



Policy and procedures for the fight against Fraud and Corruption within operations of the West African Development Bank (WADB.)

The Policy and procedures manual for the fight against Fraud and Corruption within operations of the WADB was promulgated by the regulation No. 2012-007 dated 8 May 2012. It has as objective to: i) provide a practical definition and a conceptual framework for the comprehension of different forms, types and levels of corruption; ii) specify under which conditions and how corruption and fraud can take place in Bank operations, and the methods to avoid them, and iii) define procedures on how the Bank's staff and other employees taking part in Bank activities must react to acts of corruption and fraud in Banking operations. The manual is inspired from the Statutes of the Bank, the statutes and staff rules, ethical code and other rules and procedures of good governance and good conduct linked to corruption and fraud in Banking operations. It supplements ongoing initiatives to strengthen the Bank's safeguard measures through inspection and mediation.

The WADB recognizes the negative incidence of fraud and corruption on economic development and its member States. In this respect, it is committed to fight against these scourges in its operations, in a bid to reduce incentives, the gains to lose, and the risks linked to it. Measures shall be in place so that on the one hand sanction authors and their accomplices found guilty after investigations and on the other hand protect whistle-blowers so far as they act in good faith, and believe that the information given and/or the allegations made are exact. In case false allegations made for imaginary and/or with the intention to cause harm, measures shall be put in place to restore the victim's reputation, and apply disciplinary sanctions to its authors.

The prevention and fight against corruption and fraudulent practices are undertakings that are fundamentally complex, and in which progress will be a gradual process. The promulgation of the policy by the WADB shows its determination in promoting a habit of good and safe management and transparency in the process of decision taking, the quality in the cycle of projects and rigor in surveillance and execution.

The policy could be completed through rigorous mechanisms of conformity and execution. The actions and procedures which it contains could be revised and updated gradually, as the experience on the fight against corruption in Banking operations shall deepen.