

ACRC Korea Transparency Newsletter (June 2026)

- “Answering the Voices from the Field by Enhancing the Rights and Interests of the People” ACRC Announces its Key Achievements after One Year since the Popular Sovereignty Government Took Office
- Marking 25th Anniversary of Comprehensive Integrity Assessment, ACRC Discusses Future Directions with the Korean Association for Public Administration
- 10 Years of Mandatory Anti-Corruption Education — Education is Essential for Transparent Public Institutions!
- Expanding Anti-Corruption Cooperation with the African Continent by Disseminating Korea’s Anti-Corruption System to Zimbabwe
- “Administrative Appeals for Everyone” Now Within Reach, by Introducing a Video Conference System and Increasing Support for Publicly Appointed Representatives through Legislative Amendment

“Answering the Voices from the Field by Enhancing the Rights and Interests of the People” ACRC Announces its Key Achievements after One Year since the Popular Sovereignty Government Took Office

- *Mediated and resolved 70 collective petitions, relieved the grievances of 30,000 citizens under the new administration*
- *Integrated representative phone numbers of 15 central administrative agencies into ACRC’s National Call Center 110*
- *Piloted AI-based ePeople service for some of the central administrative agencies and local government*
- *Introduced one-stop application for publicly appointed representatives in administrative appeals, as well as audio support service for vulnerable groups*

(Jun. 1. 2026, ACRC)

The Anti-Corruption and Civil Rights Commission (ACRC, Chairperson Jung Il Yeon) announced its key achievements on June 1st, celebrating one-year of the launch of the popular sovereignty government.

The announcement was made to inform people of the major policies that the ACRC has pursued over the past year to resolve the public grievances and disseminate a culture of integrity, so that citizens can tangibly feel the changes brought by these policies.

In line with the three key strategies* for realizing the vision of President Lee’s administration — A Nation That Truly Belongs to the People, a Republic of Korea Where Everyone is Happy Together — the ACRC unveiled nine major policies that have already borne fruit. The main content of ACRC’s nine key achievements is as follows.

* Three key strategies: 1. Resolve people’s grievances by proactive and practical response; 2. Institutional improvement based on the people’s voice, and resolve grievances through administrative appeals; 3. Update anti-corruption laws and regulations and disseminate the culture of integrity

[Strategy 1. Resolve People's Grievances by Proactive and Practical Response]

First, the ACRC established a government-wide foundation for resolving collective conflict petitions and habitually recurring petitions to resolve public grievances and reduced the overall volume of petitions.

Over the past year, the ACRC mediated and resolved 70 collective petitions and addressed the difficulties of a total of 30,498 citizens. Through active communication with people who had staged long-term sit-ins or repeatedly filed petitions in front of the presidential office and local government buildings, nine long-term protesters were able to return to their daily lives, and approximately 150,000 repeated petitions were reduced.

The commission also established the Collective Conflict Mediation Bureau as a dedicated organization in January, and announced in March the Measures to Expand Civil Petitions Handling and Communication to reduce repeated petitions and collective conflict related petitions, and respond to them more effectively. The ACRC co-hosted a Grievance Innovation Forum and Workshop with the Public Conflict Mediation Secretary of the Presidential Office together with the presidential office, impressing upon the overall public sector the government's determination to resolve civil grievances.

The ACRC also plans to announce in June the "Roadmap for Resolving Collective Conflict and Unusual Civil Grievances of the Popular Sovereignty Government," jointly prepared with relevant institutions.

Second, starting from May 26, the ACRC additionally integrated the representative numbers of 15 central administrative agencies* — in addition to the six already integrated — into National Call Center 110 which is operated by the ACRC, in order to resolve public inconvenience arising from the fact that public institutions operate about 700 separate consultation numbers. The ACRC plans to expand the service to 34 central administrative agencies by 2027.

* 15 central administrative agencies: Board of Audit and Inspection, Fair Trade Commission, Korea Aerospace Administration, Korea Coast Guard, Ministry of Climate, Energy and Environment, Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism, Ministry of Education, Ministry of

Finance and Economy, Ministry of Gender Equality and Family, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport, Ministry of the Interior and Safety, National Agency for Administrative City Construction, National Human Rights Commission, Rural Development Administration, The Peaceful Unification Advisory Council. (In alphabetical order)

In addition, the ACRC plans to expand the number guidance and call-transfer service of National Call Center 110 for central administrative agencies and public institutions from the current 150 numbers to 300 by the end of this year, and to all central administrative agencies and public institutions by 2027.

