Reflections on Development of Anti-Corruption System in the New Situation

XIAOWEI LU, YA LI AND CHEN XIE

ABSTRACT

Since the 18th National Party Congress, increasing attention has been given to anti-corruption and building of clean government. Besides being a major concern of the Party and the central government, it is common aspiration of the public and an irresistible trend. Therefore, it is necessary to develop a systemic, scientific and robust anti-corruption system in the new situation. Based on the brief introduction to the background and significance of anti-corruption, this paper had analyzed the necessity of developing integrity risk prevention and control system and established an integrity risk prevention and control system suitable to the national situation of China by referring to the ISO31000 international risk management standard. The goal of this paper is to, by studying on the above contents, drive the development of integrity risk prevention and control system of China and normalize the integrity risk management process.

KEYWORDS

Anti-corruption, integrity risk prevention and control system, prevention and control system management process, organization.

BACKGROUND OF ANTI-CORRUPTION

Since implementation of the reform and opening up policy, the anti-corruption efforts have always been concerned in all fields in the society. In particular, after the 18th National Party Congress, the new term of leading group centered on General Secretary Xi Jinping has put forward a number of important statements of anti-corruption and building a clean government. The attention paid by the new leaders to those issues is also embodied in the Guidelines on Political Life within the Party under the New Situation formulated and the Intra-Party Supervision Regulation (Trail) revised at the Sixth Plenary Session of the 18 CPC Central Committee. In terms of anti-corruption issues, scholars have already made some research achievements via continuous exploration and study, but part of those achievements are of limitations and one-sidedness, which are in urgent need of being integrated by a sound risk prevention and control system. And thus could the loopholes in the anti-corruption system be removed. After referring to plenty of literatures, the author of this paper found that the expression “clean government risk prevention and control system” was first come up with in the “clean government risk" exploration work of Chongwen District, Beijing in 2007. The “integrity risk prevention and control system” in this paper is a little...
different from that expression, but is of profound meaning. In November 2016, General Office of the Central Committee issued the Pilot Program of Reforming the National Supervision Mechanism in Beijing Municipality, Shanxi Province, and Zhejiang Province, in which the term “clean government” is replaced by “integrity”, which is also the case in the many reports of China Discipline Inspection and Supervision Periodical in 2017. Usually the “development of a clean government” is the assignment of the Party and the government, but the “integrity project” could cover all the public offices and even the whole society. In other words, the anti-corruption issues are not just work of the Party and the government. They are also the responsibility of the whole country and society.

NECESSITY OF DEVELOPMENT OF INTEGRITY RISK PREVENTION AND CONTROL

For a long time, great dispute has been existing in development of integrity risk prevention and control system or the implementation of anti-corruption project. Many officials have the opinion that to carry out the anti-corruption project would lead to the nonfeasance of officials, economic slowdown and other problems. The author can’t agree with that opinion. From perspective of philosophy, we shouldn’t take a part for the whole when looking at an issue. In the long run, China is and will be in the new situation of profound reform of economic system, highlighted social contradictions, deeply adjustment of benefits pattern and profound change in ideology. For those initiators of corruption, the unprecedented corruption determination and efforts of the central government for the moment could only achieve the effect of warning, which adequately manifests that the anti-corruption work is a long-term tough task, a significant and essential assignment. For the author’s part, to launch the anti-corruption campaign in China is advantageous in the unique political environment, in theory. First, we are under the leadership of Chinese Communist Party and socialism with Chinese characteristics, which are the radical system and the political guarantee. Second, to lift the corruption prevention and punishment system up to the national strategy shows the determination of China to struggle against corruption. Last, the material basis, legal system, cultural atmosphere, etc., realized in the implementation of the reform and opening up policy are all the powerful weapons for overcoming the corruption. Thus the author deems that, the necessity of the anti-corruption should be explained from the angles of both the public and the Party.

Anti-corruption is the essential requirement for defending the fundamental interests of the public

Since the establishment, Chinese Communist Party is always the representative of the essential interests of the people, and all work done by the Party is for defending such interests. Impelled by interests, the corrupt officials seek for personal gains with their power, seriously damaging the revolutionary accomplishment which should have been shared among the public. That is such a severe violation to the social fairness and justice. Therefore, the anti-corruption campaign is extremely urgent, and the determination to do it highlights the faith of the Party and the country to win in the campaign.
Anti-corruption is the essential requirement for consolidating the ruling foundation of the Party

“To comply with wishes of the people, the government prospers, or it degenerates” is a perfect statement of the historical experience of “who wins the heart of the people wins the world”. The most important ruling foundation of Chinese Communist Party is the people. One of the reasons for the decline and collapse of a government is the lack of efforts in party conduct integrity improvement by the ruling party. Corruption in the party gives chance for crisis of faith to rise, which further causes the serious political, economic and social crisis and eventually the self-destruction of the party. Hence, to strengthen the integrity improvement in the party is linked to the leadership and ruling status of the party. Gratifyingly, the new leaders of the Party led by comrade Xi Jinping persist on deepening the party conduct integrity improvement and reform, having accomplished remarkably achievements and effectively consolidated the political foundation of the ruling Party.

