

Newsletter



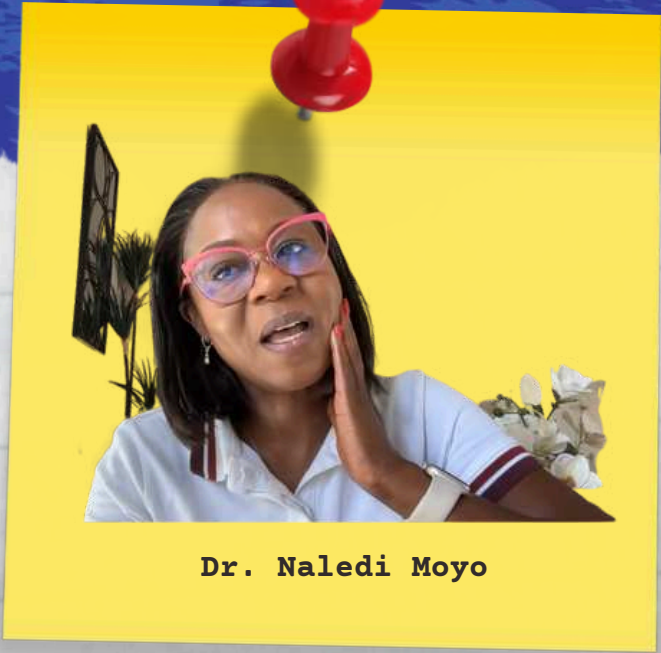
Week of 24th
February in CAACC



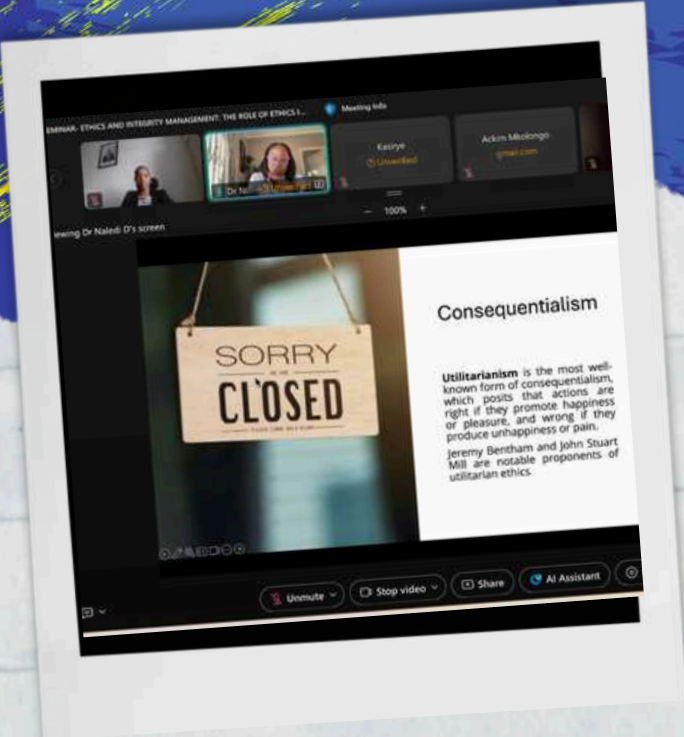
SEMINAR: ETHICS AND INTEGRITY MANAGEMENT- THE ROLE OF ETHICS IN PREVENTING CORRUPTION

The Commonwealth Africa Anti-Corruption Centre (CAACC) recently hosted a thought-provoking virtual seminar titled; ***Ethics and Integrity Management: The Role of Ethics in Preventing Corruption***. Over three days, participants explored the vital importance of ethical principles and integrity in addressing corruption across organisations and societies. The event aimed to strengthen the capacity of anti-corruption practitioners within the Commonwealth African region by equipping them with practical tools to combat unethical behaviour and corruption.

The seminar was led by two experts, Mr. Isaac Mdung'u and Dr. Naledi Moyo, who provided essential insights into ethical leadership and practical approaches to anti-corruption measures. Their sessions covered a wide range of topics, including the core concepts of ethics and integrity, and their significance in both personal and professional conduct. Dr. Moyo introduced attendees to ethical theories such as existentialism, consequentialism, and utilitarianism, highlighting the importance of ethical decision-making in fostering transparency and accountability.



Dr. Naledi Moyo



Welcoming the delegates and speakers was the Centre Manager, Mr Mogolodi Rantsetse. The seminar was on *Cisco Webex* hosted by the Capacity Building Pillar Manager Ms. Annah Shiellah Ramatsiri and cohost; Ms Thuto John, Communication Assistant.

When opening the seminar, Mr. Abdulai Bashiru Dapilah, Executive Director of the Economic and Organised Crime Office, highlighted that corruption remains a major obstacle to inclusive growth, human development and good governance, particularly in Africa. He further stressed that tackling corruption requires a collective effort from all sectors of society. "Let us remember that the fight against corruption is a continuous one. It demands the joint commitment of government institutions, civil society, local communities and the international stage. No one is exempt from the responsibility to act with integrity", he urged.

In kick-starting the Seminar, Mr. Isaac Ndung'u focused on the key concepts of ethics and integrity, exploring their definitions and differences. This presentation fixated on ethics with faith and religion and the significance of integrity in personal and professional conduct.



Trailed by Dr. Naledi Moyo who discussed existentialism, which emphasised on personal experiences and the subjective nature of life, suggesting individuals ought to navigate their own paths in an indifferent universe. She also covered consequentialist theory, moral rightness based on the specific consequences it produces.

Additionally, she addressed rule utilitarianism, which evaluates the morality of actions based on adherence to rules that, when generally followed, promote overall happiness, and highlighted the importance of ethical decision-making, emphasizing compliance, consensus, and consequences. The seminar also defined the various classifications of ethical risks organisations face, categorised into operational, financial and sustainability risks. Operational risks stem from issues such as competition, employment policies and reputational damage whereas financial risks involve monetary integrity and fraud prevention. Sustainability risks, on the other hand, focuses on emerging social and environmental responsibilities.

Instilling ethics and integrity within organisations and society at large is essential for effective corruption prevention. Through ethical leadership, robust organisational policies and active public engagement, the foundation for a transparent and accountable environment is established, significantly moderating the risks of corruption.

Mr. Lentswe Motshoganetsi, Communication and Political Affairs Coordinator at the Centre expressed his hope that the seminar had not been a futile exercise. He urged participants to carry the lessons learned and share the knowledge within their respective agencies, emphasising that such efforts could contribute to the eventual liberation of Commonwealth African countries from corruption.

In concluding his remarks, Mr. Motshoganetsi emphasised the pivotal role of ongoing collaboration and the sharing of best practices among anti-corruption agencies. By establishing a dedicated forum for continuous engagement, CAACC aims to instill a culture of ethics and integrity across all areas of operation. Let us seize this opportunity to drive meaningful change, elevate standards, and enhance the delivery of services throughout Commonwealth Africa.

