

## **FIGHT AGAINST INTERNATIONAL MONEY LAUNDERING ORGANIZATIONS**

### **I. Eastern and Southern Africa Anti-Money Laundering Group (ESAAMLG)**

MEMBERS (having signed the ESAAMLG\*)

1. Botswana
2. Kenya
3. Malawi
4. Mauritius
5. Mozambique
6. Namibia
7. Seychelles
8. South Africa
9. Swaziland
10. Tanzania
11. Uganda

MEMBERS (not yet having signed the ESAAMLG MoU):

1. Lesotho
2. Zambia
3. Zimbabwe

#### **Background**

The purpose of the Eastern and Southern Africa Anti-Money Laundering Group (ESAAMLG) is to combat money laundering by implementing the FATF Forty Recommendations. This effort includes co-coordinating with other international organizations concerned with combating money laundering, studying emerging regional typologies, developing institutional and human resource capacities to deal with these issues, and co-coordinating technical assistance where necessary. ESAAMLG enables regional factors to be taken into account in the implementation of anti-money laundering measures.

ESAAMLG was launched at a meeting of Ministers and high-level representatives in Arusha, Tanzania, on 26-27 August 1999. A memorandum of understanding (MoU) based on the experience of the FATF and other FATF-style regional bodies was agreed to at that meeting. Following the signature of the MoU by seven of the potential members, ESAAMLG came into formal existence. All members are Commonwealth countries which have committed to the FATF Forty Recommendations. The group held its first meeting on 17-19 April 2000 in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. Following the events of 11 September 2001, ESAAMLG expanded its scope to include the countering of terrorist financing.

ESAAMLG members participate in a self-assessment process to assess their progress in implementing the FATF Forty Recommendations. The ESAAMLG Secretariat is located in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

#### **Summaries of the Mutual Evaluations of ESAAMLG Members**

ESAAMLG is committed to carrying out a mutual evaluation process. A training workshop for mutual evaluators was held in Bagamoyo, Tanzania on 13-15 January 2003. The first six ESAAMLG members to be mutually evaluated will be Lesotho, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa and Swaziland.

Given the importance of the mutual evaluation process, the FATF has agreed to place the summaries of the mutual evaluations performed by ESAAMLG in the FATF website along with those of other FATF-style regional organisations. Summaries of completed mutual evaluations will be posted when they become available.

### **Contacts**

You may contact ESAAMLG by mail at the following address:

Executive secretary

ESAAMLG EX-KAMATA Building

Msimbazi, Nyerere junction,

BOX 9923,

Dar es Salaam - Tanzania, United Republic of

ESAAMLG also maintains a web site at: <http://www.esaamlg.org>

## **II. Asia / Pacific Group on Money Laundering (APG)**

### **MEMBERS:**

- |                      |                      |                       |
|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Australia         | 10. Japan            | 18. Republic of Korea |
| 2. Bangladesh        | 11. Macau, China     | 19. Palau             |
| 3. Brunei Darussalam | 12. Malaysia         | 20. Philippines       |
| 4. Chinese Taipei    | 13. Marshall Islands | 21. Samoa             |
| 5. Cook Islands      | 14. Nepal            | 22. Singapore         |
| 6. Fiji              | 15. New Zealand      | 23. Sri Lanka         |
| 7. HongKong China    | 16. Niue             | 24. Thailand          |
| 8. India             | 17. Pakistan         | 25. United States     |
| 9. Indonesia         |                      | 26. Vanuatu           |

### **Background**

The purpose of the Asia/Pacific Group on Money Laundering (APG) is to ensure the adoption, implementation and enforcement of internationally accepted anti-money laundering and counter-terrorist financing standards as set out in the FATF Forty Recommendations and FATF Eight Special Recommendations. The effort includes assisting countries and territories of the region in enacting laws to deal with the proceeds of crime, mutual legal assistance, confiscation, forfeiture and extradition; providing guidance in setting up systems for reporting and investigating suspicious transactions and helping in the establishment of financial intelligence units. The APG also enables regional factors to be taken into account in the implementation of anti-money laundering measures.

