

LAW
OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA

Adopted on 24 March 2021

ON ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMITTEE

CHAPTER 1

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1. Subject matter of the Law

1. This Law shall regulate the powers, system and structure of the Anti-Corruption Committee, the procedure for and terms of formation and activity thereof, the procedure for and terms of taking service and holding position therein, classification of positions and class ranks thereof, rights, obligations and responsibilities of the officers thereof, their legal and social guarantees and other relations pertaining to holding office in the Anti-Corruption Committee.

Article 2. Legislation on the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. Relations pertaining to Anti-Corruption Committee shall be regulated by this Law, the relevant norms of international treaties ratified by the Republic of Armenia, the Criminal Procedure Code of the Republic of Armenia, the Law of the Republic of Armenia "On criminal intelligence activity", other legal acts.

Article 3. Main concepts used in this Law

1. The following main concepts shall be used in this Law:
 - (1) **“service in the Anti-Corruption Committee”** - a type of state service, the peculiarities whereof shall be defined by this Law;
 - (2) **“officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee”** - persons holding autonomous position in the Anti-Corruption Committee, the head, the employees of the subdivision performing criminal intelligence functions;
 - (3) **“a person holding an autonomous position in the Anti-Corruption Committee”** - the Chairperson, deputy chairpersons of the Anti-Corruption Committee, the heads and deputy heads of departments of the Anti-Corruption Committee, with the exception of the head and deputy head of the department performing criminal intelligence functions (the head of the inquiry body), the heads and deputy heads of divisions of the Anti-Corruption Committee, with the exception of the heads and deputy heads of divisions performing criminal intelligence functions, senior investigators and investigators for cases of particular importance, senior investigators and investigators of the Anti-Corruption Committee;
 - (4) **“a person holding a civil service position in the Anti-Corruption Committee”** - the General Secretary of the Anti-Corruption Committee, the deputy thereof and the officers of the subdivisions supporting the performance of the main functions of the Anti-Corruption Committee;
 - (5) **“corruption crimes”**- crimes included in the list of corruption crimes established by the Criminal Code of the Republic of Armenia;
 - (6) **“structural subdivision of the Anti-Corruption Committee”** - a department or a division under the Committee.

CHAPTER 2

POWERS AND PRINCIPLES OF ACTIVITY OF THE ANTI-CORRUPTIONN COMMITTEE

Article 4. Status and powers of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. The Anti-Corruption Committee shall be an investigative body that shall organise and conduct pre-trial criminal proceedings with respect to alleged corruption crimes reserved thereto under the Criminal Procedure Code of the Republic of Armenia.
2. The Anti-Corruption Committee shall – within the scope of the powers thereof – carry out criminal intelligence activities under the procedure established by the Law of the Republic of Armenia "On criminal intelligence activity".
3. The Anti-Corruption Committee shall also exercise other powers established by this Law.

Article 5. Principles of activity of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. The activity of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be based on the principles of independence, publicity, financial autonomy and political neutrality.
2. The Anti-Corruption Committee shall carry out the criminal intelligence activity in compliance with the principles of criminal intelligence activity established by the Law of the Republic of Armenia "On criminal intelligence activity".

Article 6. Independence of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. The Anti-Corruption Committee, when exercising the powers, as well as adopting decisions pertaining to the structure and the procedure for the organisation of operations thereof, shall be independent and shall abide only by the Constitution and laws of the Republic of Armenia.

Article 7. Publicity and accountability of the activities of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. The Anti-Corruption Committee shall notify the public about the activities thereof, ensuring the confidentiality of the pre-trial investigation, as well as the protection of state secrets and other secrets protected by law.
2. Each year by 31 January, the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall submit to the Government and the National Assembly a written report on the activities of the preceding year.
3. Within a period of one month following the end of each semester, the Anti-Corruption Committee shall publish summary information on activities thereof on its official website. The structure of information and the scope of issues covered thereby shall be defined by the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee. The annual report of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be published on the official website thereof each year by 31 January.

Article 8. Financial autonomy

1. The Anti-Corruption Committee shall be financed at the expense of the State Budget.

2. The Anti-Corruption Committee shall, in accordance with the procedure prescribed by the Law "On budgetary system of the Republic of Armenia" and in the time period prescribed by Decision of the Prime Minister "On initiating the budgetary process for the upcoming year", draw up each year and submit to the Government the budget funding request of the Anti-Corruption Committee for the upcoming year (the draft estimate of costs projected by the state budget for the Anti-Corruption Committee), to be incorporated into draft state budget for the upcoming year.
3. The budget funding request of the Anti-Corruption Committee for the upcoming year shall, in case of being approved by the Government, be included in the draft state budget, and in case of any objections, it shall be submitted to the National Assembly together with the draft state budget. The Government shall submit to the National Assembly and the Anti-Corruption Committee the grounds for objection to the budget funding request.
4. To finance unforeseen expenses for ensuring the proper functioning of the Anti-Corruption Committee, a reserve fund for the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be envisaged, which shall be presented as a separate line item in the budget. The value of the reserve fund shall be equal to two percent of the wage fund of persons holding positions in the Anti-Corruption Committee pursuant to the law on state budget of the current year.
5. Allocations from the reserve fund shall be made by decision of the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee.

Article 9. Political Neutrality

1. An officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee may not be a member of any political party or otherwise engage in political activities. An officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall, under any circumstances, display political restraint and neutrality.

2. An officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee may participate in elections of the National Assembly and local self-government bodies only as a person electing (voting).

CHAPTER 3

THE SYSTEM OF THE ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMITTEE

Article 10. The system of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. The system of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall consist of main professional structural subdivisions (including territorial subdivisions and the subdivision on issues of inner security) and supporting professional structural subdivisions.
2. The subdivisions of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be the departments and divisions thereof. A department of the Anti-Corruption Committee may have divisions as well.
3. The General Secretary of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall ensure the full and effective exercise of the powers of the Anti-Corruption Committee and the participation thereof in civil-law relations.
4. Persons working in supporting professional structural subdivisions of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be civil servants and the Law "On Civil Service" shall be applicable thereto.
5. Persons performing service activities on contractual basis in the Anti-Corruption Committee shall not be deemed as servants and shall be employed in accordance with the procedure prescribed by labour legislation of the Republic of Armenia.

6. The structure, the list of staff positions, including discretionary positions and persons performing technical maintenance operations in the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be approved by the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee.

Article 11. Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. The Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall manage and supervise the activities of the Anti-Corruption Committee and shall be responsible for ensuring the proper functioning of the Anti-Corruption Committee.
2. The Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall:
 - (1) set guidelines for solution and proper organisation of investigation of corruption cases by officers of the Anti-Corruption Committee and ensure supervision over the implementation thereof;
 - (2) perform distribution of work among the deputies thereof;
 - (3) adopt secondary, internal and individual legal acts and give assignments within the scope of the competence thereof;
 - (4) represent the Anti-Corruption Committee while relating to state and local self-government bodies, organisations (including international organisations);
 - (5) approve the Statute, the structure, the list of staff positions and staff list of the Anti-Corruption Committee;
 - (6) initiate or terminate official investigations, appoint and replace the person conducting official investigation;
 - (7) apply incentives to and subject the officers of the Anti-Corruption Committee to disciplinary liability and reward persons supporting the activities of the Committee;

- (8) establish advisory bodies defining the procedure for the activities thereof with the view of implementing the objectives of the Anti-Corruption Committee and increasing the effectiveness of the activities of the officers of the Anti-Corruption Committee;
 - (9) take measures to ensure the safety of an officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee and the family members thereof, including under the procedure prescribed by the Law of the Republic of Armenia "On Police";
 - (10) define the procedure for and terms of checking the integrity of officers of the Anti-Corruption Committee;
 - (11) have the power to check — through the subdivision of inner security — the integrity of officers of the Anti-Corruption Committee, including by means of provocation. The process of integrity check shall not hinder the proper functioning of the Anti-Corruption Committee;
 - (12) exercise other powers provided for by law.
3. Where the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee is absent or is unable to perform the official duties thereof, one of the deputies of the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall replace him or her upon the assignment thereof, and in case there is no assignment — the deputy of the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee with the longest professional experience.
 4. The Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall, under the procedure prescribed by this Law, be appointed by the Government for a period of six years.
 5. The same person may not be appointed to the position of the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee for more than two consecutive terms.
 6. The term of office of the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee may not exceed the age limit for holding office prescribed by this Law, irrespective of the fact of re-appointment.

Article 12. Deputy Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. The Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall have three deputies.
2. The Deputy Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall:
 - (1) coordinate the activities in the field assigned thereto by the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee;
 - (2) adopt — within the scope of the competence thereof — internal and individual legal acts and give assignments;
 - (3) file motions on applying incentives to the officers of the Anti-Corruption Committee or subjecting them to disciplinary liability;
 - (4) exercise other powers provided for by law.