Third, the ACRC toured the country to operate the “Everyone’s Plaza on Wheels” program last July with the Presidential Committee on State Affairs Planning, listened to people’s proposals regarding the new administration and petitions.

A total of 850 proposals and petitions were received across 13 local governments under six regions. In the course of this programme, petitions on traffic inconvenience caused by railway construction in Yanggu-gun were resolved through consultation with relevant agencies.

[Strategy 2. Institutional Improvement Based on the People’s Voice, and Resolve Grievance Through Administrative Appeals]

Fourth, the ACRC introduced an AI-based ePeople pilot service last February in order to handle civil petitions more efficiently and swiftly resolve citizens’ difficulties. Four agencies – the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport, the Ministry of Food and Drug Safety, Incheon Metropolitan City, and Siheung City – are currently using AI for functions such as petition responses recommendation and batch processing of frequently recurring petitions to more promptly respond to citizens’ voices.

The ACRC expects that the AI-based ePeople will enhance the quality of civil petition handling services and strengthen the government’s capacity to respond to difficulties in people’s daily lives. In this regard, the Commission plans to introduce the service to all central administrative agencies by 2027, and expand it to local governments and public institutions by 2030.

Fifth, the ACRC established improvement measures for institutions closely related to people's everyday life, so that citizens could tangibly feel changes in their daily lives, and recommended them to relevant agencies.

Major examples include: recommending the addition of a ground subsidence category to public facility liability insurance which local governments subscribe to, in order to strengthen compensation for ground subsidence (sinkhole) accident victims; and recommending that the basic toll be waived in cases where a driver mistakenly exits a highway onto a regular road and re-enters the highway within a short period of time.

Sixth, the ACRC strengthened access to administrative appeals for socially vulnerable groups so that anyone can more conveniently use the administrative appeals system.

The Commission enabled economically vulnerable citizens filing administrative appeals to apply for publicly appointed representatives through a one-stop process, and introduced an audio support service for adjudication rulings so that citizens who have difficulty reading documents, such as the visually impaired, can more easily access the results of administrative appeals.

[Strategy 3. Update anti-corruption laws and regulations and disseminate the culture of integrity]

Seventh, the ACRC actively processed reports on corruption cases and acts infringing on the public interest, and strengthened the protection and compensation of whistleblowers.

The number of processed reports from May 2025 to April 2026 reached 18,645, a 55.7% increase compared to the same period last year, while the number of processed protection cases during the same period rose 154.3% to 1,195.

One such case occurred last December when ACRC provided a record compensation of KRW 2 billion (surpassing the previous record of KRW 1.22 billion) to a citizen who reported an attempt to illegally transfer state and public owned land free of charge to a redevelopment association during the

implementation of an urban redevelopment project.

Eighth, the ACRC newly established the “Basic Regulation on Fair Recruitment of Workers for the Central Administrative Agencies” last April to establish a culture of fair hiring.

Through this regulation, which will take effect this July, standards on hiring procedure and principles that previously varied by agencies will be standardized. It is expected that the hiring of non-civil service officials — such as public service workers, fixed-term employees, and part-time employees — at central administrative agencies will become fairer.

※ Main contents: establishment and operation of a deliberative body to review and resolve important matters related to recruitment, such as the appropriateness of hiring plans; inclusion of external members among screening committee members; etc.

Ninth, the ACRC strengthened not only existing integrity education but also education on protecting citizens’ rights and interests, including civil petition handling and conflict management in order to enhance public officials’ capacity to protect citizens’ rights and interests.

The ACRC renamed its Anti-Corruption Training Institute to the Korea Integrity and Civil Rights Training Institute (KICTI), and has been operating training for public officials since March this year using newly developed educational content on rights relief and conflict management.

Chairperson Jung stated, “The ACRC is working to protect the rights and interests of the people and to build a society of integrity. Beyond today’s nine key achievements, we will do our utmost to create changes that people can genuinely feel.”

He added, “We will continue to communicate with the public, listen closely to the voices of the people, and build a nation in which the people are the true masters.”

Marking 25th Anniversary of Comprehensive Integrity Assessment, ACRC Discusses Future Directions with the Korean Association for Public Administration

- ACRC attends the '2026 KAPA Summer Joint International Conference' to share achievements and discuss future development strategies for the Comprehensive Integrity Assessment for public institutions

(June 22, 2026, ACRC)

The Anti-Corruption and Civil Rights Commission (ACRC, Chairperson Jung Il Yeon) announced that, on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the Comprehensive Integrity Assessment for public institutions, it has participated in the “2026 Korean Association for Public Administration (KAPA) Summer Joint International Conference” to share the achievements of the assessment system and discuss its future development direction.