The origins of the APG go back to "awareness raising" activities undertaken by the FATF in the early 1990s as part of its strategy to encourage adoption of money laundering counter-measures throughout the world. In order to achieve more concrete results, Australia agreed to set up a Secretariat for the purpose of obtaining regional commitment and establishing a regional FATF-style body with practical objectives. Subsequently, an agreement was reached in Bangkok in 1997 which created the APG. The first meeting was held in Tokyo in 1998

and then annually thereafter. Following the events of 11 September 2001, the APG expanded its scope to include the countering of terrorist financing.

The APG conducts mutual evaluations of its members and holds a periodic workshop on money laundering methods and trends. Its work mandate has been set out in a document containing specific terms of reference for the group. The APG is supported by a Secretariat, which serves as the focal point for its activities.

### **Summaries of the Mutual Evaluations of APG Members**

The APG carries out a mutual evaluation process, the background, purpose and procedure of which is described at the preceding highlighted link. The APG began conducting mutual evaluations of its members in 2000 and publishes summaries of those evaluations in its Annual Reports.

In 2000, the APG conducted its first mutual evaluation (Vanuatu). In 2001, APG completed four more mutual evaluations (Chinese Taipei; Labuan International Offshore Financial Centre, Malaysia; Macau, China; and Samoa). In 2002, APG completed five mutual evaluations (Cook Islands, Fiji, Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand).

Given the importance of the mutual evaluation process, the FATF has agreed to place the summaries of the mutual evaluations performed by the APG in the FATF website along with those of other FATF-style regional organizations. You may access the summaries of completed mutual evaluations by selecting highlighted links to the individual APG members listed above.

### **Contacts**

APG Secretariat  
GPO Box 5260  
Sydney NSW 2001  
AUSTRALIA

The APG also maintains a website at: <http://www.apgml.org>

## **III. Caribbean Financial Action Task Force (CFATF)**

### **MEMBERS:**

- |     |                        |     |                                 |
|-----|------------------------|-----|---------------------------------|
| 1.  | Anguilla               | 14. | Haiti                           |
| 2.  | Antigua & Barbuda      | 15. | Jamaica                         |
| 3.  | Aruba                  | 16. | Montserrat                      |
| 4.  | Bahamas                | 17. | Netherland Antilles             |
| 5.  | Barbados               | 18. | Nicaragua                       |
| 6.  | Belize                 | 19. | Panama                          |
| 7.  | Bermuda                | 20. | St. Kitts & Nevis               |
| 8.  | British Virgin Islands | 21. | St. Lucia                       |
| 9.  | Cayman Islands         | 22. | St. Vincent & the<br>Grenadines |
| 10. | Costa Rica             | 23. | Suriname                        |
| 11. | Dominica               | 24. | Trinidad & Tobago               |
| 12. | Dominican Republic     | 25. | Turks & Caicos Islands          |
| 13. | Grenada                | 26. | Venezuela                       |

## **Background**

The CFATF is an organization of states and territories of the Caribbean basin which have agreed to implement common counter-measures against money laundering. The Task Force was established as the result of two key meetings convened in Aruba in and Jamaica in the early 1990s. At the Aruba meeting in May 1990, the Caribbean nations developed nineteen recommendations – the "Aruba Recommendations" – that address money laundering from a regional perspective and which complement the worldwide standards embodied in the FATF Forty Recommendations. The Jamaica Ministerial Meeting held in Jamaica in November 1992 led to the "Kingston Declaration", a statement by the Ministers which endorsed and affirmed their governments' commitment to implementing international anti-money laundering standards.

In November 1996, 21 members of the CFATF entered into a Memorandum of Understanding which now serves as the basis for the goals and the work of the CFATF.

In this document, CFATF members agree to adopt and implement the 1988 UN Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances; endorse and implement the FATF Forty Recommendations and the CFATF Nineteen Recommendations; fulfill the obligations expressed in the Kingston Declaration as well as, where applicable, in the Plan of Action of the Summit of the Americas; and to adopt and implement any other measures for the prevention and control of the laundering of the proceeds of all serious crimes as defined by the laws of each Member.