Article 13. Official superiority and superiority under criminal procedure

1. The Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be superior to all officers of the Anti-Corruption Committee.
2. The Deputy Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be superior to all officers of the Anti-Corruption Committee under the coordination thereof.
3. The head of a subdivision of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be superior to all officers of the given subdivision.
4. Other relations pertaining to official superiority in the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be regulated by the Statute of the Anti-Corruption Committee.
5. Relations pertaining to superiority under criminal procedure in the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be regulated by the Criminal Procedure Code of the Republic of Armenia.

CHAPTER 4

POSITIONS OF OFFICERS IN THE ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMITTEE, PROCEDURE FOR AND TERMS OF APPOINTING AND DISMISSING OFFICERS, CONFERRING CLASS RANKS

Article 14. System of positions of officers of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. Positions of officers of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be classified into the following groups:
 - (1) highest positions;
 - (2) chief positions;
 - (3) lead positions;
 - (4) junior positions.
2. The groups of highest, chief and lead positions of officers of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be classified into 1st, 2nd and 3rd subgroups, and the junior positions — into 1st and 2nd subgroups.
3. The 1st subgroup in the groups of positions of officers of the Anti-Corruption Committee is the highest subgroup of the given group.
4. The positions of officers of the Anti-Corruption Committee of the highest group shall be classified into the following subgroups, covering the following positions:
 - (1) 1st subgroup — Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee;
 - (2) 2nd subgroup — Deputy Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee;
 - (3) 3rd subgroup — head of department, including territorial department, of the Anti-Corruption Committee.

5. The chief positions of officers of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be classified into the following subgroups, covering the following positions:
 - (1) 1st subgroup — deputy head of department, including territorial department, of the Anti-Corruption Committee;
 - (2) 2nd subgroup — Senior Investigator on Particularly Important Cases of the Anti-Corruption Committee;
 - (3) 3rd subgroup — Investigator on Particularly Important Cases of the Anti-Corruption Committee, head of division of the Anti-Corruption Committee.
6. The lead positions of officers of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be classified into the following subgroups, covering the following positions:
 - (1) 1st subgroup — deputy head of division of the Anti-Corruption Committee;
 - (2) 2nd subgroup — Senior Investigator of the Anti-Corruption Committee;
 - (3) 3rd subgroup — Investigator of the Anti-Corruption Committee.
7. The junior positions of officers of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be classified into the following subgroups, covering the following positions:
 - (1) 1st subgroup — Senior Criminal Intelligence Officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee;
 - (2) 2nd subgroup — Criminal Intelligence Officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee.

Article 15. Main requirements for officers of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. A citizen of the Republic of Armenia permanently residing in the Republic of Armenia may hold the position of an officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee, where he or she:

- (1) has a Bachelor's Degree or higher education qualification degree of a certified specialist in the Republic of Armenia, or a relevant qualification obtained in a foreign state, which has been recognised and approved for equivalence in the Republic of Armenia as prescribed by law;
 - (2) has completed compulsory military service (except for female citizens) or has been exempted from such service in accordance with the procedure and on the grounds prescribed by law;
 - (3) has a good command of Armenian;
 - (4) has knowledge of at least one of the following languages: Russian, English and French, at a corresponding level as tested by a standardized testing system or another [procedure](#) prescribed by the Government. The requirement of this point shall not apply to persons holding junior positions;
 - (5) meets the requirements for the position provided for by this Law, and there are no restrictions for appointing to the position as prescribed by this Law.
2. A person may not be appointed to the position of the officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee, where he or she:
- (1) has been declared, through judicial procedure, as having no active legal capacity or having limited active legal capacity;
 - (2) has been deprived, by a judicial act having entered into legal force, of the right to hold a public service position;
 - (3) has been convicted of a crime, irrespective of whether the conviction has been expired or cancelled;
 - (4) a criminal prosecution has been initiated against him or her;
 - (5) the criminal prosecution initiated against him or her has been terminated, or no criminal prosecution has been initiated against him or her on a non-acquittal ground;

- (6) has an illness or physical impairment, provided for by the list approved by the Government, that hinders the exercise of his or her powers in case of holding a public service position;
 - (7) is a judge or a former judge who has received — during the last three years — a severe reprimand or a graver disciplinary penalty prescribed by law, irrespective of whether the disciplinary penalty has been expired or cancelled under the established procedure;
 - (8) is a prosecutor, investigator or a former prosecutor or investigator who has received — during the last three years — a severe reprimand or a graver disciplinary penalty prescribed by law, irrespective of whether the disciplinary penalty has been expired or cancelled under the established procedure;
 - (9) is an inquiry officer, criminal intelligence officer or a former inquiry officer or criminal intelligence officer who has received — during the last three years — a severe reprimand or a graver disciplinary penalty prescribed by law, irrespective of whether the disciplinary penalty has been expired or cancelled under the established procedure;
 - (10) is an advocate or a former advocate who has received — during the last three years — a severe reprimand or a graver disciplinary penalty prescribed by law, irrespective of whether the disciplinary penalty has been expired or cancelled under the established procedure.
3. The Government shall define [the requirements](#) related to physical training and health condition of persons holding positions in the Anti-Corruption Committee that envisage carrying out criminal intelligence activities.
 4. The age limit for holding a position in the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be the age of 60. After attaining the age limit, the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee may extend the period of holding position for up to five years. The

age limit for holding the position of the Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be the age of 65.

Article 16. Terms for appointing to a position in the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. A person meeting the requirements of Article 15 of this Law may be appointed as Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee, who prior to such appointment has held highest or chief position in an investigative body or has an experience of at least five years as a judge, prosecutor, investigator or advocate, or an experience of activities in the field of anti-corruption policy making or fighting money laundering and terrorism financing or criminal intelligence activities, or a total complementary experience of at least five years in the given positions.
2. A person meeting the requirements of Article 15 of this Law may be appointed as Deputy Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee, who prior to such appointment has held highest or chief position in an investigative body or has an experience of at least four years as a judge, prosecutor, investigator or advocate, or an experience of activities in the field of anti-corruption policy making or fighting money laundering and terrorism financing or criminal intelligence activities, or a total complementary experience of at least four years in the given positions.
3. A person meeting the requirements of Article 15 of this Law may be appointed as a head of department and deputy head of department, including head of territorial department, deputy head of department of the Anti-Corruption Committee, where he or she has a Bachelor's qualification degree in law or a higher education qualification degree of a certified specialist in law or has obtained a higher education qualification degree of a certified specialist in law or a relevant degree in a foreign state, which has been recognised and approved for

equivalence in the Republic of Armenia as prescribed by law, and who prior to such appointment has held a position of the group of chief or lead positions in an investigative body or has an experience of at least four years as a prosecutor, investigator or advocate. A person who does not have any degree in law, but has an experience of at least five years in criminal intelligence activities may also be appointed as the Head or Deputy Head of the department performing criminal intelligence functions.

4. A person meeting the requirements of Article 15 of this Law may be appointed as a Senior Investigator for Cases of Particular Importance of the Anti-Corruption Committee, where he or she has a Bachelor's qualification degree in law or a higher education qualification degree of a certified specialist in law or has obtained a higher education qualification degree of a certified specialist in law or a relevant degree in a foreign state, which has been recognised and approved for equivalence in the Republic of Armenia as prescribed by law, and who prior to such appointment has held a position of the group of chief or lead positions in an investigative body or has an experience of at least three years as a prosecutor, investigator or advocate.
5. A person meeting the requirements of Article 15 of this Law may be appointed as a head of division, an Investigator for Cases of Particular Importance of the Anti-Corruption Committee, where he or she has a Bachelor's qualification degree in law or a higher education qualification degree of a certified specialist in law or has obtained a higher education qualification degree of a certified specialist in law or a relevant degree in a foreign state, which has been recognised and approved for equivalence in the Republic of Armenia as prescribed by law, and who prior to such appointment has held a position of the group of chief positions in an investigative body or a position of the group of lead positions for the last two years or has an experience of at least two years as a prosecutor, investigator or advocate. A person who does not have any degree in law, but has an

experience of at least four years in criminal intelligence activities may also be appointed as the Head of a Division performing criminal intelligence functions.

6. A person meeting the requirements of Article 15 of this Law may be appointed as a deputy head of division of the Anti-Corruption Committee, a Senior Investigator of the Anti-Corruption Committee, where he or she has a Bachelor's qualification degree in law or a higher education qualification degree of a certified specialist in law or has obtained a higher education qualification degree of a certified specialist in law or a relevant degree in a foreign state, which has been recognised and approved for equivalence in the Republic of Armenia as prescribed by law, and who prior to such appointment has held a position of the group of lead positions in an investigative body or has an experience of at least 1.5 years as a prosecutor, investigator or advocate. A person who does not have any degree in law, but has an experience of at least three years in criminal intelligence activities or as an inquiry officer may also be appointed as the Deputy Head of Division performing criminal intelligence functions.
7. A person meeting the requirements of Article 15 of this Law may be appointed as an Investigator of the Anti-Corruption Committee, where he or she has a Bachelor's qualification degree in law or a higher education qualification degree of a certified specialist in law or has obtained a higher education qualification degree of a certified specialist in law or a relevant degree in a foreign state, which has been recognised and approved for equivalence in the Republic of Armenia as prescribed by law, and has professional work experience as a lawyer of at least one year.
8. A person meeting the requirements of Article 15 of this Law may be appointed as a Senior Criminal Intelligence Officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee, where he or she has an experience of at least one year in criminal intelligence activities or professional work experience of at least two years.

