

*Recent Regional Developments To Suppress Drug Trafficking and The Laundering of Drug Proceeds*

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**ORIGIN AND RATIONALE  
OF UN INVOLVEMENT  
IN ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING**

**Any Single Country Cannot Meet  
Alone Global Challenges,  
for example no single country can  
meet alone the challenge posed by  
Organized Crime and Money  
Laundering**

**The Convention against Transnational  
Organized Crime**

Signatory members have to:

- Adopt domestic laws and practices which will help to prevent/suppress money laundering;
- Require their banks to keep accurate records and make them available for inspection;
- Refrain from using bank secrecy to shield criminal activities;
- Take appropriate action to confiscate illicitly acquired assets
- Provide for possibilities for extradition to ensure there are no 'safe havens'.

**The Convention against Illicit Traffic  
in Narcotic Drugs and Substances**

- First formal international instrument against money laundering;
- Criminalizes the conversion of illicit proceeds deriving from trafficking in drugs;
- Includes provisions concerning cooperation in extraditing offences, mutual legal assistance, and transfer of criminal proceeds.

**The Convention against the Financing  
of Terrorism**

Opened for Signature in 2000



## The United Nations Conventions:

- provides the best available tool to combat crime and terrorism beyond national legislation;
- serves as a model for how to effectively arrange extraditions, mutual legal assistance, joint investigations;
- symbolic importance: proof of the existing universal will to criminalize transnational crime and terrorism.



## Promotion of Exchange of Ideas and Best Practice

- Bench-Marking;
- Peer Political Pressure;
- Mutual Surveillance



## MONEY LAUNDERING TRENDS IN THE REGION



## Money Laundering Characteristics in the Region

- Illegal proceeds derived from criminal activities;
- Public sector corruption;



## Money Laundering Methods in the Region

- Casinos, Internet Gambling & Lottery;
- Laundering through Offshore Financial Centres - Cash Flow through Internet Transactions;
- Underground Banking System;
- Money Laundering through Divers Commodities – Cattle, Crocodiles and Fish.



## ACHIEVEMENTS AND FAILURES OF THE PRESENT ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING REGIME



## Achievements & Failures of the Present Anti-Money Laundering Regime

### Achievements:

- Drafting/Improving National Anti-Money Laundering Legislation;
- Increased Awareness of Money Laundering issue;
- Establishment of Financial Intelligence Units in many Countries (i.e. Thailand, Malaysia, the Philippines and Indonesia);



## Achievements & Failures of the Present Anti-Money Laundering Regime

### Failures:

- Poor Implementation of Newly Drafted Laws due to Various Challenges such as Lack of Resources and Lack of Political Will;
- Long-Standing Problem of Corruption in the Region;



## UNITED NATIONS OFFICE ON DRUGS AND CRIME (UNODC)



## United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime UNODC

### Global Programme Against Corruption

- Promotes Anti-Corruption Measures in Vulnerable Economies;
- Helps public sector actions become more transparent;
- Action Learning, Technical Cooperation and Evaluation;
- Provides Technical Cooperation at the International, National and Sub-National Levels (Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Latin America and Eastern Europe).



## United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime UNODC

### Global Programme Against Money Laundering

- Helps Member States to Introduce Legislation Against Money Laundering;
- Helps Member States to Develop and Maintain the Mechanisms that Combat this Crime;
- Encourages Anti-Money Laundering Policy Development;
- Monitors and Analyses the Problems and Responses in relation to Money Laundering;
- Raises Public Awareness about Money Laundering;
- Acts as a Coordinator of Joint Anti-Money Laundering Initiatives by the UN with other International Organizations.



## JOINT UNODC / ASEM INITIATIVE



## ASEM Anti-Money Laundering Project (UNODC – G44)

- Aiming to develop a sustainable institutional capacity at the national, regional and international level in the field of anti-money laundering;
- Addresses institutional capacity as whole; Law Enforcement, Banking Sector & Judiciary/ Prosecutorial Sector;



## At the Project's Termination it will have:

- Developed deeper and closer cooperation between Europe and Asia in the Anti-Money Laundering Field;
- Identified ways in which Europe and Asia can cooperate to disrupt the activities of Organized Criminal Organizations operating in both Regions;
- Contributed to an increased political commitment to sign relevant conventions and also to implement the provisions included in such recommended legislation;
- Assisted selected countries through effective training and equipment.



## SYNERGY



## Synergy is Needed and will Benefit All...



Thank you all for your attention