Coordination and participation in training and technical assistance programs.

## **Summaries of the Mutual Evaluations of CFATF Members**

The CFATF mutual evaluation program is a crucial aspect of the work of the group, as it is one of the mechanisms by which the Secretariat may determine whether each member state is fulfilling its obligations as part of the group. Through this monitoring process, the wider membership is kept current of developments in the anti-money laundering programs of individual members. The individual member undergoing an evaluation benefits from an in-depth assessment by a team of objective experts of the anti-money laundering framework as it exists at the time of the visit. The CFATF program ultimately seeks to give due recognition when the standards have been met but also to detect and identify weaknesses so that remedial action may be taken.

Given the importance of the mutual evaluation process, the FATF has agreed to place the summaries of those mutual evaluations performed by the CFATF in the FATF website along with those of other FATF-style regional organizations. In October 1999, the CFATF released an amended procedure for the conduct of CFATF mutual evaluations. You may access the summaries of completed and approved mutual evaluations by selecting highlighted links to the individual CFATF members listed above. The links for Aruba and the Netherlands Antilles are to the mutual evaluations performed by the FATF. Although these two states are full members of the CFATF, as part of the Kingdom of the

Netherlands, they have traditionally undergone their evaluations through the FATF.

### **Contacts**

You may contact the CFATF by mail at the following address:

CFATF Secretariat  
35-37 Sackville Street  
Port of Spain  
TRINIDAD, WI

or through e-mail at: CFATF Secretariat

The CFATF also maintains a website at: <http://www.cfatf.org/>

## **IV. Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering**

The following list shows the countries, territories, and organizations that make up the membership of the FATF.

- |     |                           |     |                            |
|-----|---------------------------|-----|----------------------------|
| 1.  | Argentina                 | 19. | Luxembourg                 |
| 2.  | Australia                 | 20. | Mexico                     |
| 3.  | Austria                   | 21. | Kingdom of the Netherlands |
| 4.  | Belgium                   | 22. | New Zealand                |
| 5.  | Brazil                    | 23. | Norway                     |
| 6.  | Canada                    | 24. | Portugal                   |
| 7.  | Denmark                   | 25. | Russian Federation         |
| 8.  | European Commission       | 26. | Singapore                  |
| 9.  | Finland                   | 27. | South Africa               |
| 10. | France                    | 28. | Spain                      |
| 11. | Germany                   | 29. | Sweden                     |
| 12. | Greece                    | 30. | Switzerland                |
| 13. | Gulf Co-operation Council | 31. | Turkey                     |
| 14. | Hong Kong, China          | 32. | United Kingdom             |
| 15. | Iceland                   | 33. | United States              |
| 16. | Ireland                   |     |                            |
| 17. | Italy                     |     |                            |
| 18. | Japan                     |     |                            |

### **Background**

In response to mounting concern over money laundering, the Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering (FATF) was established by the G-7 Summit that was held in Paris in 1989. Recognizing the threat posed to the banking system and to financial institutions, the G-7 Heads of State or Government and President of the European Commission convened the Task Force from the G-7 member States, the European Commission, and eight other countries.

The Task Force was given the responsibility of examining money laundering techniques and trends, reviewing the action which had already been taken at a national or international level, and setting out the measures that still needed to be taken to combat money laundering. In April 1990, less than one year after its creation, the FATF issued a report containing a set of Forty Recommendations, which provide a comprehensive plan of action needed to fight against money laundering.

During 1991 and 1992, the FATF expanded its membership from the original 16 to 28 members. Since then FATF has continued to examine the methods used to launder criminal proceeds and has completed two rounds of mutual evaluations of its member countries and jurisdictions. It has also updated the Forty Recommendations to reflect the changes which have occurred in money laundering and has sought to encourage other countries around the world to adopt anti-money laundering measures.

In 2001, the development of standards in the fight against terrorist financing was added to the mission of the FATF. For more information on the FATF's role in this area, please see "The Eight Special Recommendations" below.