9. A person meeting the requirements of Article 15 of this Law may be appointed as a Criminal Intelligence Officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee, where he or she has professional work experience of one year.
10. Autonomous positions of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be filled on the basis of the results of a competition carried out as prescribed by this Law.
11. Positions of the subdivision of the Anti-Corruption Committee performing criminal intelligence functions shall be filled on the basis of the results of a competition held in accordance with the procedure and terms defined by the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee. With the exception of the cases provided for by part 12 of this Article, the competition held for filling positions in the subdivision performing criminal intelligence functions must mandatorily include the stage of integrity check, which shall be conducted as prescribed by point 3 of part 10 of Article 17 of this Law. Persons included in the list of candidates for positions performing criminal intelligence functions shall — after being included in such a list — undergo a training course. The procedure of conducting the training course shall be approved by a secondary legal act.
12. In such positions of the Anti-Corruption Committee, where the identity of the officers is encoded and they exercise the powers thereof in full observance of conspiracy, the procedure for and terms of appointing to such position (attestation, training, transfer to another position) shall be defined by the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee.
13. In cases provided for by part 12 of this Article, appointment to the given position shall be carried out by the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee within one month after the position becomes vacant.
14. An acting officer may be appointed to a vacant position of the Anti-Corruption Committee, but for a period not exceeding one year.

Article 17. Competition for holding position and appointing to a position in the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. The list of candidates for officers of the Anti-Corruption Committee (except for candidates for the position of the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee) shall be filled by the Competition Commission (hereinafter referred to as “the Commission”).
2. The Commission shall be formed and the procedure for the activities thereof shall be approved by the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee. The Commission shall be composed of three officers of the Anti-Corruption Committee appointed by the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee, one person nominated by the Government and one representative of civil society. Persons that are not officers of the Anti-Corruption Committee may be included in the Commission where they have professional work experience of a lawyer of at least five years.
3. The procedure for involving a representative of a civil society shall be approved by the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee.
4. The Commission shall be chaired by the Chairperson of the Commission, who shall be appointed by the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee from among the members of the Commission.
5. In case a vacancy opens in the Anti-Corruption Committee, the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall call a competition within a month after the position becomes vacant (except for part 12 of Article 16 of this Law).
6. An announcement on holding competition for filling a vacancy shall be published not later than a month prior to the competition on the official website of public notices (www.azdarar.am) and on the official website of the Anti-Corruption Committee.

7. The Commission shall draw up and submit to the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee for approval the form of the announcement of competition held for filling autonomous positions of the Anti-Corruption Committee, as well as the procedure for organising and holding the competition, including the list of documents necessary for checking the professional knowledge of the candidate, three versions of the testing questionnaire consisting of questions prepared for checking the professional knowledge of a candidate (hereinafter referred to as “the Questionnaire”), the terms of conducting testing and the passing score, the maximum score for evaluation of requirements for candidates, the distribution of the maximum score by separate requirements subject to evaluation, the criteria disclosing the content of the requirements subject to evaluation, the maximum score for evaluation of each criterion within the maximum score envisaged for the relevant requirement and the procedure for evaluation and calculation of scores.
8. 20 percent of the questions in the testing Questionnaire for autonomous positions of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall include questions for testing the knowledge on the Constitution, acts rendered by an international court or by other international tribunal in the field of human rights protection to which the Republic of Armenia is a party, relevant case law decisions, 20 percent — on criminal legislation, 20 percent — on criminal procedure legislation, 20 percent — on legislation on asset forfeiture, fields of money laundering and terrorism financing and 20 percent — on the field of accounting or fields regulating the status and activities of a legal entity.
9. The announcement shall contain at least the following data:
 - (1) the requirements for a candidate;
 - (2) the list of documents to be attached to the application for participating in the competition, including the form of the list of questions on integrity;

- (3) the terms of holding the competition, at least one sample of test assignments, the maximum score for evaluation of requirements for candidates, the distribution of the maximum score by separate requirements subject to evaluation, the criteria disclosing the content of the requirements subject to evaluation, the maximum score for evaluation of each criterion within the maximum score envisaged for the relevant requirement and the procedure for evaluation and calculation of scores;
 - (4) the deadline and the place for submitting the documents.
10. The competition for autonomous positions of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be held by the following stages:
 - (1) the stage of study of documents — within three days following the receipt of the application and the documents attached thereto (hereinafter also referred to as “the Request”), the Commission shall check the compliance of documents submitted by the participant, except for the filled list of questions on integrity, with the requirements provided for by this Law. A candidate may provide clarifications on the information contained in his or her documents. Where there are deficiencies in the required documents, the person submitting the request shall be informed thereof immediately, and where it is impossible — within a one-day period. The deficiencies may be eliminated within the period prescribed for accepting the request. The requests submitted in violation of the deadline specified for submission of documents or requests that do not meet the requirements provided for by law shall be rejected and they shall be subject to return by the Commission within three working days. The competition shall be held also in the case when one participant has applied for participating therein;
 - (2) the testing stage — within a period of ten days following the end of the stage of study of documents, the Commission shall organise a testing stage

for participants having overcome the stage of study of documents, during which the participants' professional knowledge shall be checked. On the same day of holding the testing, the list of participants having overcome the testing stage — together with the date and place of the interview — shall be drawn up and published on the official website of the Anti-Corruption Committee;

- (3) the stage of integrity check — within a period of one day following the end of the testing stage, the Commission shall submit to the Commission for Prevention of Corruption the filled list of questions on integrity of participants having overcome the testing stage to get an advisory opinion within a period of one month;
- (4) the interview stage — the Commission shall, within a period of five days following the receipt of the advisory opinion on integrity, hold an interview after publishing on the official website thereof information on date and place of the interview at least three days prior to the interview. A psychologist in an advisory capacity, who shall be involved by the Commission, may also participate in the interview stage. During the interview stage, the members of the Commission shall evaluate the participant's career achievements, the abilities to analyse, conduct in different situations, sense of responsibility, communication skills, the motive for being appointed to the given position, the expectations and other personal qualities and merits needed to hold that position. During the interview, the participant may also be asked questions on the data of the advisory opinion on integrity provided by the Commission for Prevention of Corruption. The questions asked to the participant shall not pursue the aim of testing the knowledge thereof in law;
- (5) the stage of summarising the results — each member of the Commission shall be provided with a list of questions wherein the characteristics subject

to evaluation shall be specified. Each member of the Commission shall evaluate each participant writing down his or her considerations on the characteristics being evaluated. Based on the results of the interview, the Commission shall draw up the list of persons who have been declared winners in the competition, which shall include the candidates having received the highest scores as a result of the total sum of scores. Where a winner cannot be declared because of equal scores of participants, an open voting shall be held, wherein each member of the Commission shall, based on his or her inner belief, vote for any of the candidates having received the highest equal number of votes. During the voting, each member of the Commission may cast one vote. The final results of the competition shall — within a period of one day — be published on the official website of the Anti-Corruption Committee.

11. Within a period of two days following the publication of the results of competition, the participant may file a written complaint to the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee. The response to the complaint shall be provided within a period of one day.
12. After publication of the results of competition, in case no written complaint has been filed, and where a written complaint has been filed — within a period of one day following provision of the response thereon — the Commission shall submit the list of the candidates who won in the competition to the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee. The advisory opinions submitted by the Commission for Prevention of Corruption shall be attached to the list.
13. Persons included in the list of candidates for autonomous positions shall, as prescribed by the Law "On Academy of Justice", undergo professional training in the Academy of Justice. A person shall be removed from the list of candidates for autonomous positions where the examination score got on the basis of results of the subject course taught in the Academy of Justice is lower than the minimum

score set by the Management Board of the Academy of Justice for completing the course, or where the candidate did not pass the probation period prescribed by the Law "On Academy of Justice", or missed, without any excusable reason, at least five per cent of the provided academic courses during the study in the Academy of Justice.

