

Chamber of Engineer's Ethics Committee – Complaints Procedure

Chamber of Engineer's Ethics Committee

Complaints Procedure

Introduction

- i. Reference is made to the results of Questionnaire conducted by the Chamber in 2015, regarding Ethics in the Engineering Profession, in which a high percentage of respondents stated that they would prefer to report cases of infringements of the Code of Ethics to the Chamber rather than to the Engineering Board directly.
- ii. Reference is made to Article 7 of the Engineering Profession Act which states that the functions of the board, inter alia, are:
 - (b) to hold enquiries regarding any charge of professional misconduct or abuse made against any engineer in connection with the exercise of his profession or with professional matters, saving the provisions of the criminal code or of any other law;
 - (c) to deal with cases leading to the suspension or withdrawal of a warrant, or of a special licence granted under article 5, as provided by or under this act;

In view of the above, the Council of the Chamber of Engineers, through the Ethics Committee, has instated the following procedural rules that define the *modus operandi* of the organisation when a complaint is lodged with the Chamber.

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	20 th October 2017		Ethics Committee of the CoE	Council

1. Complaint from CoE member (or any member of the profession/public) is to be in writing and addressed to the President of the Chamber.
2. An acknowledgement (signed by the General Secretary of the Chamber) will be sent to the complainant.
3. The complaint shall be referred to the Chairperson of the Ethics Committee for processing.
4. The original source of complaint is to be indicated by complainant in the correspondence with the Secretary General. Complaints based on hearsay or anonymity will not be admitted.
5. The Ethics Committee will scrutinise the complaint and decide whether:
 - i. the complaint is frivolous
 - ii. whether nature of the complaint falls within remit of the CoE
 - iii. whether nature of the complaint falls within remit of the Engineering Board
6. In all cases the complainant will be advised as follows:
 - i. if frivolous, the complaint will be dropped
 - ii. if complaint falls under remit of the CoE, the complainant will be advised of final decision of the Ethics Committee. The complainant may be asked to attend for an interview, with Committee, to expound further on one's complaint.
 - iii. if complaint falls within the remit of the Engineering Board, the Ethics Committee shall decide on a way forward and inform the complainant accordingly.
7. In all cases, the complainant will be asked to sign a declaration that the complainant would be prepared to give evidence, regarding the case in question, in front of the Engineering Board and/or the Courts of Malta if and when required.

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