## V. **Financial Action Task Force of South America against Money Laundering (GAFISUD)**

### MEMBERS:

- |              |             |             |
|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1. Argentina | 4. Chile    | 7. Paraguay |
| 2. Bolivia   | 5. Colombia | 8. Peru     |
| 3. Brazil    | 6. Ecuador  | 9. Uruguay  |

### **Background**

The purpose of the Financial Action Task Force of South America (GAFISUD) is to work toward developing and implementing a comprehensive global strategy to combat money laundering and terrorist financing as set out in the FATF Forty Recommendations and FATF Eight Special Recommendations. The effort includes encouraging the creation of the offence of money laundering in relation to serious crimes, the development of legal systems to effectively investigate and prosecute these offences, the establishment of systems for reporting suspicious transactions, the promotion of mutual legal assistance. GAFISUD also fosters the training of persons involved in anti-money laundering efforts. GAFISUD enables regional factors to be taken into account in the implementation of anti-money laundering measures.

The origin of GAFISUD goes back to ongoing efforts to integrate anti-money laundering efforts in South America and was encouraged by the creation of other anti money-laundering regional groups that were established following the FATF model. GAFISUD was created on 8 December 2000 in Cartagena, Colombia by means of a memorandum of understanding by representatives of the governments of nine South American countries. The Organization of American States (OAS) is also a member in an advisory capacity through the Inter-American Commission against Drug Abuse (CICAD). Following the events of 11 September 2001, GAFISUD expanded its scope to include the countering of terrorist financing.

GAFISUD is committed to carrying out mutual evaluations and co-ordinating anti-money laundering training and educational efforts in the region. Its work mandate is set out in a memorandum of understanding containing specific terms of reference for the group. GAFISUD is supported by a Secretariat, which serves as the focal point for its activities.

## **Summaries of the Mutual Evaluations of GAFISUD Members**

GAFISUD held an expert training seminar for its Mutual Evaluations Program on 16-19 September 2001 in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia and began conducting mutual evaluations of its members in 2002. The nature, objective and structure of GAFISUD's Mutual Evaluation Program is discussed in its 2001 Annual Report.

Given the importance of the mutual evaluation process, the FATF has agreed to place the summaries of the mutual evaluations performed by GAFISUD in the FATF website along with those of other FATF-style regional organizations. You may access the summaries of completed mutual evaluations by selecting highlighted links to the individual GAFISUD members listed above.

### **Contacts**

You may contact GAFISUD by mail at the following address:

Grupo de Acción Financiera de Sudamérica contra el lavado de activos  
(GAFISUD) Ap. Interno No. 21. Sucursal 1485 (Cordoba y Florida)  
BuenosAires Argentina

GAFISUD also maintains a web site at: <http://www.gafisud.org>

## **VI. Council of Europe**

### **MEMBERS:**

- |                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| 1. Albania                | 15. Lithuania                                    |
| 2. Andorra                | 16. Malta  |
| 3. Armenia                | 17. Moldova                                      |
| 4. Azerbaijan             | 18. Poland                                       |
| 5. Bosnia and Herzegovina | 19. Romania                                      |
| 6. Bulgaria               | 20. Russian Federation                           |
| 7. Croatia                | 21. San Marino                                   |
| 8. Cyprus                 | 22. Serbia and Montenegro                        |
| 9. Czech Republic         | 23. Slovakia                                     |
| 10. Estonia               | 24. Slovenia                                     |
| 11. Georgia               | 25. The former Yugoslav Republic<br>of Macedonia |
| 12. Hungary               | 26. Ukraine                                      |
| 13. Latvia                |  |
| 14. Liechtenstein         |  |

### **Background**

In 2002, the PC-R-EV formally changed its name to MONEYVAL. MONEYVAL was established in September 1997 by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe to conduct self and mutual assessment exercises of the anti-money laundering measures in place in 21(\*) Council of Europe countries, which are not members of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF). The effort includes encouraging jurisdictions to improve their anti-money laundering measures in keeping with the FATF Forty Recommendations and to enhance international co-operation. MONEYVAL also engages in a regular typologies exercise focused on the methods and trends of money laundering activity.