14. A person shall be dismissed from the studies provided for by part 11 of Article 16 and part 13 of this Article, where he or she has two years of professional work experience as a judge, prosecutor, investigator, in the position of a person carrying out criminal intelligence activities or an advocate, unless five years passed after leaving such position or terminating such activity.
15. The Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall — within three working days following the receipt of the list of candidates having completed the relevant studies or the list provided for by part 14 of this Article — appoint to the relevant position, and in case a competition is announced to fill the vacancy of the Deputy Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee, within three working days following the receipt of the list of participants declared winners in the competition, recommend the candidacy of the Deputy Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee declared winner in the competition to the Prime Minister, and shall attach the advisory opinion on the candidate, submitted by the Commission for Prevention of Corruption.
16. Where none of the participants got the required score and no winner has been declared in the competition, a new competition shall be held, which shall be announced and conducted as prescribed by this Article.
17. Where no application for participation in the competition has been filed, or the applicants fail to meet the requirements for assuming the position as specified by this Law or none of the applicants has appeared at the competition, the competition shall be deemed as not having taken place and a new competition

shall — within a period of ten days — be announced and held as prescribed by this Article.

Article 18. Formation of the Competition Board and the functions thereof

1. A Competition Board (hereinafter referred to as “the Board”) shall be formed for selecting the candidates for the position of the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee.
2. The Board shall consist of candidates each appointed by the Government, the Council of the National Assembly, the Supreme Judicial Council, the Prosecutor General, and the Human Rights Defender and two representatives of civil society.
3. With the exception of the representative of civil society, a person may be appointed as a member of the Board, where he or she has a Bachelor's qualification degree in law or a higher education qualification degree of a certified specialist in law or has obtained a higher education qualification degree of a certified specialist in law or a relevant degree in a foreign state, which has been recognised and approved for equivalence in the Republic of Armenia as prescribed by law, high professional and moral characteristics, is not affiliated with any political party and has at least five years' experience of a judge of criminal specialisation, prosecutor, investigator, inquiry officer, criminal intelligence officer or advocate or activities of anti-corruption policy making or fighting money laundering and terrorism financing, or a total complementary experience of at least five years in the given positions.
4. To be included within the composition of the Board, the Head of the Office of the Prime Minister shall — 90 days before the expiry of the term of office of the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee or within a period of ten days after the opening of the vacant position, apply to the National Assembly — the

Government, the Supreme Judicial Council, the Human Rights Defender, the Prosecutor General's Office requesting each to appoint a member within a period of ten days. Within the same period, the Head of the Office of the Prime Minister shall ensure the publication of the announcement on involvement of civil society organisations.

5. Within a period of ten days following the publication of the announcement on involvement of civil society organisations, non-governmental organisations shall submit to the Office of the Prime Minister an application on being included within the composition of the Board, attaching documents confirming the experience thereof in the anti-corruption field. Where more than two non-governmental organisations apply, preference shall be given to the representative of the non-governmental organisation with a longer experience in the anti-corruption field. Each non-governmental organisation may have only one representative in the Competition Board.
6. The Board shall be deemed to be formed when at least four members are included therein. Where at least four members have not been appointed within the prescribed period, the Board shall be deemed not to be formed, and the Head of the Office of the Prime Minister shall form a new Board as prescribed by this Law.
7. Sittings of the Board shall be open to representatives of civil society and mass media. Sittings of the Board shall be video- and audio- recorded.
8. Information on holding Board sittings shall be published on the official website of the Office of the Prime Minister not later than 48 hours before holding the sitting.
9. The activities of the Board shall be organised by the Office of the Prime Minister.
10. The sitting of the Board shall have quorum where at least more than half of the members of the Board are present. The first sitting of the Board shall be held by the eldest member participating in the sitting.

11. The Chairperson and the Secretary shall be elected from among the members of the Board.
12. The Board shall:
 - (1) define the rules of procedure of the activities thereof;
 - (2) ensure publication of information on terms and time periods for holding the competition;
 - (3) check the compliance of a candidate with the requirements provided for by this Law (stage of evaluation of documents);
 - (4) define the Questionnaire for the purpose of holding the interview stage, the maximum score for evaluating the requirements for the candidates, the distribution of the maximum score in accordance with certain requirements subject to evaluation, the criteria disclosing the content of the requirements subject to evaluation, the maximum score for evaluation of each criterion within the maximum score envisaged for the relevant requirement, the procedure for evaluation and calculation of scores;
 - (5) select the candidates having passed to the interview stage, based on the results of the stage of evaluation of documents;
 - (6) apply to the Commission for Prevention of Corruption to conduct an integrity check of candidates having passed to the interview stage and to issue an advisory opinion;
 - (7) based on the results of the interview stage, select at least two and maximum three participants having been declared winners in the competition, and complying with the presented requirements to a maximum extent, except for the cases where only one candidate has applied to participate in the competition;

- (8) draw up and submit to the Government the list of persons who have been declared winners in the competition, and at the same time, publish it on the official website of the Anti-Corruption Committee and the official website of the Office of the Prime Minister.

Article 19. Competition for selecting candidates for the position of the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee and the appointment thereof

1. The Board shall announce about the competition through the Office of the Prime Minister (hereinafter referred to in this Article as “the Office”) not earlier than 90 days and not later than 50 days before the termination of powers of the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee, and where his or her office remains vacant — within 40 days.
2. The announcement shall be published on the official website of public notices (www.azdarar.am), on the official websites of the Office and the Anti-Corruption Committee.
3. The announcement shall contain the following data:
 - (1) the requirements for a candidate;
 - (2) the list of documents required for participating in the competition, including the form of the list of questions on integrity;
 - (3) the terms for conducting a competition, the Questionnaire;
 - (4) the deadline and the place of submitting the documents.
4. [The list](#) of documents necessary for participating in the competition shall be defined by the Government.

5. The person contending to participate in the competition (hereinafter referred to as “the Contender”) shall — within 10 days following the publication of the announcement — submit the necessary documents to the Office.
6. The Board shall hold the competition through the following stages:
 - (1) the stage of study of documents — within three days following the receipt of the application and the documents attached thereto (hereinafter also referred to as “the Request”), the Board shall check the compliance of documents submitted by the participant, except for the filled list of questions on integrity, with the requirements provided for by this Law. A candidate may provide clarifications on the information contained in his or her documents. Where there are deficiencies in the required documents, the person submitting the request shall be informed thereof immediately, and where it is impossible — within a period of one day. The deficiencies may be eliminated within the period prescribed for accepting requests. In violation of the deadline specified for submission of documents or failure to meet the requirements provided for by law, the Board shall render a decision on rejecting the acceptance of the application. In this case the documents submitted by the candidate shall be subject to return by the Board within three working days. The deficiencies may be eliminated within the period prescribed for accepting requests. The competition shall be held as well where one participant has applied for participating in the competition;
 - (2) the stage of the integrity check — within a period of one day following the termination of the stage of study of documents, shall submit to the Commission for Prevention of Corruption the filled list of questions on integrity of participants having overcome the stage of study of documents to get an advisory opinion within a period of twenty days;

- (3) the interview stage — the Board shall — within a period of five days following the receipt of the advisory opinion on integrity — hold an interview publishing through the Office the information on the date and place of the interview on the official website of the Office at least three days before holding the interview. The interview shall be held through the following stages:
- (a) at the interview stage the Board shall — through an interview — check the leadership and managerial skills required for holding the given position, as well as other personal characteristics necessary for holding the position (self-control, conduct, the ability to listen, communication skills in official and non-official relations, the abilities to analyse etc.);
 - (b) analysis and provision of the position by a candidate with respect to a brief legal issue (norm of law or of other legal act, positions expressed in a judicial act etc.) in the relevant field of specialisation to evaluate the skills of handling the situation spontaneously within a short period of time, self-control, conduct, communication skills, abilities to analyse and qualities necessary for holding the given position;
- (4) the stage of summarising the results — each member of the Board shall be provided a list of questions wherein the characteristics subject to evaluation shall be specified. Each member of the Board shall evaluate each candidate writing down his or her considerations on the characteristics being evaluated. Based on the results of the interview, the Board shall draw up a list of participants declared winners in the competition, wherein at least two and maximum three candidates having received the highest scores as a result of the total sum of scores shall be included, except for the cases where one candidate has submitted a request to participate in the competition.

7. Within two days after drawing up the list of candidates, the Board shall submit to the Government the list of participants declared winners in the competition, and at the same time, publish it on the official website of public notices (www.azdarar.am) and on the official website of the Office.
8. The Government shall discuss the issue on appointing to the position of the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee and adopt a relevant decision within a period of ten days after presenting the candidates by the Board.
9. In case of failure to declare winner in the competition or failure by the Government to make the relevant appointment, the Board shall call a new competition no later than within thirty days.

Article 20. Appointing to other positions of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. The deputy chairpersons of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall, as prescribed by this Law, be appointed to and dismissed from office by the Prime Minister.
2. Other officers of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be appointed to and dismissed from the office by the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee.
3. Persons carrying out technical maintenance operations in the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be employed and fired by the General Secretary of the Anti-Corruption Committee as prescribed by the labour legislation of the Republic of Armenia.
4. Persons holding discretionary positions in the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be employed and fired by the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee.

