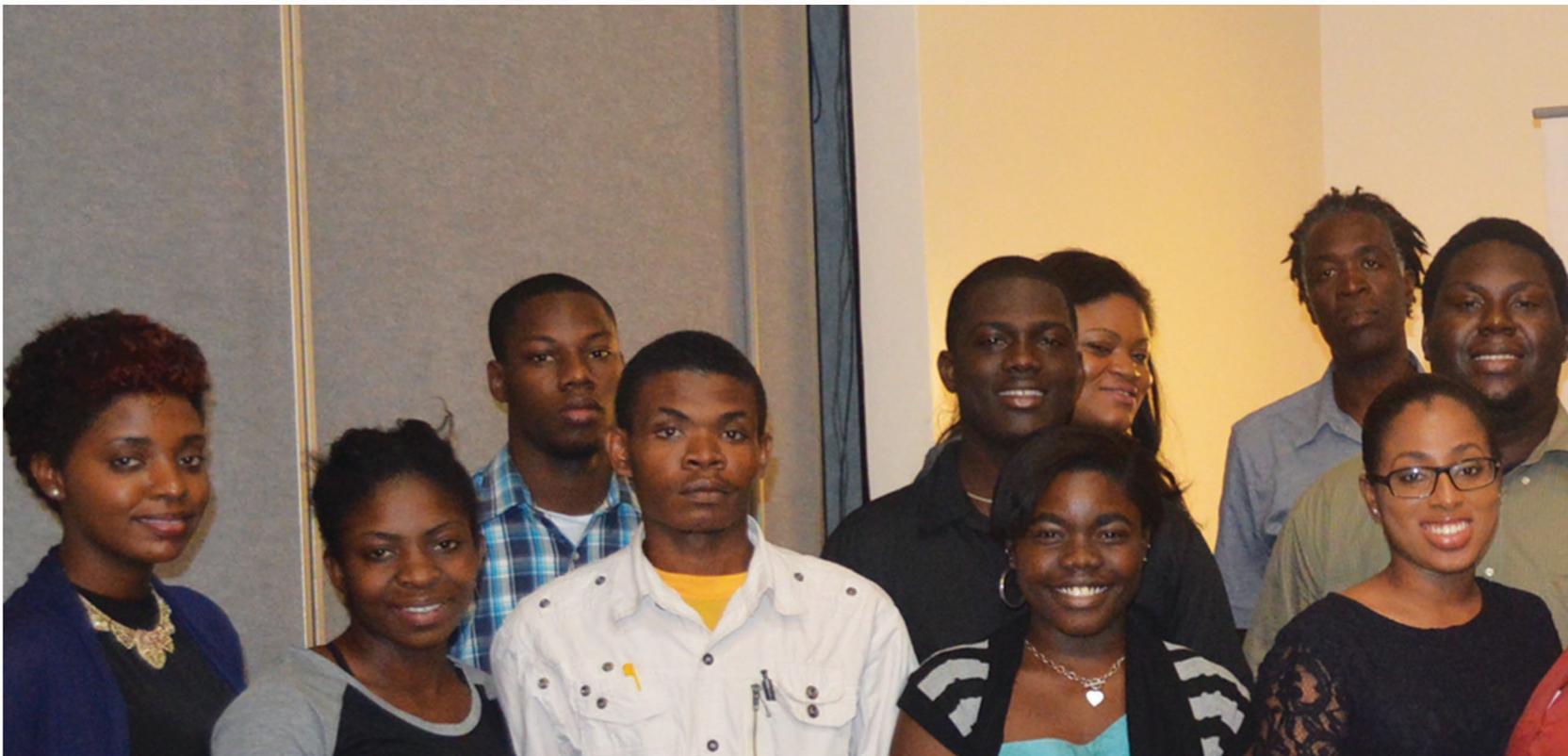
The second (2nd) membership induction ceremony was held on Saturday July 18, 2015 at the Jamaica Pegasus Hotel.