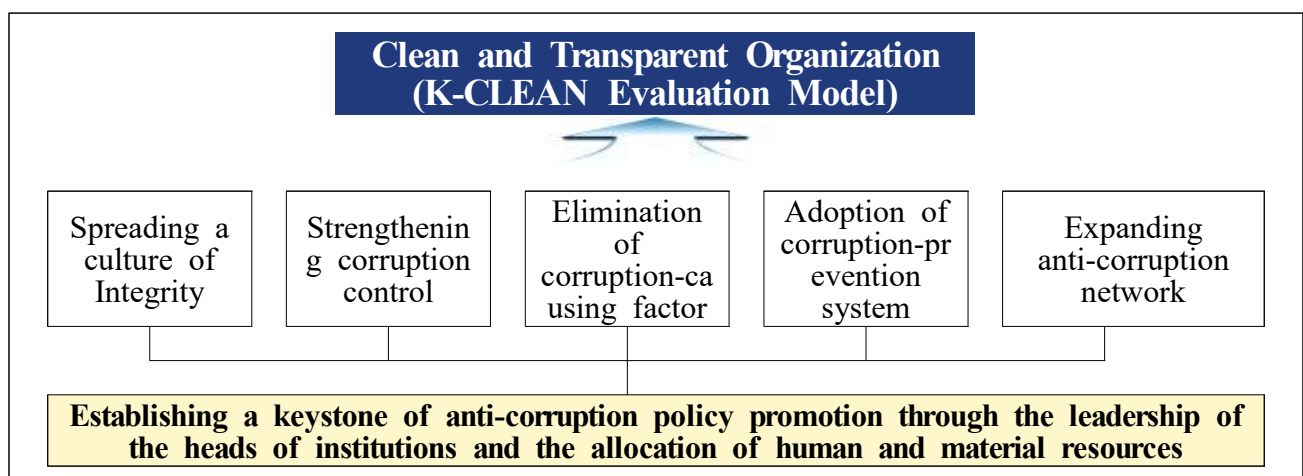
Co-hosted by KAPA, the National Research Council for Economics, Humanities and Social Sciences (NRC), the Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries, and the Busan Tourism Organization, the conference runs for three days from the 22nd to the 24th at the Busan Port International Exhibition & Convention Center (BPEX) under the theme, “Public Administration for the People, Public Administration Looking to the Future: Technology, Growth, Balance, and Government.”

The event brought together around 2,000 public administration scholars and policy experts from 20 countries to review the academic achievements of Korean public administration and design future national governance paradigms through various discussions.

Today (the 22nd), the ACRC hosted two special sessions in collaboration with the Korean Association for Corruption Studies and the Korea Institute of Integrity. These sessions aimed to share the primary achievements and policy significance of the Comprehensive Integrity Assessment system while gathering diverse feedback from academia and field practitioners regarding its future development.

In the first session, participants focused on “An AI-Driven Integrity Assessment System and the Establishment of Dedicated Assessment Governance.” The discussion covered innovative approaches to the Comprehensive Integrity Assessment using new technologies, alongside the necessity of establishing a specialized institution dedicated to the assessment.

In the following second session, participants took stock of the achievements made over the 25-year history of the public institution integrity assessment system, and analyzed the virtuous cycle between the ‘Perceived Integrity’ and ‘Integrity Efforts’ assessments that comprise the Comprehensive Integrity Assessment. In addition, in-depth discussion was held on the future development of the Comprehensive Integrity Assessment system, including the ‘K-CLEAN’ evaluation model for measuring integrity efforts.



The ACRC plans to carefully review the opinions discussed in this conference to actively reflect them in improving the evaluation system, while continuously exploring mid-to-long-term development plans in collaboration with experts in relevant fields.

ACRC Chairperson Jung Il Yeon stated, “The Commission has strived to improve administrative services felt by the public by enhancing national integrity through the comprehensive integrity evaluation system, resolving collective conflicts and grievances, and improving AI-based e-People services.”

He added, “We will continue to examine policies from the public’s perspective and actively reflect voices from the field to resolve the various social issues we face.”

10 Years of Mandatory Anti-Corruption Education — Education is Essential for Transparent Public Institutions!

- *The ACRC announced the results of the 2025 inspection on anti-corruption education in public institutions... 96.7% of all public officials and 97.8% of high-ranking officials completed anti-corruption education*
- *The ACRC Confirmed that anti-corruption education has successfully taken root in the public sector over the past 10 years of mandatory education... Special training will be conducted for institutions with poor completion rates*

(June 29, 2026, ACRC)

The Anti-Corruption and Civil Rights Commission (ACRC, Chairperson Jung Il Yeon) announced today (the 29th) the ‘Results of the 2025 Inspection on the Completion Status of Anti-Corruption Education in Public Institutions.’