Article 21. The oath of an officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. Persons being appointed to a position in the Anti-Corruption Committee for the first time shall — in accordance with the procedure defined by the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee — take the following oath in front of the flag of the Republic of Armenia:

“I (first name, father’s name, surname), by assuming an office in the Anti-Corruption Committee, hereby swear:

to serve the people of the Republic of Armenia faithfully; to strictly comply with the Constitution and laws of the Republic of Armenia; to protect the rights and freedoms of humans and citizens from corruption-related criminal encroachments, to contribute to building zero tolerance in society towards corruption, and to perform my duties unreservedly and in good faith”.

2. An officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall take an oath once, individually, by reading the text of the oath.
3. An officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall sign the text of the oath he or she has read out, which shall be kept in the personal file thereof.

Article 22. Personnel reserve of officers of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. Officers of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be registered in a personnel reserve in case of reduction of staff positions, liquidation or reorganisation of the body or subdivisions of the Anti-Corruption Committee, where the officer of Anti-Corruption Committee cannot be appointed to an equivalent position, or where he or she has refused in writing to be appointed to another equivalent or higher or lower position.

2. The positions envisaged by part 1 of this Article shall be proposed to an officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee in a consecutive order.
3. The maximum period of staying in the personnel reserve of officers of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be six months, but not longer than attaining the age limit for holding a position in the Anti-Corruption Committee prescribed by this Law, and where the term of office has been extended as prescribed by this Law — until the expiry of the extended term.
4. Where a person in the personnel reserve of the Anti-Corruption Committee is removed from the reserve upon the application thereof, his or her experience shall be calculated in accordance with the actual time period of staying in the personnel reserve.
5. For the first two months of staying in the personnel reserve, officers of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be paid the official pay rate defined for the most recent position held thereby. Where the officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee, upon of the application thereof, is removed from the personnel reserve before two months have passed, payment shall be made for the actual time of staying in the personnel reserve.
6. The procedure for registering in and removing from the personnel reserve of officers of the Anti-Corruption Committee on the basis of this Law shall be prescribed by the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee.

Article 23. Restrictions applied to an officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. Restrictions provided for by the Law "On public service" shall apply to an officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee.

Article 24. Dismissing an officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee from position

1. An officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee, except for the Chairperson and the Deputy Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee, shall be dismissed from the office:
 - (1) in case of termination of citizenship of the Republic of Armenia;
 - (2) upon his or her personal initiative, based on a written application, including on the occasion of attaining 20 years of professional work experience;
 - (3) upon attaining the age limit provided for by this Law, unless it has been extended as prescribed by this Law;
 - (4) in case of reduction of staff positions, liquidation or reorganisation of the Anti-Corruption Committee where the appointment of an officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee to a relevant position is not possible and the reduction of staff positions is conditioned by the reduction of the total number of staff positions;
 - (5) in case of being unfit for service due to a disease or a physical impairment;
 - (6) in case of being declared as having no legal capacity or limited legal capacity by a judicial act having entered into legal force;
 - (7) in case of being declared dead or missing based upon civil judgement of the court having entered into legal force;
 - (8) where the criminal prosecution initiated against him or her has been terminated, or no criminal prosecution has been initiated against him or her on a non-acquittal ground;
 - (9) in case of entry into legal force of a judgement of conviction against him or her;

- (10) in case of imposing a disciplinary penalty on him or her in the form of dismissal from office;
 - (11) in case of failure to appear for service for more than 120 consecutive days due to temporary incapacity or for more than 140 days in the past twelve months, excluding the pregnancy and maternity leave or the leave for care of a child under the age of three;
 - (12) in case of failure by him or her to comply with the position held based on attestation results;
 - (13) in case of failure to appear for two consecutive times — without any excusable reason — at the attestation provided for by this Law;
 - (14) in case any of the restrictions prescribed by part 2 of Article 15 of this Law has emerged;
 - (15) in case of being appointed to a position in violation of the requirements of this Law.
2. The duties of an officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be deemed terminated in case of his or her death.
 3. The powers of the Chairperson and the Deputy Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall terminate prematurely in the following cases:
 - (1) attaining the maximum age for holding the position;
 - (2) loss of citizenship of the Republic of Armenia;
 - (3) he or she has been declared as having no active legal capacity, as missing or dead by a civil judgement of the court having entered into legal force;
 - (4) his or her death;
 - (5) existence of a court judgement of conviction against him or her, having entered into legal force;

- (6) existence of a decision on terminating criminal prosecution against him or her on non-acquittal grounds or on not initiating criminal prosecution;
 - (7) submission of a letter of resignation to the Government and approval thereof by the latter.
4. The powers of the Chairperson and the Deputy Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall terminate prematurely where:
 - (1) he or she has contracted a disease or acquired physical impairment which hinders or will hinder the performance of his or her duties over a long period of time;
 - (2) any of the restrictions prescribed by part 2 of Article 15 of this Law has emerged;
 - (3) he or she has violated the restrictions and incompatibility requirements prescribed by the Law "On public service";
 - (4) he or she has violated the proscription to engage in political activities;
 - (5) facts that he or she did not comply with the specified requirements at the time of his or her appointment have emerged.
5. The term of office of the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall expire on the same day of the sixth year following the day of his or her appointment.

Article 25. Class ranks of officers of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. The following class ranks shall be conferred to officers of the Anti-Corruption Committee:
 - (1) Second Class State Counsellor of Justice;

- (2) Third Class State Counsellor of Justice;
 - (3) First Class Counsellor of Justice;
 - (4) Second Class Counsellor of Justice;
 - (5) Third Class Counsellor of Justice;
 - (6) First Class Counsellor;
 - (7) Second Class Counsellor;
 - (8) Third Class Counsellor.
2. The class ranks of Second Class State Counsellor of Justice and Third Class State Counsellor of Justice are the highest class ranks, which shall be conferred as prescribed by the Law "On Public Service".
 3. Other class ranks of the officers of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be conferred by the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee.
 4. The class ranks of officers of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be conferred on an individual basis and for an unlimited period of time.
 5. In case of dismissal from office on grounds provided for by points 8, 9 and 14 of part 1 of Article 24 of this Law the officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee may be deprived of the class rank of service in the Anti-Corruption Committee by the decision of the official having the competence to confer the given class rank.

Article 26. Class ranks corresponding to positions of officers of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. The highest level of the class rank corresponding to the position of the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be the class rank of Second Class State Counsellor of Justice, and the lowest level — the class rank of Third Class State Counsellor of Justice.

2. The highest level of the class rank corresponding to the position of the Deputy Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be the class rank of Third Class State Counsellor of Justice, and the lowest level — the class rank of First Class Counsellor of Justice.
3. The highest level of the class rank corresponding to the positions of the third subgroup of the highest position and the first subgroup of the chief position shall be the class rank of First Class Counsellor of Justice, and the lowest level — Second Class Counsellor of Justice.
4. The highest level of the class rank corresponding to the positions of the second and third subgroups of the chief position shall be the class rank of Second Class Counsellor of Justice, and the lowest level — Third Class Counsellor of Justice.
5. The highest level of the class rank corresponding to the positions of the first and second subgroups of the lead position shall be the class rank of Third Class Counsellor of Justice.
6. The highest level of the class rank corresponding to the positions of the third subgroup of the lead position and first subgroup of the junior position shall be the class rank of First Class Counsellor of Justice.
7. The highest level of the class rank corresponding to the positions of the second subgroup of the junior position shall be the class rank of Second Class Counsellor of Justice.
8. When appointing a person having undergone (worked) public service in other bodies and holding a military or a special title (class rank, qualification class) to a position in the Anti-Corruption Committee, the military or special title (class rank, qualification class) thereof shall be brought into compliance with the class rank of the officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee. The compliance of military or special titles (class ranks, qualification classes) to class ranks prescribed by this Law shall be defined by the Government.

Article 27. Time periods for conferring class ranks

1. The class rank of the Third Class Counsellor shall be an initial class rank and shall be conferred upon being appointed to a position in the Anti-Corruption Committee, except for the case prescribed by part 8 of Article 26 of this Law. When appointed to other positions of the Anti-Corruption Committee, the minimum class rank corresponding to the given position, as prescribed by Article 26 of this Law, shall be conferred on an officer.
2. When as a result of bringing into compliance the class rank prescribed by part 8 of Article 26 of this Law it becomes higher than the maximum class rank prescribed by Article 26 of this Law for being appointed to the given position in the Anti-Corruption Committee, a class rank higher by one class than the maximum class rank prescribed for the given position shall be conferred.
3. Class ranks shall be conferred on the officers of Anti-Corruption Committee in a sequential order, to the extent of the maximum class rank prescribed for the position held, within 15 days following the expiry of the terms of service prescribed for the previous class rank, except for the cases provided for by this Law.
4. The following terms of service shall be prescribed for conferring sequential class rank as prescribed by this Law:
 - (1) two years for the person holding a class rank of the Third Class Counsellor;
 - (2) three years for the person holding a class rank of the Second Class Counsellor;
 - (3) three years for the person holding a class rank of the First Class Counsellor;
 - (4) four years for the person holding a class rank of the Third Class Counsellor of Justice;

- (5) five years for the person holding a class rank of the Second Class Counsellor of Justice.
5. No term of service shall be prescribed for conferring the highest class rank on the officer holding a class rank of the First Class Counsellor of Justice.
6. The time period for holding the previous class rank shall be calculated from the day following the signing of the legal act on conferring the given class rank, and from the day following the signing of the legal act on conferring a military or other special title — after bringing into compliance the class rank prescribed by part 8 of Article 26 of this Law.
7. Conferral of a sequential class rank on an officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be postponed where:
 - (1) following the attestation a decision has been rendered on postponing the attestation and seconding him or her for training;
 - (2) he or she has a disciplinary penalty;
 - (3) his or her powers have been suspended as prescribed by Law, or an official investigation is being conducted.
8. The sequential class rank shall be conferred on the officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee within 15 days following the elimination of the grounds prescribed by part 7 of this Article for postponing the conferral the sequential class rank.