In 2015, the Commission for Discipline Inspection of the Central Committee of the CPC set the requirement of “dare not, could not and want not to corrupt”. Knowing it, the public just jumped for joy. But the purpose of such requirement is not to prison the corrupt officials for lifetime, but protect our Party to the largest extent. From the angle of management, that’s risk prevention and control. To be specific, it’s the integrity risk prevention and control. Then, how to apply the experience of risk management to the integrity management is also a content to be explored in this paper.

The author regards as, the system development is inevitable, but it could only solve the “dare not and could not corrupt” problems. To get the officials “want not to corrupt” needs further education in ideological quality and moral cultivation. “Want not to corrupt” is impossible for a Party member with loyalty to and trust by the Party lost. Yet how to form such an integrity cultural atmosphere also takes time and needs more efforts. It needs a long time and sustained efforts and perseverance of generations of people. From the perspective of history, the integrity culture should not only pay attention to absorb the values of universal meaning, but also learn from the spiritual deposits of traditional Chinese culture. As recorded in the historical materials, officials resembling the positions of discipline inspection commission were already set in the Yao and Shun periods in ancient China. Past is future. We should learn from and respect history, to let the historical lessons be history forever. As General Secretary Xi Jinping has put it, “the broad and profound excellent traditional Chinese culture is the foundation for us Chinese to stand firmly in the surge of world cultures.”

DEVELOPMENT PRINCIPLES AND MANAGEMENT PROCESS OF INTEGRITY RISK PREVENTION AND CONTROL SYSTEM

In recent days, China has treated and rectified the corruption problems, having launched the integrity system improvement project. In consequence, some officials restrained themselves to corrupt but it’s far from being an end to it. To deepen the integrity improvement requires unremitting efforts in the long term. China is presently in the important moments of economic construction accelerating and reform deepening, to strengthen the integrity improvement thus seems even more significant. We have to create a massive social momentum, stick to the correct theoretical publication and public opinion guidance, to get everyone well aware of the integrity
improvement, in order to realize a long-term work and actively develop towards the institutionalization and normalization. To this, we must follow the principles of integrity risk prevention and control system, and prepare the integrity risk management process.

**Building of principles**

**ADHERING TO THE PRINCIPLE OF PARTICIPATION BY ALL MEMBERS**

In the process of building the integrity risk system, we should regard the participation by all members as the foundational principle. Anti-corruption is in the charge of everyone. If every one of us could be integrate and free from corruption, the atmosphere of integrity would be greatly improved. So it should be participated by all members, cover every corner, free from any blind angle, be effectively divided and coordinated, and specify the boundaries, to realize a long-effect integrity risk management mechanism.

**PRINCIPLE OF PREVENTION FIRST AND PREVENTION AND TREATMENT INTEGRATED**

On the premise of comprehensive planning and reasonable layout, the preventive measures are prioritized to prevent integrity risk, and corrective measures are taken to treat the corruptive behaviors, to be the prevention and treatment integrated policy. During that process, we should adhere to the transformation of “four forms” put forward by the Commission for Discipline Inspection of the Central Committee of the CPC, and adopt the countermeasures from moderate to severe to corruptive measures based on the “repetition and accumulation” changing course. It is a strictly logical system and a dialectical system. Strict management is great kindness. To treat is to save.

**PRINCIPLE OF LEGALITY AND COMPLIANCE**

The integrity risk prevention and control system should be based on compliance with relevant laws, administrative regulations and rules. As is pointed out in the Guidelines on Political Life within the Party under the New Situation and the Intra-Party Supervision Regulation approved at the Sixth Plenary Session of the 18th CPC Central Committee, the system is essential to the new practice of comprehensive and strict Party management in the new situation. To strengthen and normalize the political life within the Party and intra-Party supervision is the important subject and content of Party improvement in the new situation, and also an essential starting point for strict Party management in an all-round way, providing all Party members with the basic principles of down-to-earth attitude to be a man and do work.

**ADHERING TO THE ENGAGEMENT MANAGEMENT PRINCIPLE**

The identification, analysis, evaluation of and response to the integrity risk should be integrated in the organization management and operation process, to make them an integral part of the process. During the course of building the integrity risk prevention and control system, we must not be two-faced. Instead, we should combine the
thinking and methods of integrity risk management and the daily management and operation, to reduce the unnecessary work increase and burden.

PRINCIPLE OF CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

The integrity risk management is a dynamic process adapting to the change of internal and external anti-corruption environment. In it, all steps link to each other and thus form a circulated ring. With the change in internal and external environment, the integrity risk facing the organization is also changing. So the organization should continuously be sensitive to those changes and give suitable responses. For the integrity risk management process, a long-effect mechanism should be established to ensure the soundness of the system, a dynamic monitoring system should be made to continuously track the system, those various measures should be updated and improved for risk prevention and control, and various methods and manners should be innovated for driving the implementation. Just as General Secretary Xi Jinping has put it, “Once innovation made in one day, try to innovate every. Innovation made, more innovations are needs”, thus to give lasting play to innovation activities in the continuous improvement.