MONEYVAL takes into account the practices and procedures of the FATF in its work. MONEYVAL is a sub-committee of the European Committee on Crime

Problems of the Council of Europe (CDPC). Each of the 25 member countries is entitled to appoint three experts to MONEYVAL. These individuals are selected based on their expertise in legal issues related to national and international anti-money laundering instruments, supervision of financial institutions, and law enforcement matters. There are twice-yearly plenary meetings of the Select Committee at which the national experts consider and adopt draft mutual evaluation reports of member states. Additionally, the MONEYVAL membership also includes experts from the past and current Presidency of the FATF and scientific experts appointed by the MONEYVAL Secretariat.

When MONEYVAL (then called PC-R-EV) was formed in 1997, a document containing the terms of reference for the Select Committee was agreed at the same time. The Terms of Reference have since been amended to extend the mandate of the Select Committee until 31 December 2003, thus allowing a second round of mutual evaluations to take place. The amended Terms of Reference also permit FATF member countries to participate as observers in the work of the Committee and allow for the providing — where necessary and upon request — of technical assistance to MONEYVAL countries to enable them to comply with the recommendations made in mutual evaluation reports.

Following the events of 11 September 2001, MONEYVAL expanded its mandate to include countering terrorist financing.

NOTE:

(\*) There are now 25 members of the committee. Since 1997, Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan and Bosnia and Herzegovina have acceded to the Council of Europe and appointed experts to MONEYVAL.

### **Summaries of the Mutual Evaluations of MONEYVAL Committee Members**

The MONEYVAL mutual evaluation program is the key function of the work of the Select Committee and is the primary mechanism by which Committee experts determine whether individual members are meeting the agreed standards for money laundering counter-measures. In December 1997, MONEYVAL (then called the PC-R-EV) adopted Specific terms of reference of the Select Committee of Experts on the evaluation of anti-money laundering measures (PC-R-EV). In June 1998, MONEYVAL developed a standard procedure for the conduct of mutual evaluations, which was followed in December 1998 with measures to deal with committee members not in compliance with anti-money laundering standards (Steps of the Council of Europe Mutual Evaluation Process). This procedure was supplemented in 1999 with additional guidelines for amendments to reports during plenary discussions.

Given the importance of the mutual evaluation process, the FATF has agreed to place the summaries of the mutual evaluations performed by MONEYVAL in the FATF website along with those of other FATF-style regional organizations. You may access the summaries of completed and approved mutual evaluations by selecting highlighted links to the individual MONEYVAL members listed above. The results of MONEYVAL summaries are first round of mutual evaluations in a Review of the Anti-Money Laundering Systems in 22 Council of Europe Member States 1998-2001.



## Contacts

You may contact Council of Europe MONEYVAL Committee by mail at the following

address:

Secretariat to the MONEYVAL Committee  
Directorate General I (Legal Affairs)  
Department of Crime Problems  
Council of Europe  
67075 Strasbourg Cedex  
FRANCE

The MONEYVAL Committee also maintains a website at:  
<http://www.legal.coe.int/economiccrime/>

## VII. Egmont Group

MEMBERS:

|                        |                    |                                 |
|------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| Albania                | El Salvador        | Monaco                          |
| Andorra                | Estonia            | Netherlands                     |
| Anguilla               | Finland            | Netherlands Antilles            |
| Antigua and Barbuda    | France             | New Zealand                     |
| Argentina              | Germany            | Norway                          |
| Aruba                  | Greece             | Panama                          |
| Australia              | Guatemala          | Paraguay                        |
| Austria                | Guernsey           | Poland                          |
| Bahamas                | Hong Kong, China   | Portugal                        |
| Bahrain                | Hungary            | Romania                         |
| Barbados               | Iceland            | Russia                          |
| Belgium                | Ireland            | Serbia                          |
| Bermuda                | Isle of Man        | Singapore                       |
| Bolivia                | Israel             | Slovakia                        |
| Brazil                 | Italy              | Slovenia                        |
| British Virgin Islands | Japan              | South Africa                    |
| Bulgaria               | Jersey             | Spain                           |
| Canada                 | Korea, Republic of | St. Vincent & the<br>Grenadines |
| Cayman Islands         | Latvia             | Sweden                          |
| Chile                  | Lebanon            | Switzerland                     |
| Colombia               | Liechtenstein      | Taiwan                          |
| Costa Rica             | Lithuania          | Thailand                        |
| Croatia                | Luxembourg         | Turkey                          |
| Cyprus                 | Malaysia           | United Arab Emirates            |
| Czech Republic         | Malta              | United Kingdom                  |
| Denmark                | Marshall Islands   | United States                   |
| Dominica               | Mauritius          | Vanuatu                         |
| Dominican Republic     | Mexico             | Venezuela                       |