As anti-corruption education was designated as a legally mandatory course in 2016, public officials belonging to public institutions must complete at least 2 hours of education every year, and high-ranking officials, new recruits, and promoted personnel must complete at least 1 hour of face-to-face education annually.

The ACRC inspected whether 2,242 public institutions completed their anti-corruption education last year, and the results showed that the completion rate for all public officials was 96.7%, with 1.77 million out of a total of 1.83 million officials completing the training, confirming that anti-corruption education has firmly established itself in the public sector.

The completion rate for public officials in 2025 was 96.7%, up 0.7 percentage points compared to 2024. This represents an 11.4 percentage points increase compared to the 85.3% completion rate first recorded in 2016 when the education became mandatory. The completion rate for high-ranking officials was 97.8%, up 0.7 percentage points from the previous year, while the rate for new recruits and promoted personnel was 92.6%, a slight decrease of 0.2 percentage points from a year earlier.

By type of public institution, Offices of Education recorded the highest completion rate at 99.1% of all public officials, whereas national and public universities showed the lowest rate at 83.0%. For national and public universities, which have relatively poor completion rates, the ACRC plans to boost participation through continuous special management, such as inspecting quarterly educational performance.

Category	All Public Institutions	Offices of Education	National/Public Universities
Total Completion Rates	96.7%	99.1%	83.0%
Completion Rates for High-Ranking Officials	97.8%	99.8%	93.8%
Completion Rates for New Recruits & Promoted Personnel	92.6%	98.3%	86.8%

In addition, out of 2,242 public institutions, 958 institutions (42.7%) achieved a 100% education completion rate, while 130 institutions were identified as underperforming institutions*. Underperforming institutions will be required to submit an education implementation plan in July, and special training for department heads will be conducted.

* Criteria for Underperforming Institutions: Institutions that fall under at least one of the following thresholds: less than 75% for all public officials, less than 80% for high-ranking officials, or less than 80% for new recruits/promoted personnel.

* The number of underperforming institutions has steadily decreased over the past three years: 268 in 2023 → 153 in 2024 → 130 in 2025

In particular, 64 institutions — accounting for 49.2% of the 130 underperforming institutions — were found to be small-scale institutions with 50 or fewer employees or newly designated public service-related organizations.

The average completion rates for these institutions were relatively low, standing at 64.5% for all public officials, 58.9% for high-ranking officials, and 44.8% for new recruits and promoted personnel. Accordingly, the ACRC has distributed



“Special Educational Materials on Anti-Corruption Laws” and plans to actively promote “On-Site Anti-Corruption Education” for these organizations.

※ On-Site Anti-Corruption Education: A program where the ACRC directly visits institutions to provide a 2-hour lecture on major anti-corruption laws and regulations.

ACRC Chairperson Jung Il Yeon stated, “Ten years after anti-corruption education was made mandatory for public officials, we have confirmed that it has steadily taken root, with the completion rate of all public officials reaching 96.7%.”

He added, “Building on these achievements, the ACRC will enhance the effectiveness of anti-corruption education while continuously managing and supporting institutions with poor completion rates to further elevate the level of integrity across the entire public sector.”

Expanding Anti-Corruption Cooperation with the African Continent by Disseminating Korea's Anti-Corruption System to Zimbabwe

- The ACRC to operate a four-day anti-corruption capacity building training program for Zimbabwe starting from June 16, transferring Korea's representative anti-corruption system, the "Comprehensive Integrity Assessment for public institutions" and the "Corruption Impact Assessment"

(Jun. 16, 2026, ACRC)

The Korea Integrity and Civil Rights Training Institute (KICTI) under the Anti-Corruption and Civil Rights Commission (ACRC, Chairperson Jung Il Yeon) reported that it will conduct a four-day Anti-Corruption Capacity Building Training Program for Zimbabwean public officials, together with the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) from June 16 to 19.

This training program was arranged as a follow-up measure to the Memorandum of Understanding on Anti-Corruption Cooperation signed in March last year between the ACRC and the Zimbabwe Anti-Corruption Commission (ZACC).

Twelve participants from ZACC include a minister-level commissioner as well as director general, director, and working-level officials. The delegation will join the training to learn Korea's internationally recognized anti-corruption institutions and operational experience, and to help build capacity at every stage of anti-corruption policy, from formulation to implementation.