Management process

The principles above are the clear directions for exploring and building the integrity risk prevention and control system. And progress needs a specific management process for restriction. Based on theoretical study and practical summarization, the author has found that the integrity risk management process is composed of specification of environmental information, evaluation of integrity risks, response to integrity risks and inspection and review. Among them, the evaluation of integrity risks includes the identification of integrity risks, analysis on integrity risks and evaluation of integrity risks. See below chart:
IMPLEMENTATION OF INTEGRITY RISK MANAGEMENT MEASURES

How to carry out the integrity risk management has always been a key point for the various scholars to explore. How to integrate the integrity risk management in all the levels and activities of the organization needs not only to specify the responsibilities, system process, files and reports and management culture of the organization, but also to further apply the information technology to enhance the effect of integrity risk management by the administrative departments in possible and suitable moments.

Responsibilities of the integrity risk management organization

The organization should develop and improve an integrity risk management organizational system, specify the responsible bodies, detail the responsibility contents, and ensure the adequateness and effectiveness of the integrity risk management.

1. Setting up or appointing the integrity risk management organization, and specifying the responsibility boundary between the integrity risk management department and other departments.
(2) Developing the integrity risk management responsibility system. The responsible person of the organization is the first responsible person of the integrity risk management of each organization, in charge of overall integrity risk management at relevant level. Staffs in positions exposed to integrity risks are the direct responsible persons for each position.

Process of integrity risk management system

The organization should, based on the integrity risk management goals, design proper system and set up the integrity risk management work process, to make sure to include the integrity risk management in all activities and processes, to realize the unified understanding and implementation of the integrity risk management in the organization.

Integrity risk management files and reports

Based on specifying the integrity risks management responsibilities and system process, the organization should sort out and summarize the integrity risk management regulatory framework, program director and other files, to be a drive for building the integrity risk management system. The integrity risk management files and reports herein include but not limited to:

1. Responsibility registration form, responsibility boundary registration form, and authority matters registration form;
2. Authority operation flow chart;
3. Integrity risk list;
4. Integrity risk management position card;
5. Other relevant systems and regulations.

The author deems that, the organization, when forming the integrity risk management rules, should announce internally and externally, to collect opinions and suggestions and do well in publication and recording during the period of publication. After the period of publication expires, meetings should be held to affirm the file contents. After being reviewed and registered, those files should be publicized.

During the course of integrity risk management, we should pay attention to cultivation of the integrity risk awareness and risk management culture, which could be a foundation for forming the integrity cultural atmosphere. To be specific, we could consider on the following aspects:

1. To carry out integrity risk management is the common responsibility of all stakeholders, which should perform the relevant duties at all levels.
2. Systemic integrity risk management and training plan should be formulated, and multiple methods should applied to strengthen training of the idea, knowledge, approaches and process of the integrity risk management, to reach the consensus at all levels in the organization.
3. Efforts should be strengthen to punish the illegal behaviors in the organization, to form a sound integrity risk management system.
4. Attention should be paid to the attitude to, management philosophy of and management commitment to the integrity risk management of the decision-making level.

With “Internet+” as the support, building integrity risk management culture and application of information technologies are strengthened. To further enhance the
soundness and advancement of the integrity risk prevention and control system in the new situation is especially important. The organization should consider every aspect of their integrity risk management objectives and status quo of the management operation, to gradually advance the application of information technologies to the building of integrity risk management. The author believes that, we should consider on the following aspects:

(1) Setting up the external authority online operation system, to get the external authority operating online, and thus to publicize the authority and business (management) process online and supervised by the stakeholders.

(2) Driving the authority to build the comprehensive electronic supervision and inspection platform, to include the public resource transactions, management and use of special funds, administrative review and approval, decision making on major matters, administrative punishment, administrative law enforcement and other processes in the electronic supervision and inspection range. Efforts are to be made to carry out the real-time monitoring of integrity risk points, advance the technological platforms and resources integration, set up and improve the petition and reporting, complain treatment, risk level management, corruption prevention information sharing and other systems, construct the comprehensive monitoring network platform of authority operation, and advance the orderly link among integrity risk monitoring networks and resource sharing of various departments and systems.

(3) Advancing corruption prevention information analysis and building of warning system, strengthening channels of collecting integrity risk information, and properly treating the integrity risks based on systemic analysis and correct judgment.

SUMMARY

The integrity issue has always been a difficult problem facing people since ancient times. Looking on the whole world, the collapse of many imperial courts is also due to the corruption. Therefore, to it, great attention is paid by governments of all generations. The historical lessons tell us that, since the ancient times, the greed, selfishness, lust for women, arrogance, desire and other natural instincts of human beings have not seen radical change. The human nature has changed history but history hasn’t changed human nature. With the spreading of corruption, the imperial courts decline and collapse. To explore the root cause of corruption and seek for a solution to it is the responsibility and mission of every person engaged in studying the corruption problems. The author hopes to find out a practical and lasting way based on analysis and summarization, to contribute suggestions to deepen the reform.

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