

# INTRODUCTION

The Commission of Integrity (COI) is fully aware of the noble end it shares with all sincere compatriots – whether civil servants or not. This is to maintain the public money, invest it to optimally benefit the country and citizens and pay due respect to civil service since it preserves the citizens' honor, ensures their interests and provides them with timely and efficient services.

Meanwhile, the COI realizes the seriousness of this task and how rugged and unattainable the path is. Therefore, it urges itself and other regulatory, executive and judicial bodies and all citizens to be patient and determined to complete the journey and tackle corruption whenever it is in the country. the COI will accomplish this task in collaboration with many friends and through agreements, conventions and memorandums of understanding, thus constantly increasing the front of those combating corruption and tightening the grip on the corrupts' throat.

This is a march of those aspiring to a better tomorrow for the country. And COI will spare no efforts in cooperation with other agencies, including the Board of Supreme Audit, the judiciary, inspector general's offices, Parliamentary Integrity Commission, and integrity commissions at the governorate councils. However, the most important concern is the citizens' awareness and commitment to clamp down on all manifestations of corruption since citizens are the first beneficiaries of such efforts and the first to be wronged when they are forsaken.

Therefore, integrity and combating corruption are combined and shared responsibility shouldered by all those who believe in the need to uproot this scourge and make the country void of such outrageous phenomena. The COI believes that the best way to gain citizens' trust and ensure their interaction and participation in the anticorruption efforts is to apply transparency and clarity in all its activities and in line with the law. Therefore, the COI annual report aims at informing all stakeholders including government agencies, media, civil society organizations and citizens about the details of its activities and what it has achieved to combat corruption throughout the year in the pillars of investigations (deterrence), prevention and education. This confirms the COI desire and determination to continue this confrontation, ensure the realization of the COI goals pursuant to its applicable law and the exclusive powers provided for by the law, and secure the adoption of sound rules that emphasize the COI neutrality and objectivity without engaging in side and irrelevant disputes and confrontations. After all, the COI main task is to maintain public money.

Thus, COI has identified the correct paths of its activities. The year 2012 was the best in terms of adopting scientific, objective and impartial concepts, visions, ideas, mechanisms, and functional and professional behaviors without being politically or financially affected by the troubled situation. The COI has further distanced itself from irrelevant fields and all efforts made to make it partial to a certain party or work on achieving its purposes have failed. The COI front doors are wide open to all those who have the same goals in accordance with the law.

Presenting its annual report of 2012, the COI is aware of the continuing need to develop its work and performance to realize its end. At the same time, it underlines some facts it considers effective and decisive in confronting corruption:

- First:** Build an e-government given its positive results of clarity, transparency and easy access to services;
- Second:** Cooperation and interaction of regulatory bodies according to their applicable laws to optimally improve performance;
- Third:** Enact the necessary legislations to enable the regulatory agencies to work under more comprehensive legal base;
- Fourth:** Greater attention to preventive measures and education to create a corruption-repulsive environment;
- Fifth:** Ensure citizens' involvement and participation in direct anticorruption efforts and protect them from the corrupts; and
- Sixth:** Develop effective media outlets, especially investigative journalism and CSOs, to realize common goals of exposing the corrupts and destroy the corruption hotbeds.

Iraq has achieved positive results in its war against corruption, most notably being the fact that the criminal act (corruption) is still trying to conceal itself, keep out of censorship sight and make use of tricky and innovative methods to introduce its virus under the cover of night. This is why we should develop our tools to follow up and detect it and purge society of it.

Judge  
**Alaa Jawad Hamid**  
Acting Commissioner