A total of twenty two (22) members were inducted. Approximately fifty percent (50%) of the members inducted were between the ages of eighteen (18) to twenty four (24) years old. Present at the ceremony were representatives from our International Development Partner (USAID), Mr. Andrew Colburn; Director of the Office

of Citizen Security and Allan Bernard, Agreement Officer Representative. Executive Director; Professor Trevor Munroe in his message to the new inductees urged them to stand up and speak out against corruption, not to get disheartened by the uphill task .

NIA's third (3rd) membership induction was held on Saturday September 12, 2015 at the Jamaica Pegasus Hotel. The induction had two (2) very important presentations from; NIA member and UWI, Mona student Mr. Germaine Bryan who presented on the progress of the formulation of the Integrity Action Movement (IAM) at the UWI that was conceived by NIA as a student-centered initiative to establish an integrity based student group on the UWI campus.

Secondly, Mrs. Latoya West-Blackwood; Chair of the Book Industry of Jamaica and former President of the Marcus Garvey Movement (MGM) on the UWI campus, presented on the



NIA's 2nd cohort of members at the induction ceremony held on July 18, 2015

importance of proper organization, committed and driven members with shared goals to the success of an organization.

The fourth (4th) and final membership induction ceremony thus far was held on Sunday November 29, 2015 at the Mona Visitors' Lodge on the Mona Campus of the University of the West Indies. A total of thirty three (33) members were inducted; twenty two (22) females and eleven (11) males. Approximately two-thirds of the members inducted were between the ages of eighteen to twenty four (18 -24) years old.

NIA's Outreach Officer, Richard Pasley, implored the new members to take initiative and speak out against acts of corruption, while maintaining their integrity. Mr. Dennis Chung in his message to the inductees from the NIA Board, urged the new members to stay committed to their decision of signing up for membership. Professor Trevor Munroe in his message highlighted a number of positive things that are happening in Jamaica; such as Jamaica's international ratings for the freedom of the press, administration of elections and low level of petty corruption. He however stressed that Jamaica needed to improve significantly on perception of corruption, accountability and transparency. Our guest speaker, Mr. Dirk Harrison, the Contractor General of Jamaica, urged the new members to forge partnerships as the one between NIA and the Office of the Contractor General. He reiterated this by highlighting to them with the use of a Jamaican folk expression "one hand cyan clap".

Training workshops and orientation of NIA members

NIA is committed to building the capacity of its members and has trained fifty seven (57) individuals in the methodology of social auditing, with 63 percent of those individuals being NIA members. This training is currently being utilized; as NIA has embarked on an actual social auditing exercise.

NIA has also had orientation training for new members; in communication and advocacy skills. Thus far members have benefitted from communication workshop with Mrs. Fae Ellington C.D., learning the advocacy road map from Professor Munroe, lessons from the Maternity Leave Law Struggle by Kinshasa Carvalho, The Role of the Office of the Public Defender by Mrs. Arlene Harrison Henry, Public Defender and an account of a successful community struggle by Mrs. Arlene Chambers-Baker of St. Andrew Park Citizens Association.



2015: Growing Amongst O



NIA's Outreach Officer, Richard Pasley and students of the ABC Hall at UWI Mona after his presentation on the need for Campaign Finance Reform



NIA's Research Coordinator Omar Lewis, Lukkee Chong of Frame by Frame and event organisers at the Caribe Film Fest in Florida in February 2015, where NIA's 2nd documentary was awarded the audience award for "Best Documentary"



PIOJ Health and Information Fair in Tivoli Gardens



Hon. Damion Crawford, Minister of State in the Ministry of Tourism and Entertainment and Floyd Green, then President of Generation 2000 (G2K) participating in the Irvine Hall/NIA "Great Debate"



Attendees at the Irvine Hall/NIA "Great Debate"



Students of the Moneague College in attendance at the Aubrey Phillips Memorial Lecture, where Prof. Munroe delivered the guest lecture



Dr. Terri-Ann Gilbert social auditing expert addressing NIA's membership Social Audit Training Session.