CHAPTER 5

RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS, ATTESTATION, TRAINING AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF AN OFFICER OF THE ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMITTEE

Article 28. Rights of an officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. An officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall have the right to:
 - (1) get familiarised with all the materials of his or her personal file, his or her performance appraisals and other documents, as well as submit clarifications;
 - (2) receive, under the prescribed procedure, information and materials necessary for the fulfilment of official duties;
 - (3) consider issues and adopt decisions within the scope of his or her competence;
 - (4) receive remuneration provided for by law;
 - (5) legal protection, social protection and security;
 - (6) participate — as prescribed — in the official promotion and be conferred a higher class rank corresponding to the position thereof;
 - (7) undergo training — as prescribed — at the expense of the State Budget, as well as other resources not prohibited by the legislation of the Republic of Armenia;
 - (8) submit proposals with regard to improvement of activities of the Anti-Corruption Committee.
2. An officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee has other rights provided for by law and other legal acts.

3. Officers of the Anti-Corruption Committee and the family members thereof shall be under the protection of the State. In case of a threat of undue influence on the immunity of an officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee, the family members thereof or the residential and office premises occupied thereby, the officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall have the right to apply to the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee for ensuring the security thereof.

Article 29. Obligations of an officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. An officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall have the obligation to:
 - (1) have a good knowledge of legal acts prescribing the rights and obligations thereof in the position held;
 - (2) comply with the requirements of the Constitution, laws and other legal acts;
 - (3) ensure the required professional qualification and practical skills;
 - (4) ensure the protection of the rights and lawful interests of a human being and a citizens while exercising the powers thereof;
 - (5) observe the service discipline;
 - (6) observe, including after termination of the term of office, the requirements for working with documents containing state, official secrets or other confidential information protected by law;
 - (7) carry out duty as prescribed by the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee;
 - (8) undergo attestation and training under the procedure and within the time periods prescribed by this Law;
 - (9) observe the restrictions and incompatibility requirements prescribed for the officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee.

2. The officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall have other obligations prescribed by law.

Article 30. Incentives applied to an officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. The following incentives may be applied to an officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee for long-term service, as well as proper performance of official duties and assignments and for certain indicators:
 - (1) expression of gratitude;
 - (2) lump-sum monetary reward;
 - (3) awarding a commemorative gift;
 - (4) granting an additional paid leave for ten days;
 - (5) awarding a medal or an award pin;
 - (6) conferral of a class rank on extraordinary basis;
 - (7) conferral of a class rank higher by one degree than the highest level of class ranks envisaged for the given position.
2. Early cancellation of a previously imposed disciplinary penalty may also be applied as an incentive with respect to an officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee.
3. The incentive provided for by point 6 of part 1 of this Article may be applied to an officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee only once during the whole period of service.
4. The types of incentives prescribed by points 1-5 of part 1 of this Article shall be applied by the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee.

5. The types of incentives prescribed by points 6 and 7 of part 1 of this Article shall be applied by the official entitled to confer such class rank.
6. The incentive provided for by part 2 of this Article shall be applied to the officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee by the official who has imposed the disciplinary penalty.
7. The procedure for proposing the officers holding positions in the chief, lead and junior groups of positions in the third subgroup of the highest group of the Anti-Corruption Committee for incentives shall be prescribed by the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee.

Article 31. Rewarding persons supporting the activities of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. Persons supporting the activities of the Anti-Corruption Committee may be rewarded by the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee by letter of gratitude, a commemorative gift, a monetary reward.
2. The procedure for rewarding the persons supporting the activities of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be prescribed by the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee.

Article 32. Grounds for imposing disciplinary liability on an officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. The grounds for imposing disciplinary liability on an officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be:
 - (1) violation of the rules of conduct of an officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee;

- (2) failure to perform or improper performance of the duties thereof;
 - (3) regular violation of the internal rules of labour discipline;
 - (4) failure to observe the restrictions or incompatibility requirements or requirements concerning the conflict of interest prescribed by law;
 - (5) negative results of integrity check.
2. The rules of conduct of the officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be defined by the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee on the basis of model rules defined by the Commission for Prevention of Corruption.

Article 33. Disciplinary penalties imposed on an officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. The following disciplinary penalties may be imposed on an officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee depending on the gravity of the disciplinary violation:
 - (1) warning;
 - (2) reprimand;
 - (3) severe reprimand;
 - (4) demotion in class rank — by one degree;
 - (5) demotion of the position by one level;
 - (6) dismissal from office.
2. Disciplinary penalties provided for by part 1 of this Article shall be imposed on an officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee by the official having the competence to appoint him or her to a position.
3. The disciplinary penalty provided for by point 4 of part 1 of this Article shall not be imposed on the officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee holding the highest class rank.

Article 34. Procedure for subjecting an officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee to disciplinary liability

1. A disciplinary penalty shall be imposed where no more than six months have passed since the date of detecting the disciplinary violation, excluding the period of illness or leave; along with this the penalty being imposed shall be proportionate with the nature of the committed violation.
2. The penalties shall be formulated in writing. One disciplinary penalty may be imposed for each disciplinary violation.
3. An officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be informed about the disciplinary penalty within a period of five days after it has been imposed.
4. Where an officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee has not been subjected to a new disciplinary penalty within a year following the date of imposing the disciplinary penalty, it shall be considered expired. The provisions of this part shall not apply to disciplinary penalties envisaged by points 4-6 of part 1 of Article 33 of this Law.
5. Disciplinary penalties may be imposed on an officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee only upon the results of the official investigation.
6. The powers of an officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee may be temporarily terminated during the official investigation, where there are sufficient grounds to assume that while retaining the position he or she will hinder the implementation of the official investigation. In this case, the remuneration of the officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be retained.
7. While under criminal prosecution, the powers of an officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee may be temporarily terminated until the termination of the criminal prosecution or until the entry into legal force of the court judgement on the given case.

8. The officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall have the right to appeal against the decision on disciplinary penalty imposed thereon before the court in the manner prescribed by law.
9. The officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee subjected to disciplinary penalty shall not be exempted from civil, administrative or criminal liability for the same deed prescribed by law, except for the cases where the disciplinary penalty has been imposed on the ground of violation committed within the scope of the integrity check.

Article 35. Attestation of an officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. Attestation of an officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be carried out for the purpose of determining the compliance of professional knowledge and work skills of an officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee with the position held, as well as for the purpose of official promotion thereof.
2. An officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be attested once every three years.
3. An extraordinary attestation of the officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee may be carried out at least one year following the regular attestation.
4. An extraordinary attestation of an officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be carried out upon the order of the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee or where the officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee so wishes.
5. The attestation shall be carried out with direct participation of the officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee.
6. The following shall not be subject to attestation:

- (1) the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee and the deputies thereof;
 - (2) officers of the Anti-Corruption Committee who are on leave due to pregnancy and care of a child under the age of three, unless they have expressed desire to be attested;
 - (3) officers that hold the given position for less than one year, unless they have expressed desire to be attested;
 - (4) officers subject to dismissal from position during the given year due to attaining the age limit.
7. Officers of the Anti-Corruption Committee on pregnancy and maternity leave or on leave due to care of a child under the age of three shall be subject to attestation not earlier than after one year upon return from the leave, unless they have expressed desire to be attested earlier.
 8. The officers of the Anti-Corruption Committee subject to attestation, who are on leave, on secondment, as well as those with temporary inability to work, shall be subject to attestation within a period of one month after reporting to work.
 9. The officers of the Anti-Corruption Committee subject to attestation shall be notified on holding attestation not later than one month before the attestation.
 10. The immediate supervisor shall submit the performance record of the officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee at least two weeks before the attestation.
 11. The performance record shall contain data on the officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee, on his or her practical and personal characteristics and a justified evaluation of the results of the official activities thereof. This evaluation shall be based on the opinion of the immediate supervisor thereof on the performance of the officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee within the period following the previous attestation.

