



# J A M B O H U T

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## Avoidance of Corruption policy (A.C.P.)

### Overview

Corruption is endemic in Africa, as it is in many "third world" countries. In order to develop a policy to combat it, it is first necessary to understand it.

Money, or the chance of having some, is the major driving force. Money also brings power, but this is secondary.

Corruption is easy to understand and falls into three main categories:-

- 1} if you have nothing and the chance comes along to receive a sum of money that either can only otherwise be dreamt about, is life changing, you will do and say anything and everything to get your hands on it.
- 2} Likewise if you see an opportunity to feed your family better for one meal, maybe be able to afford meat this week, you will take the chance.
- 3} It does not seem to matter whether you are on the poverty line or the wealthiest man in the land, more is good. The more power you have the more you can charge. Never truer than in Africa does the expression , Power corrupts, absolute power corrupts absolutely apply.

We can cite hundreds of examples where, what we would describe as "petty" corruption, e.g. paying the policeman 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the fine you would have to pay if he took you to the station, at a checkpoint allows you on your way.

We can also cite examples where politicians have made it clear that in order for them to support a project they need a "bung". Our largest personal example was a demand for \$9million, 10% of the project cost. It did not matter that the project was beneficial to the country, without the "bung" the deal was dead. It died.

Corruption in any form is abhorrent and extremely detrimental to the development of the country. It is suppressive and repressive in nature.

Corruption is dressed up in many forms, from "a facilitation fee", to "lunch money", to blatant commissions necessary to achieve an objective. The one that really angers us however is the "payment to my nominated charity".

The downside to all this is that it's always the poorest who suffer the most. They are the easiest targets but they are also the ones we are committed to help.

Unfortunately, the elected leaders and high profile movers and shakers offer up the examples for the population to follow. Whilst individuals can take responsibility for their own actions, many view that as a weakness and when they see corruption in millions every day of the week by those in power, what incentivises them.

We also recognise that as "muzungu's" (Kswahili for "foreigner with money") we are a target. We are seen to have money and parting with some of it, no matter how big or small, is fair game and almost a right. We can always expect to be asked to pay more for that which a local would pay. This is racial discrimination.

Our task is therefore simple. We are not powerful enough to change it at the top, therefore we will utilise our skills in going round the problems. We have sufficient nous to spot most "corruption points" before they occur and have a plan in place just to avoid the issue.

#### Implementation, Aims and Objectives.

Our stated aim is to operate our business in a corruption free way.

In order to do this we shall;

- 1) Identify "corruption points"
- 2) Employ a strategy of discussion as to the downside of paying a corruption fee with that person demanding it.
- 3) Explain what we do and that our activity is designed to help artisans long term and that if we are "ripped-off because we are being asked to pay a tourist price" they may get a short term gain but lose out long term.
- 4) Remove from our procedures temptation.
- 5) Keep control of large sums of money such as development funds
- 6) Keep control of all money which is not directly in exchange for goods or services supplied.

- 7) Remove from our procedures and modus operandi the ability for "corruption points" to occur
- 8) Refuse to pay corruption.

