

## **Self-Test**

### **For Course on Legislative Ethics and Codes of Conduct**

#### **Unit 1**

Question 1. Ethics reforms were originally adopted:

- a) By the public sector;
- b) By the NGOs;
- c) By the companies operating in countries where the labor market is regulated;
- d) By the companies operating in countries in which the labor market is unregulated.

Question 2. Ethics reforms were introduced because:

- a) Workers were always on strike and companies were often under-performing;
- b) Trade unions were always antagonizing management;
- c) Governments forced companies to do so;
- d) Companies thought that this was the best way to protect their reputation and preserve their competitiveness on the global markets.

Question 3. The establishment of ethics regimes requires:

- a) Lowering the costs of labor to preserve companies' competitiveness on the markets;
- b) Governments' support in the form of state subsidies for the unemployed and the underemployed;
- c) Monitoring agencies that certify whether companies the standards that they had set for themselves;
- d) Monitoring agencies that establish the standards by which companies should be evaluated.

#### **Unit 3**

Question 1. The public sector became sensitive to ethics concerns because:

- a) The economy had gone global;
- b) The public sector wants to be as efficient as private sector;
- c) Government officials are naturally inclined to increase bureaucratic rules and regulations;
- d) The public's trust in the government had dramatically declined.

Question 2. The public has become more sensitive to ethics concerns because:

- a) Many ethics violations have been uncovered;
- b) Civil society is also and necessarily a civic society that values ethical behavior;
- c) The public is naturally inclined to value practices that are consistent with the principles of civic-ness and honesty;
- d) The ethical standards of the public are generally higher than those of the government officials.

Question 3. The perception of ethical violations:

- a) Is not really affected by the adoption of a code of conduct;
- b) Is less widespread in those cities where codes of conduct have been adopted;
- c) Is totally unrelated to whether the conduct of public officials is appropriate or not;
- d) Changes from city to city because some cities have more criminals than others.

#### **Unit 4**

Question 1. The main difference between codes of conduct and codes of ethics is:

- a) Codes of conduct are just aspirational, while ethics codes specify what types of behavior is acceptable or not;
- b) Codes of conduct establish specific sanctions for violations of the code, while codes of ethics simply state general principles;
- c) Codes of ethics apply to both the private and the public sector, while codes of conduct are adopted only in the public sector;
- d) There is really no difference; these expressions can legitimately be used interchangeably.

Question 2. The most important function of a code of conduct is:

- a) To punish ethics violations;
- b) To prevent misconduct and other forms of ethics violation;
- c) To both prevent and punish ethics violations;
- d) To prevent ethics violations and restore the publics trust in public officials and institutions.

## Unit 5

Question 1. Rules of Trust establish that:

- a) Government officers must always act in the public interest even if they have a personal interest in a government action;
- b) Government officers may not have either direct or indirect interests in a government transaction and must act solely in the public interest;
- c) Government officers' personal interests must always be consistent with the public interest;
- d) Government officers may have personal interests in government transactions as long as they do not violate the public trust.

Question 2. If a public official has a pecuniary interest in a proposed government action:

- a) The government action has to be changed;
- b) The public official is arrested;
- c) The public official is forced either to resign the public post or to give up the private interests;
- d) The public official is required to abstain from participating in the decision making process.

Question 3. Gifts are viewed as bribes and extortion if:

- a) The gift modifies the course of action of a public official;
- b) Public officials do not modify their course of action after receiving the gift;
- c) The value of the gift exceeds specific limits;
- d) They are not exchanged among family members.

## Unit 6

Question 1. Of all public officers, the legislator is:

- a) The one least likely to encounter conflicts of interest;
- b) The one most likely to encounter conflicts of interest;
- c) Likely to encounter conflicts of interest only if the legislator's party is in power;
- d) Is not particularly prone to encountering conflicts of interest as long as the legislator opposes the government.

Question 2. To prevent conflicts of interest, legislators can take several steps such as:

- a) Delegating all decision making power to the executive;
- b) Banning political parties and interest groups;
- c) Adopting codes of conduct;
- d) Dissolving the legislature and calling new elections.

Question 3. Codes of Conduct may require MPs to disclose:

- a) Their personal interests as well as those of their friends and family members;
- b) Their personal interests as well as those of their friends;
- c) Their personal interests as well as those of their family members;
- d) The interests of the parliamentarians' friends and family members.

## **Unit 7**

Question 1. Violations of the dispositions of the Codes of Conduct are punishable:

- a) By the death penalty;
- b) By life detention;
- c) Only if the provisions of the code had not been explained to the members of the parliament;
- d) By a variety of measures such as reprimand, loss of seniority, suspension and expulsion.

Question 2. Sanctions for the violations of the code:

- a) Are always administered by the Legislature or by the Speaker of the House;
- b) Are administered by the executive branch of the government;
- c) Are administered by the executive, the legislative or the judiciary in the name of the separation of power;
- d) Are administered by different institutions in different countries. Generally sanctions are administered by one of the following institutions: Independent Commissions, Parliamentary Committees, Parliaments, Speakers of the Parliament, and Courts.

## **Units 8 and 9**

Question 1. Political Culture:

- a) Is a pattern of individual attitudes and orientations towards politics among the members of a political system;

- b) Exists only when politicians behave morally;
- c) Reflects politicians' ability to run the government;
- d) Is not related to ethical dilemmas.

Question 2. Political Culture is:

- a) Conducive to establishing ethics regimes;
- b) A threat to the establishment of ethics regimes;
- c) A solution for ethical dilemmas;
- d) A possible determinant of whether ethics reforms succeed.

Question 3. Most MPs:

- a) Have the same political attitudes and orientations;
  - b) Are driven by ideological concerns;
  - c) Do whatever is in their power to secure their re-election;
- Have different ethical standards.