12. An officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall get familiarised with performance record thereof at least one week before to the day of attestation.
13. Failure to submit a performance record, as prescribed by this Article, may not have a negative impact on the attestation results of the officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee.
14. The functions of an attestation commission shall be carried out by the Competition Commission provided for by this Law.
15. The Commission shall adopt one of the following decisions upon the results of attestation:
 - (1) is competent for the position held;
 - (2) is competent for the position held, by being included in the promotion list of the officers of the Anti-Corruption Committee;
 - (3) is competent for the position held, under the condition of undergoing additional training;
 - (4) is competent for the position held, by filing a motion on conferring a class rank on extraordinary basis;
 - (5) is not competent for the position held, by filing a motion on transferring to a lower position;
 - (6) is not competent for the position held, by filing a motion on dismissing from position.
16. The officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall have the right to get familiarised with the attestation results and, in case he or she disagrees therewith, to appeal against them to the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee within a period of three days.

17. The Chairperson of the Commission shall submit the opinion of the Commission to the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee within a period of three days following the day of attestation.
18. The Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall, on the basis of attestation results, adopt a decision on additional training not later than within a period of two weeks after receiving the attestation results; and in cases of temporary inability to work and being on leave as well as during training of the officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee, the relevant decision shall be adopted within a period of two weeks following the day he or she reports for work. Where motions are filed on conferring a class rank on an extraordinary basis, on transferring to a lower position or on dismissing from position, the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee may adopt the relevant decision within the same period of time.
19. The procedure for carrying out attestation of the officers of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be defined by the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee.

Article 36. Training of an officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee and the participation thereof in other educational programmes

1. The officers of the Anti-Corruption Committee, except for the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee and the deputies thereof, shall be obliged to undergo training not less than once every two years.
2. The mandatory training may last up to one month.
3. The training of persons holding autonomous positions shall be carried out as prescribed by the Law "On the Academy of Justice" and the training of persons performing criminal intelligence functions shall be carried out as prescribed by a secondary legal act.

4. The officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall have the right to participate in other educational training programmes, conferences and other professional gatherings of lawyers. The permission to be absent in respect of participating in such events during working hours shall be granted by the respective deputy Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee. The absence of the officer having been granted relevant permission in respect of participating in such events shall be deemed to be excusable and he or she shall maintain the salary.

CHAPTER 6

PROCEDURE FOR SECONDMENT, TRANSFER TO A LOWER POSITION AND SUSPENSION OF POWERS OF AN OFFICER OF THE ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMITTEE

Article 37. Secondment of an officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. An officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee may— without his or her consent, for up to one year and on the condition of holding a position equivalent to or higher than his or her current position — be seconded to a central or territorial subdivision of the Anti-Corruption Committee due to temporary absence of an officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee, workload or vacancies in the composition thereof or to be included in the investigation group. The officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall not be seconded, where, according to a medical opinion, it may undermine his or her health condition or that of a family member living with him or her
2. The secondment of the officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee to another place shall be implemented upon the order of the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee.

3. The secondment may be extended upon the written consent of the officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee.
4. The officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee may not, without his or her consent, be seconded again within a period of one year following the end of the secondment.

Article 38. Transferring an officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee to a lower position

1. An officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee may not be transferred to a lower position with the exception of the following cases:
 - (1) transfer to a lower position is performed on the basis of the application of the officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee;
 - (2) transfer to a lower position is performed as a disciplinary penalty of "demotion";
 - (3) transfer to a lower position is performed on the basis of the decision prescribed by point 5 of part 15 of Article 35 of this Law;
 - (4) transfer to a lower position is performed on the basis of the application of the officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee, when staff positions are cut.

Article 39. Suspension of powers of an officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. The powers of an officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be suspended where:
 - (1) criminal prosecution is initiated against the officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee in the cases and in the manner prescribed by law;

- (2) disciplinary proceedings are initiated against the officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee, where a violation is attributed to him or her which, pursuant to this Law, may serve as a ground for dismissing him or her from office until the adoption of the final decision on the disciplinary proceedings initiated on that ground.
2. In cases provided for by point 2 of part 1 of this Article, the official having competence to appoint to office the Chairperson and the deputy chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall suspend the powers thereof.
3. In cases provided for by point 2 of part 1 of this Article, the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall suspend the powers of other officers of the Anti-Corruption Committee.
4. In cases provided for by point 2 of part 1 of this Article, in the period of suspension of powers of the officer of Anti-Corruption Committee the base salary thereof shall be maintained.

CHAPTER 7

MATERIAL, SOCIAL AND OTHER GUARANTEES FOR ACTIVITIES OF AN OFFICER OF THE ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMITTEE

Article 40. Remuneration of an officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. Relations pertaining to remuneration of officers of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be regulated by the Law "On remuneration of persons holding state positions and state service positions".

Article 41. Pension and social security, compensation for property damage of an officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. The pension security of an officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee, in case of being recognised as disabled with a restriction of third degree of incapacity to work due to an injury or mutilation sustained in course of performing ex officio duties thereof or in relation thereto, or in case of his or her death, the social security of the officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee and the family members thereof shall be provided as prescribed by the Law "On ensuring the activities, services and social guarantees of officials". An officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall have the right to retirement for long-term service which shall arise from the moment of attaining 20 years of professional work experience, calculated as prescribed by Article 46 of this Law. The calculation of the long-term service pension of a person holding the position of an investigator as of 1 July 2017, and the position of a prosecutor as of 1 July 2014, then appointed to a position of an officer in the Anti-Corruption Committee under part 1 of Article 48 of this Law shall be carried out as prescribed by Article 9 of the Law "On ensuring the activities, services and social guarantees of officials".
2. A lump-sum monetary assistance may be provided to an officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee in accordance with the procedure and in the cases and amounts defined by the Law "On remuneration of persons holding state positions and state service positions", where savings of the salary fund are available.
3. The sizes of insurance and insurance sums and the procedure for and terms of calculation and payment shall be defined by the Government.
4. The property damage caused to an officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee or the family members thereof due to performance of duties shall be compensated by the State.
5. The procedure for and terms of compensation for damage shall be established by law.

Article 42. Leave of an officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. The officers of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall have the right to regular annual paid leave with duration of 30 working days, and the right to additional leave, the duration whereof shall be established by the Government.
2. The regular annual paid leave of an officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be provided in such a way as not to hinder the proper functioning of the Anti-Corruption Committee.

Article 43. Providing an officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee with a residential space

1. Upon necessity, due to appointment of the officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee to another place for service or secondment, the officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be provided with a residential space.
2. In case of impossibility to provide the officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee with a residential space, he or she shall be provided with monetary compensation [through the procedure and in the amounts](#) established by the Government.

Article 44. Symbol of the Anti-Corruption Committee, uniform, identification card and seal of an officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. The form and description of the symbol of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be established by the Government.
2. Officers of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be provided with a uniform at the expense of the State Budget.

3. The description of and the procedure for wearing uniforms, bearing distinctive emblems of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be established by the Government.
4. Officers of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be issued identification cards of the sample form approved by the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee, as well as individual registered and numbered with the Anti-Corruption Committee under the names thereof.

Article 45. Security and means of personal protection of an officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. An officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall have the right to keep and carry a government-issued service weapon and special means of personal protection. The government-issued service weapon and special means of personal protection shall be provided to the officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee by the body authorised by the Government.
2. The rules for keeping and carrying a government-issued service weapon and special means of personal protection shall be prescribed upon the order of the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee.
3. In case of a threat of unlawful influence over the immunity of an officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee, his or her family members or the residential and office premises occupied by him or her, the competent state bodies shall be obliged to, at the request of the officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee, immediately take all necessary measures to ensure the security of the officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee, his or her family members and the residential and office premises occupied by him or her.

CHAPTER 8

FINAL PART AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

Article 46. Calculation of the service record

1. When appointing the officers of the Police, State Revenue Committee and National Security Service, persons holding autonomous positions in the Investigation Committee, Special Investigative Service, Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Armenia in the relevant subdivisions of the Anti-Corruption Committee, the service record thereof in the Police, Investigation Committee, State Revenue Service, Special Investigative Service, National Security Service, Prosecutor's Office shall be calculated within service record for holding position in the Anti-Corruption Committee.

Article 47. Titles (class ranks) conferred previously

1. The titles (class ranks) previously conferred on officers of bodies provided for by Article 46 of this Law due to assuming office in the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be preserved regardless of their position in the Anti-Corruption Committee and shall be brought into compliance with the class ranks prescribed by this Law.
2. When being appointed to a position in the Anti-Corruption Committee, the titles of persons holding a title (class rank) higher than the highest level prescribed for the given position and brought into compliance in accordance with this Law, shall be preserved.
3. The period of service served holding the titles (class ranks) conferred previously shall be taken into account when conferring class ranks as prescribed by this Law.