A snap of the gathering at the Ten Thousand Men and Their Families March in Montego Bay

Our People Building Integrity



NIA's 1st Members' Induction Ceremony, March 15, 2015



NIA's Administrator Jamie-Ann Chevannes and the winners of the 2015 Burger King annual Debate Competition- York Castle High School



NIA's Executive Director Dr. Trevor Munroe delivering his address at Office of the Contractor General's Inaugural Fraud and Anti-Corruption Conference as Mrs. Foster-Ann, Former Permanent Secretary, Min. of Education and Mr. Dirk Harrison Contractor General, Jamaica look on.



Attendees of the joint NIA/ ECJ town hall meeting in Port Antonio, Portland lined up to voice their concerns



Attendees of the joint NIA/ ECJ town hall meeting in Port Antonio, Portland



Speaker of the house Micheal Peart and attendees of the joint NIA/ ECJ town hall meeting in Mandeville, Manchester



Public Defender Arlene Harrison Henry addresses NIA's 2nd cohort of members and their induction ceremony, also seen at the head table is Arlene Chambers Blake of the St Andrew Park Citizens' Association and Professor Trevor Munroe



Youth attendees at the Governor General's "I Believe" conferences held in Hanover, NIA were specially invited presenters for the series

NIA

Broadening Community Outreach and Partnerships



The Hon Mrs Dorothy Pine McLarty, ECJ Chairman addresses the ECJ/NIA Mandeville Town Hall meeting.



NIA/SDC Community Health Fair, Maggoty, St. Elizabeth



NIA/ECJ Townhall Series, Mandeville Manchester, looking on is Member of Parliament for North East Manchester Audley Shaw

Over the last year NIA has intensified its community outreach focus and has partnered with numerous agencies. These agencies include but not limited to; Social Development Commission (SDC), Planning Institute of Jamaica (PIOJ), Electoral Commission of Jamaica (ECJ), The Governor General I Believe Initiative, Roots 96.1 FM, Ministers Fraternal and the Community Empowerment and Transformation Project Phase two (COMET II) funded by United States Agency for International development (USAID).

Message from the Social Development Commission

The Social Development Commission continues to support the National Integrity Action (NIA) with its main objective of combating corruption and building integrity in Jamaica. The NIA has been instrumental as a main partner in our efforts to engage the communities to recognize their role in addressing the challenges posed to the Jamaican democracy and economy.

The recent social service fairs held in St Elizabeth and St Mary for example, allowed citizens to benefit from vital social services as well as acquire first-hand information on why it is important to prevent corrupt practices at the community level.

We remain committed to working with the NIA to ensure that communities become less tolerant of corrupt practices.

Social Development Commission

This year the Social Development Commission (SDC) has assisted NIA to successfully host two (2) health and information fairs as well as three (3) town hall meetings across Jamaica. They were very instrumental in the planning and rolling out of NIA's "Building Integrity" Health and Information Fair held at Maggoty High School in Maggoty, St. Elizabeth on October 22, 2015 and at the Douglas Clarke Community Centre in Islington St. Mary on November 5, 2015.

Over 400 hundred individuals benefitted from the health and other services provided at the events cumulatively and NIA was able to recruit forty four (44) new members in total. SDC also played a major role in the mobilization of individuals for NIA and the ECJ "Vote buying" Town Hall Meeting Series in St. James, Portland and Manchester.

Planning Institute of Jamaica

NIA was invited by the Planning Institute of Jamaica (PIOJ) to participate at a health and information fair they were hosting in the West Kingston community of Tivoli Gardens on March 4, 2015. Approximately eighteen (18) individuals signed up for NIA membership, the applicants ranged from community individuals to members of the organizations that were participating at the event as well.

Electoral Commission of Jamaica

NIA and the Electoral commission of Jamaica (ECJ) partnered on a series of Town Hall Meetings islandwide. The theme of these town hall meetings were "Respect your vote: your right, your responsibility"; with a strong focus on vote buying and selling. These town hall meetings were held in Montego Bay, St. James on May 25, 2015, Port Antonio, Portland on July 23, 2015 and Mandeville, Manchester on September 23, 2015. Collectively NIA reached over 900 individuals at these three (3) town hall meetings and increased their awareness on the aforementioned topic.