## **Background**

During the past decade, a number of countries have created specialized government agencies as part of their systems for dealing with the problem of money laundering. These entities are commonly referred to as "financial intelligence units" or "FIUs". These units increasingly serve as the focal point for national anti-money laundering programmes because they provide the possibility of rapidly exchanging information (between financial institutions and law enforcement / prosecutorial authorities, as well as between jurisdictions), while protecting the interests of the innocent individuals contained in their data.

The establishment of the first FIUs in the early 1990s was seen as a series of isolated events related to the specific needs of those jurisdictions which created them. Since 1995, however, a number of the FIUs began working together in an informal organization known as the Egmont Group (named for the location of the first meeting in the Egmont-Arenberg Palace in Brussels). The goal of the group is to provide a forum for FIUs to improve support to their respective national anti-money laundering programmes. This support includes expanding and systematizing the exchange of financial intelligence, improving expertise and capabilities of the personnel of such organizations, and fostering better communication among FIUs through the application of new technologies. An Information Paper prepared by the Egmont Group provides additional details on its work and the function of FIUs.

## **Contacts**

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## **VIII. IMF/ World Bank AML**

In recent years, worldwide efforts to combat money laundering and the financing of terrorism have assumed heightened importance. Money laundering and the financing of terrorism are global problems that not only threaten security, but also compromise the stability, transparency, and efficiency of financial systems, thus undermining economic prosperity.

James D. Wolfensohn, president of the World Bank Group, has declared that the global community should act "where it really matters"—and, economically, money laundering and financing of terrorism really matter. At least US\$1 trillion is laundered annually using increasingly sophisticated methods of moving funds across borders. Financing of terrorism is a significant global threat that has a detrimental impact on economic and social development.

## **Strategy**

The global agenda to curb money laundering and the financing of terrorism calls for a cooperative approach among many different international bodies. Efforts to establish an international standard response against money laundering and the financing of terrorism have been led by the Financial Action Task Force on Money

Laundering (FATF) and through the development of the FATF 40 Recommendations which serve as the international framework for AML efforts. In October, 2001, FATF expanded its mission to include combating the financing of terrorism, and adopted Eight Special Recommendations on Terrorist Financing. The Boards of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) have recognized these recommendations as the appropriate international standard for combating money laundering and the financing of terrorism and intensified their work in this area.

The World Bank and the IMF have also established a collaborative framework with the FATF for conducting comprehensive AML/CFT assessments of countries' compliance with the FATF 40+8 Recommendations, using a single global methodology. This global methodology was endorsed by the World Bank and the IMF Boards adopted by the FATF Plenary on October 11, 2002. A 12-month pilot program is currently underway and continues until October 2003, using the new global methodology to assess the AML/CFT infrastructures in 16 – 20 developing countries under the Financial Sector Assessment Program (FSAP). These assessments will lead to a Report on Observance of Standard and Codes (ROSCs).

## **IX. Interpol**

The international police community is aware that there is a need to achieve major results in the struggle against the financial criminal activities related to organized criminal groups. During recent years there have been a number of resolutions passed by the Interpol General Assembly, which have called on member countries to concentrate their investigative resources in identifying, tracing and seizing the assets of criminal enterprises.