ACRC Chairperson Jung Il Yeon and ZACC Commissioner Patrick Tendai Mukorera also plan to hold a meeting to discuss in depth measures to expand anti-corruption cooperation between the two countries.

The Republic of Korea is regarded as an exemplary case that has achieved both economic growth and an improvement in its Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) within a short period of time, and is continuously gaining traction from the international community regarding its anti-corruption policies and related

experience.

* (2016) 52nd out of 180 countries → (2025) 31st out of 182 countries

In response to this demand, the ACRC has been operating anti-corruption training programs for public officials from developing countries every year. This year, the Commission conducted a customized training program for Ethiopia in April. Following this training for Zimbabwe, the ACRC plans to conduct a multi-country training program in September for four West African countries — Senegal, Guinea, Togo, and Benin.

This training program for Zimbabwean public officials will focus on introducing ACRC's flagship anti-corruption policies: the "Comprehensive Integrity Assessment for public institutions" and the "Corruption Impact Assessment."

The Comprehensive Integrity Assessment for public institutions is a system that diagnoses the level of integrity at public institutions and encourages improvement of vulnerable factors. It won the United Nations Public Service Award in the anti-corruption category in 2012, and has been shared with 13 countries, including Indonesia, Vietnam, and Thailand.

The Corruption Impact Assessment, which analyzes and removes corruption-inducing factors embedded in laws and regulations in advance, has also been transferred to six countries, including Mongolia and Colombia.

Chairperson Jung of the ACRC stated, "Zimbabwe is one of the major African countries with abundant mineral resources and excellent human capital." He added, "I hope this training will serve as an opportunity to share Korea's anti-corruption policies and institutional operating experience, and to further expand anti-corruption cooperation between our two countries."

“Administrative Appeals for Everyone” Now Within Reach, by Introducing a Video Conference System and Increasing Support for Publicly Appointed Representatives through Legislative Amendment

*- The ACRC establishes legal basis for video conference and
raises the compensation ceiling for publicly appointed representatives, through
amendment of the Enforcement Decree of the Administrative Appeals Act,
effective as of June 16*

(Jun. 18, 2026, ACRC)

Petitioners residing in areas with poor transportation access will be able to conveniently participate in oral hearings for administrative appeals online, and compensation ceiling for publicly appointed representatives in administrative appeals will be raised in order to provide more active legal assistance to socially and economically vulnerable people who file administrative appeals.

The Anti-Corruption and Civil Rights Commission (ACRC, Chairperson Jung Il Yeon) established a legal basis for oral hearings conducted through a video conferencing system under the amended Enforcement Decree of the Administrative Appeals Act, which took effect on June 16.

An oral hearing is a system that allows citizens who have filed an administrative appeal to present their opinions directly during the administrative appeal proceeding. Under the previous regulations, however, petitioners were required to appear in person at the hearing venue, and concerns had been raised that this made it difficult for petitioners with limited mobility or those residing in areas with poor transportation access to participate in oral hearings.

Against this backdrop, the ACRC established a legal basis allowing citizens to participate in oral hearings via a remote video conferencing system without having to appear in person, and built the related infrastructure.



Citizens who want to participate in an oral hearing remotely must state their reason for being unable to appear in person when applying for the hearing, and the Administrative Appeals Commission will review this and determine whether to approve the remote hearing. Once the remote hearing is confirmed, the petitioner installs the necessary program on a computer, and participates remotely in the administrative appeal on the day of the hearing to directly present their opinion.

Through this amendment, participation in the oral hearing of administrative appeals will become more convenient for persons with disabilities, elderly citizens with limited mobility, and citizens residing in areas with poor transportation access.

Legal assistance is also enhanced through the amendment. As the ACRC has been providing legal assistance through a publicly appointed representatives system to petitioners who face economic difficulty in retaining an attorney, the amended Enforcement Decree of the Administrative Appeals Act also includes a provision raising the ceiling on compensation for publicly appointed representative in administrative appeals from the current KRW 500 thousand to KRW 1 million.

Through this amendment, publicly appointed representatives will be able to receive reasonable compensation for their professional legal service, and by helping to secure a higher quality pool of legal professionals, more substantive assistance in obtaining relief for their rights and interests is expected to be provided for citizens.

Vice Chairperson of the ACRC and Chairperson of the Central Administrative Appeals Commission Cho So Young stated, "This amendment to the Enforcement Decree of the Administrative Appeals Act is a measure to resolve public inconvenience related to administrative appeal procedures and to more thoroughly protect socially and economically vulnerable citizens." She added, "We will continue to do our utmost to ensure that citizens can make use of administrative appeals easily and conveniently."