His Excellency Sir Patrick Allen and NIA Executive Director Professor Munroe at the "I Believe" Surrey County Conferences, Port Antonio, Portland.

Governor General: I Believe Initiative

The Governor General invited NIA to partner with his office and Executive Director, Prof Trevor Munroe to address the 3 Youth County Conferences held in Cornwall (Falmouth), Middlesex (Mandeville) and Surrey (Port Antonio), a component of the 'I Believe' initiative now in its eighth year. Each Conference was attended by between 150 to 200 persons, overwhelmingly young leaders from high schools, tertiary institutions and communities along with Custodes and leaders from the Parishes in the particular County. At each conference the GG exhorted the young people to believe in Jamaica and Professor Munroe spoke on the theme 'Youth righting wrong in Jamaica', drawing examples of where the young had played critical roles in the development of Jamaica and other countries. Many youth, particularly in high schools, expressed an interest in forming NIA integrity clubs in their institution.

Roots 96.1 FM: "Youth talk politics or politricks"

ROOTS 96.1 FM has aired 9 episodes of the Politics or Politricks series during Youth Talk on Mondays at 5:05-6:00pm on ROOTS 96.1 FM. The series started on September 28, 2015 with the topic- **What is Vote-Buying?** NIA's Executive Director; Professor Trevor Munroe was a panellist on this episode. NIA also secured an interview with the Director of Elections; Orette Fisher for the episode on - How and Why to Vote? NIA also facilitated the broadcast of other episodes by providing suitable communication and resource materials to include recorded speeches and public service announcements played in more than one episode. A face to face session was also organized on November 21, 2015 with the public screening of the movie- Ghett'a Life.

This was followed by a presentations and a discussion surrounding the issues of vote buying and political tribalism; where NIA Board member Dr. Knife was a guest presenter.

Ministers Fraternal

The Spanish Town Ministers Fraternal, through Rev Rowan Edwards, reached out to NIA to co-sponsor and participate for the first time in the 7th annual 10,000 man and families march and rally for peace and against violence. NIA accepted the invitation and along with other leaders of Church and State, addressed over 5,000 citizens gathered in Spanish Town for the occasion. NIA also accepted a similar invitation from the St James Ministers' Fraternal to participate in a similar event held in Montego Bay.

Comet II

COMET II invited NIA to participate in a three (3) citizens' journalism workshops they arranged with members from their targeted parishes of Kingston, St. Andrew, St. Catherine, Clarendon & St. James. Only two (2) were held; however, one in Kingston and the other in Montego Bay. A total of 6 individuals signed up for membership at this workshop.

NIA ACKNOWLEDGES WITH GRATITUDE CONTRIBUTIONS FROM: National Continental Bakery, Grace Kennedy Ltd, Jamaica National, Gorstew and invites other Jamaican businesses to donate to the organization and its programs.

NIA CONTINUES TRAINING PROGRAMMES

In 2015 NIA continued its efforts to assist in improving the professional will and capacity of those in the first instance employed in critical areas within the justice sector and secondly ordinary concerned citizens interested in playing their part in the combatting of corruption and building of integrity. Towards this end NIA planned and executed in collaboration with the Office of the Chief Justice, the Justice Training Institute and the Court Management Service – the latter two being arms of the Ministry of Justice, the Jamaica Constabulary Force, the UK High Commission’s Criminal Justice Adviser and USAID COMET II thirteen (13) capacity building weekend workshops for the period.

The seminars provided training covering five (5) topic areas namely:



Participants at NIA’s Training Seminars on POCA held in January 2015

The Committal Proceedings Act, The Criminal Justice (Suppression of Criminal Organizations) Bill (Anti - Gang Legislation), The Law Reform Fraudulent Transactions Special Provisions Act (Lottery Scam Act), the Proceeds of Crime Act (POCA) and for the first time in the organization’s history training in the techniques Social Auditing for specially selected NIA staff members, members and prospective members of NIA as well as partners of NIA.