Article 48. Entry into force of the Law and other provisions

1. Articles 10 and 15-21 of this Law shall enter into force on the tenth day following the day of official promulgation.
2. This Law shall enter into force on the day following the day of filling the thirty autonomous vacant positions as prescribed by part 12 of this Article, except for the cases prescribed by part 1 of this Article.
3. Within a period of one month following the entry into force of Articles 10, 15-21 of this Law, the Government shall define the list of documents necessary for participating in the competition for the position of the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee, [the procedure for testing and the required level](#) of linguistic knowledge of the officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee, as well as the [procedure](#) for involving international experts in the composition of the Competition Board for selection of candidates for the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee.
4. After one month following the entry into force of Articles 10, 15-21 of this Law, the Head of the Office of the Prime Minister shall — within a period of five days — apply to the National Assembly, Government, Supreme Judicial Council, Human Rights Defender, Prosecutor General's Office requesting each to appoint one member within a period of ten days.
5. Within the period prescribed by part 4 of this Article, the Head of the Office of the Prime Minister shall ensure the publication of the announcement on involvement of representatives of the civil society organisations.
6. Relations pertaining to formation of the Competition Board for selection of candidates for the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee, which are not defined by this Article, shall be regulated as prescribed by Article 18 of this Law.

7. As prescribed by the Government, up to three international experts shall be involved in an advisory capacity within the composition of the Competition Board for selection of candidates for the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee for the first time. The involvement of international experts shall be carried out within the period prescribed by part 4 of this Article. Persons with at least five years of professional work experience in the anti-corruption field may be involved as international experts.
8. The Board shall — within a period of one month following the formation thereof — approve the rules of procedure for the activities thereof, define the Questionnaire for holding the interview stage, maximum score for evaluating the requirements for the candidates, distribution of the maximum score by separate requirements subject to evaluation, criteria disclosing the content of the requirements subject to evaluation, maximum score for evaluation of each criterion within the maximum score envisaged for the relevant requirement and the procedure for evaluation and calculation of scores.
9. The Competition Board shall — within a period of five days following the approval of the acts provided for by part 8 of this Article — announce a competition for selection of candidates for the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee through the Office of the Prime Minister.
10. The competition held for selecting candidates for the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee and the appointment of the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be carried out as prescribed by Article 19 of this Law, taking into account the peculiarities prescribed by this Article.
11. The Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall — within a period of one month following the appointment thereof to office — approve the structure of the Anti-Corruption Committee, the list of staff positions, including discretionary positions, and the staff list of persons carrying out technical maintenance operations.

12. The Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall — within a period of three days following the approval of the acts prescribed by part 11 of this Article — propose the persons holding autonomous positions in the Special Investigative Service to temporarily fill the thirty vacant autonomous positions in the Anti-Corruption Committee. The persons specified in this part shall express the consent or objection thereof to such proposal within a period of three days upon receiving the proposal. When the number of persons expressing consent exceeds thirty, preference in appointment to a temporary position shall be given to persons that conduct pre-trial investigation of corruption crimes in the Special Investigative Service, and where the number thereof exceeds thirty as well — to the person with longer experience, and in case of equal experience — to a person senior by age. The persons specified in this part shall be appointed to equivalent positions in the Anti-Corruption Committee (unless it is impossible), as acting officials, whilst preserving their right to receive monetary compensation for unused annual leave in the Special Investigative Service. Appointment with a view to temporarily fill the vacancy of the Deputy Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be made by the Prime Minister, while the appointment in other autonomous vacancies — by the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee.
13. The Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall — within a period of two months following his or her appointment to office — approve the acts prescribed by Article 17 of this Law and necessary for the activities of the Competition Commission being formed for selecting to autonomous positions in the Anti-Corruption Committee (hereinafter also referred to as "the Competition Commission"), the procedure for involving the civil society representative in the Competition Commission, as well as the procedure for and terms of the competition held to fill vacant positions of the subdivision performing criminal intelligence functions in the Anti-Corruption Committee.

14. Within a period of one month following the appointment of the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee, the procedure for conducting the training course for persons performing criminal intelligence functions in the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be approved.
15. The Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall — within a period of five days following the approval of the acts prescribed by part 13 of this Article — apply to the body authorised to develop anti-corruption policy, the General Prosecutor's Office and the Human Rights Defender with a request to appoint — within a period of ten days — two members proposed by the body authorised to develop anti-corruption policy, one member by the Prosecutor General's Office and one by the Human Rights Defender to involve in the Competition Commission formed for the purpose of selecting the first composition of officers of the Anti-Corruption Committee. One representative of civil society shall also be involved in the Competition Commission formed for selection of the first composition of officers of the Anti-Corruption Committee, and the involvement thereof shall be carried out in accordance with the procedure for involvement of a civil society representative prescribed by the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee within the time period provided for by this part. International experts may also be involved in the activities of the Competition Commission in an advisory capacity. The competition shall be held as prescribed by Article 17 of this Law, taking into account the peculiarities prescribed by this Article.
16. To be selected as an officer in the Anti-Corruption Committee, the persons specified in part 12 of this Article shall participate in a competition in accordance with the procedure prescribed by this Law. In cases of being declared winner based on the results of the competition and being appointed to the relevant position by the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee, as well as in case of not being declared winner in the competition, the persons provided for by part 11 of this Article shall be dismissed from office.

17. The Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee and the Minister of Justice shall — within a period of two weeks following the day of publication of the announcement on accepting the requests for selection of the first composition of autonomous positions of the Anti-Corruption Committee — submit to the Rector of the Academy of Justice their recommendations on academic courses or topics with the view of enrolling the persons included in the list of candidates for autonomous positions of the Anti-Corruption Committee in the professional training programmes. The professional preparation and probation of persons included in the list of candidates for autonomous positions of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be conducted under the Law "On the Academy of Justice" as prescribed by decision of the Management Board of the Academy of Justice within a period of two months.
18. The Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall — within three working days following the receipt of the list of persons exempted from studies and included in the list of candidates for autonomous positions of the Committee prescribed by part 14 of Article 17 of this Law — appoint to respective positions. Within a period of one year following the appointment, the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall — jointly with the Rector of the Academy of Justice — define the training procedure for the persons specified in this part and shall organise the training process thereof.
19. In case of the first composition of officers of the Anti-Corruption Committee, persons not meeting the requirement of point 4 of part 1 of Article 15 of this Law may be appointed to office, where they submit — within three years following the appointment — a document confirming the required level of knowledge of foreign languages. In case of failure to submit, within the time period prescribed by this part, a document confirming the level of knowledge of foreign languages, the officer of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be dismissed from office, and in case of the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee — the powers thereof shall be terminated.

20. From the date of entry into force of this Law, the Law HO-255-N "On Special Investigative Service" adopted on 28 November 2007 shall be repealed, and the activities of the Special Investigative Service shall be deemed terminated. Persons holding an autonomous position in the Special Investigative Service and having 20 years of professional work experience as a prosecutor or investigator shall be entitled to retirement for long-term service. The calculation of the long-term service pension of a person holding the position of an investigator as of 1 July 2017, and the position of the prosecutor as of 1 July 2014, shall be performed as prescribed by Article 9 of the Law "On ensuring the activities, services and social guarantees of officials".
21. After approval of the structure, list of positions and the staff list of the Anti-Corruption Committee, prior to filling the vacant positions under the competition procedure prescribed by the Law "On Civil Service", the civil service vacancies in the Anti-Corruption Committee may be filled under the procedure for conclusion of a fixed-term employment contract defined by the Government, including from among persons included in the civil service staff reserve due to the termination of the activities of the Special Investigative Service.
22. After entry into force of this Law the resolution of the issue on initiation of criminal cases with respect to the alleged corruption crimes and pre-trial investigation prescribed by law shall be reserved to the Anti-Corruption Committee. Criminal cases (materials) pending before other investigation bodies shall not be subject to transfer to the Anti-Corruption Committee, with the exception of the cases prescribed by this Article.
23. After appointment of the persons envisaged by part 12 of this Article, criminal cases (materials) initiated with respect to the alleged corruption crimes pending before the Special Investigative Service, as well as cases in the stage of initiation of a criminal case with respect to the alleged corruption crimes shall be transferred to the Anti-Corruption Committee.

24. Criminal cases (materials) with respect to the alleged corruption crimes pending before other investigation bodies prior to entry into force of this Law may be withdrawn from proceedings of investigators of such bodies by the Prosecutor General of the Republic of Armenia and transferred to the proceedings of investigators of the Anti-Corruption Committee upon consent of the Chairperson of the Anti-Corruption Committee.

(Article 48, amended, supplemented by HO-325-N of 24 September 2021)

Article 49. The first attestation of officers of the Anti-Corruption Committee

1. The first attestation of officers of the Anti-Corruption Committee shall be held twelve months after the entry into force of this Law.

President of the Republic of Armenia

A. Sargsyan

17 April 2021

Yerevan

HO-147-N

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