These resolutions have also called on member countries to increase the exchange of information in this field and encourage governments to adopt laws and regulations that would allow access, by police, to financial records of criminal organizations and the confiscation of proceeds gained by criminal activity. (Resolutions [AGN/55/RES/18](#), 1986 - [AGN/56/RES/11](#), 1987 - [AGN/60/RES/4](#), 1991 -[AGN/66/RES/15,17](#) and [18](#), 1997)

Acknowledging the value of the 1988 United Nations Convention against illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and the 1992 OAS Model Regulation concerning laundering offenses connected to illicit drug trafficking and related offenses, the Forty Recommendations of the Financial Action Task Force, the Convention on laundering, search, seizure and confiscation of the proceeds from crime (Council of Europe, 1990), and the European Council Directive on prevention of the use of the financial system for the purpose of money laundering (Council of European Communities, 1991), the Interpol General Assembly meeting in New Delhi in 1997, called upon member countries which have not yet done so to ratify the 1988 United Nations Convention against illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, and to urge their governments to implement the Convention in order to give their law enforcement institutions the powers it provides for. (Resolution [AGN/66/RES/15](#), 1997)

### **Reference**

With the restructuring of the Interpol General Secretariat, a Financial and High Tech Crime (FHT) Sub-Directorate has been functional within the Specialised

Crimes Directorate of Interpol since 17 September 2001. Police officers in the FHT also deal with offenses relating to money laundering, counterfeit currency, [payment cards](#) and [intellectual property rights](#).

### **FHT objectives**

The Financial and High Tech Crime (FHT) Sub-Directorate works towards the following goals/objectives:

- To make expertise available in specialised criminal areas that are global in their nature;
- To develop and enhance partnerships with organizations which deal with global crime issues;
- To develop and co-ordinate best practices in specific crime areas;
- To increase the flow and exchange of information related to the specialised crime

### **FHT participation**

FHT participates in the activities of:

- [Financial Action Task Force](#) (FATF);
- [Egmont Group](#);
- [Asia Pacific Group on Money Laundering](#) (APG);
- [Caribbean Financial Action Task Force](#) (CFATF);
- Select Committee of Experts on the Evaluation of Anti-Money Laundering Measures (PC-R-EV Committee - [Council of Europe](#));
- [European Banking Federation](#) Fraud Working Group.
- International Banking Security Association (IBSA)

Recognizing that Interpol has assumed a leading role among international organizations in combating the laundering of funds from criminal activities and acknowledging the value of the existing international mechanisms such as the United Nations Convention against illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, the 1992 OAS Model regulations concerning laundering offenses, the forty recommendation of the FATF, the Convention on laundering, search, seizure and confiscation of the proceeds from crime (Council of Europe, 1990) and the European Council Directive on prevention of the use of the financial system for the purpose of money laundering (Council of European Communities, 1991), the Interpol General Assembly at its 66th session (New Delhi, 1997) adopted two comprehensive resolutions [AGN/66/RES/15](#), [AGN/66/RES/17](#) and [AGN/66/RES/18](#). These resolutions called on the member countries to adopt national laws that specifically make the laundering of illegal proceeds a criminal act and to develop effective enforcement strategies at national as well as international levels.

### **International meetings and co-operation**

The General Secretariat works closely with other international organizations with the purpose of fostering international awareness of the importance of utilizing financial investigative techniques against organized criminal activities. Most importantly, this liaison and co-operation are aimed at supporting each international organization's efforts in these areas and avoiding duplication. The

following is a list of international organizations who have participated in mutual co-operation and assistance in the development of international programs relative to the assets of criminal organizations:

- [Financial Action Task Force](#) (FATF) and [Caribbean Financial Action Task Force](#) (CFATF);
- [Asia Pacific Group on Money Laundering](#) (APG);
- [Council of Europe](#);
- [European Bank for Reconstruction and Development](#) (EBRD);
- [International Monetary Fund](#) (IMF);
- [International Organization of Securities Commission](#) (IOSCO);
- International Banking Security Association (IBSA);
- [International Air Transport Association](#) (IATA);
- [Institut de Formation Interbancaire](#) (INSIG);
- [World Customs Organization](#) (WCO);
- [Inter-American Development Bank](#) (IADB);
- [Organization of American States/Comision Interamericana para el Control del Abuso de Drogas](#) (OAS/CICAD);
- Offshore Group of Banking Supervisors (OGBS)