Dir. of Public Prosecutions Paula Llewellyn delivering her address at the 4th Annual Prosecutors' Training Seminar. At the head table the Hon. Zaila McCalla Chief Justice of Jamaica and Professor Munroe.

The period saw over six hundred (600) beneficiaries to include Resident Magistrates, Prosecutors, Clerks of the Court, Police Officers (investigators) as well as ordinary citizens who are affiliates of NIA being trained. Participants as well as the heads of the organizations they represented were thankful for the needed training and were also impressed by the quality of the material delivered. We at NIA reaffirm our commitment to wherever possible lend our support to the strengthening of the professional will and capacity of key public sector groupings involved in the fight against corruption particularly those employed within the justice system. We see this role as very critical in strengthening not only the combat of corruption, and the building of integrity, but overall, the critical pillar of justice.



Renowned communication expert Fae Ellington conducting training on advocacy and communication with NIA's members.

Youth

A Special Focus

2015 could have been aptly dubbed the ‘Year of the Youth’, as NIA’s engagement of the nation’s youth took centre-stage in recognizing that any meaningful, sustained change must engage the youth. As such, NIA sought to build their awareness on issues of governance, the negative impact of corruption on the nation and its direct impact on their present state and their prospects for the future. Encouraging the youths to **“speak up, speak out and speak loud”** on issues that they deemed pertinent and to know that as in the past, they now as the younger generation, are able to drive the process of change to make our country truly be “the place of choice to live, work, raise families and do business”.

The drive to bolster the knowledge base of the nation’s youths and to embolden them saw NIA partnering with and addressing many organisations to achieve this objective. These organisations included:

- The Office of the Contractor General through an essay and poster competition;
- Burger King for the National Secondary School Debating Competition and subsequently, the National Prep and Primary School Debating Competition;
- UWI’s Guild of Students for the “Every Vote Count” Forum;
- UWI Leads – several discourse on leadership and ethics;
- UWI’s Irvine Hall in staging the “Great Youth Debate”;
- Moneague College
- Northern Caribbean University
- the Governor General’s Youth Consultative County Conference series.

As a result of NIA’s engagement of the youth, we have come to recognise much potential in our nation’s youth and the promise of a bright future. We believe that through consistent and constant engagement we can once again ignite their passion to not be onlookers but be active participants in the push for better governance and nation building.



NIA visits Chancellor Hall, UWI Mona



A student participates in the Q&A session at the Surrey County “I Believe” Conference.

RESPONDING AND ASSISTANCE TO CRIES FOR HELP

NIA has since inception been a port of call for many Jamaicans who have witnessed or have been victims of corruption and who often have had their cries for help ignored by various agencies and individuals. However in more recent times, NIA has been better able to respond to the needs of such persons through its offering of services similar to Transparency International's (TI) 'Advocacy and Legal Advice Centre' (ALAC). Through its ALAC type services, persons who have been the witnesses or victims of corruption are able to report their corruption related complaints to NIA and receive assistance and legal advice **free of cost**.

Reporting corruption to NIA

Witnesses or victims of corruption, may make a report to NIA by telephone using our toll free "report corruption hotline number", 1-888-429-5562 or any of the other office numbers, by fax, email or even a visit to our office. Persons may opt to remain anonymous or they may provide their name and other contact details. Where a person provides personal information, such is kept strictly confidential.

Jamaicans are Speaking Up

More and more Jamaicans are realizing the power of speaking up against corruption and are letting their voices be heard by reporting corruption to NIA. NIA has so far received reports of corruption from persons in thirteen (13) of the fourteen (14) parishes. NIA has over the past four (4) years received and provided assistance in over a hundred (100) corruption related matters. These corruption reports ranged from breaches of procurement procedures, fraud, bribery, mismanagement of public funds, nepotism, cronyism and whistle blower retaliation to corruption in matters of land and labour.

Who are Persons Speaking out Against?

Persons have been reporting corruption in both public and private sector individuals and entities such as, the Jamaica Constabulary Force, Parish Councils, Members of Parliament, various Government Agencies, Attorneys-at-Law, Land Surveyors, Driving Schools, Early Childhood and Tertiary Institutions.

Moving Forward

As we end a successful four (4) years and embark upon the future, NIA is even more confident that successfully combatting corruption in Jamaica is possible when Jamaicans speak up. So join the movement! Speak up and Report Corruption! Your voice, can make a difference.



Members of Harvest Tabernacle demonstrating in November 2015 against what they believed to be a corrupt act and calling for NIA's help. NIA responded to the cries of these citizens providing advice and assistance. Photo Credit: Jamaica Observer

NIA's Advocacy Programmes Continue



NIA in collaboration with its communication partner has developed a catalog of short advertisements and two full length documentaries geared towards bringing attention towards critical issues. Responding to an overwhelming response to our two full length documentaries; *The Cost of Corruption: Jamaica's Barrier to Development* (2012) and *Building Integrity a Work in Progress* (2014) NIA in 2015 brought both films to the Jamaican diaspora areas of New York, the wider Tri-State area and Florida. Similarly the international response has been encouraging.

NIA too in partnership with USAID COMET II and other partners saw to the creation of a Public Service Announcement (PSA) against the illegal practice of vote buying and selling by politicians and their supporters.

Advocating for stronger laws

Representatives of NIA led by the Executive Director appeared on three separate occasions before a Joint Select Committee of Parliament during the year. On two occasions NIA made strong presentations advocating for the speedy passage of the Integrity Commission Act which would among other things create a special prosecutor to solely prosecute cases of corruption. We believe this is a huge step in the right direction that will aid in challenging the impunity of the corrupt.

The third occasion was to respond to a Motion moved in parliament advancing the argument for stronger regulations to be brought against Civil Society organizations. NIA's stance in this instance was that while supporting the call for transparency and accountability the current laws if enforced did enough to facilitate this and there was a potential danger in over regulation of civil society organisations.

NIA's Voice

NIA continues to enjoy the trust of the media as over the period our Executive Director appeared on all major news programmes both on radio and television. 2015 also saw a partnership being forged with the Jamaica Gleaner which provided Professor Munroe with a column which was aptly used for six consecutive weeks to bring attention to and seek support for important governance related improvements such as greater accountability in government spending and Campaign Finance Reform.



Beacons of LIGHT

Not a day passes without dark stories of social decay

- Youth killing youth or
- Girl raped
- Fighting amongst school youths or
- Teenagers involved in lotto scamming or
- Gang fighting gang.



In this dark landscape there are many beacons of hope which rarely come to light. One such is Jabary Williams, a 19 year old youngster from Kid Lane in Kingston's inner-city. He found a bag containing approximately \$100,000. Despite great personal need; Jabary earns \$1000 a day when he does have work in a small bakery, despite much temptation, despite his friends treating him as an outcast, Jabary returned the \$100,000 to its rightful owner. As a result Sagicor Corporation honoured him with a scholarship and NIA awarded him a special integrity trophy. There are many other Jabary Williams' in our communities. NIA and every decent Jamaican must resolve to identify, support and encourage them as beacons of light.

NIA SPEAKING OUT



NIA's Executive Director Prof. Trevor Munroe addresses the "I Believe" Middlesex Conference

In a number of news releases and press statements, NIA continued to speak out on national issues, 'without fear or favor', preserving its independent non-partisan character.

On macro-economic matters, early in the year, NIA called for action to halt short-falls in tax revenue, particularly from 'large tax-payers' as revealed by the Minister of Finance.

In regard to the loose management of public bodies, the Executive Director called for greater transparency and accountability regarding the Outameni purchase by the NHT and the consistent failure of the NSWMA to submit audited financials to Parliament. In response to the OCGs exposure of nepotism and corruption in the Hanover Parish Council, NIA called for sanctions to be applied against the offending Mayor.

"When we speak out and stand up, together, uptown and downtown we get results; so after the last Riverton fire a few months ago, poisoning Jamaica's atmosphere we spoke out and we stood up; we said enough is enough and the Board of National Solid Waste Agency had to be changed. A few years ago in the 1970s_ an even better example of what can happen when we speak out, when we stand up and when we come together to organize. Prior to 1979 if a woman got pregnant she had no right to leave or could lose her job: This was clearly an injustice crying out for action. A few women said we not putting up with this any longer; they spoke out; then the few became many; in 1978 and 1979, uptown and downtown women came together; black and brown and whit Jamaican women, regardless of politics, they spoke out, wrote letters, held peaceful demonstrations; made representations to the government and to the 'powers that be'. The result on December 31, 1979 the Maternity Leave Law had to be passed. In 2 years!

Now every woman who gets pregnant is entitled to 3 months maternity leave and 2 months of that with pay! Campaign Finance Reform has taken 12 years so far. One main reason is that we have not come together and stood up in the way our sisters and mothers did in 1978/79. We must now wake up!! All of us, inside and outside Parliament, in town hall meetings like this, need to understand the urgency and importance of this law. The time is now to call the talk shows, to write letters to the newspapers, to get your church, your Citizens' Association, your professional association to stand up and to speak out"

PRESENTATION BY PROFESSOR TREVOR MUNROE,
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL INTEGRITY ACTION
ECJ-NIA TOWN HALL MEETING, MANDEVILLE
SEPTEMBER 23, 2015

Consistent with upholding Jamaica's code of political conduct NIA criticized the 'eat dem out, vote dem out' statement by the Leader of the Opposition and in response to incipient political violence, called for political parties to remove party flags from communities.

About NIA

National Integrity Action (NIA) is a registered not-for-profit organization with the objective of combating corruption and building integrity in Jamaica. The establishment of NIA grew out of the necessity to raise levels of national integrity and to combat corruption more effectively in Jamaica.

NIA was launched on UN International Anti-Corruption Day, December 9, 2011. Consistent with its non-partisan character, the then Prime Minister of Jamaica, the Honorable Andrew Holness, MP, was keynote speaker at the launch and the Opposition Spokesman on Finance, Peter Phillips, MP, made a presentation on behalf of the then Leader of the Opposition, the Most Honorable Portia Simpson Miller.

NIA is the National Chapter of Transparency International (TI), the global movement and leading civil society organization working against corruption worldwide.



Prof. Munroe and Cobus De Swardt, Managing Director of Transparency International at TI's Annual Members Meeting in Malaysia November 2015.

OUR VISION

A peaceful and prosperous Jamaica built on principles of integrity, equality and justice, in which each person holds themselves and their leaders to account for advancing their lives, their communities and the nation.

OUR MISSION

Enhancing integrity as well as building public awareness, engagement and demand for:

- Legislation to strengthen transparency and accountability in governance
- Enforcement of the rule of law against the corrupt
- Ensuring that anti-corruption agencies function effectively
- Forging strong ties with national and international partners, institutions and communities, to build integrity by combating corruption.

GET INVOLVED:

Empower yourself to play a role in combating corruption in Jamaica

- **Educate:**
 - Visit the NIA website and read our factsheet and presentations on the Single Anti-Corruption Commission and Campaign Finance Reform
 - Watch the NIA Advertisements and the Cost of Corruption Documentary on our website
 - Attend one of our events
 - Keep abreast of developments in the Anti-Corruption landscape.
- **Engage:**
 - Join NIA if you support our core values: transparency, accountability, integrity, impartiality and diversity
 - Track the progress of critical anti-corruption legislations
 - Host discussions in your organizations and communities on the issues of integrity that matter to you most
- **Be Empowered:**
 - Write to the newspapers and call in to the talk shows
 - Visit, write letters or sign petitions to your MP and Councillor, hold your elected representatives accountable
 - Develop your own integrity initiatives and invite NIA to partner with you
- **Donate:**
 - NIA needs your support. Contact our offices for further details.

Holding ourselves and our leadership accountable plays a role in building integrity in your organizations, in your communities and throughout Jamaica.

PARTNERING WITH NIA

For further information on assisting NIA in the Building of Integrity please contact our offices.

NIA
National Integrity Action

Email: info@niajamaica.org Website: www.niajamaica.org
Telephone: 1-888-429-5562 / 906-4371