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Upcoming UNAFEI International Training Programmes in FY2023

The United Nations Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFEI) will offer the four multi-lateral training courses listed below during the 2023 fiscal year. Participants from around 10 to 15 countries and Japan will attend each course. The course curricula will consist of individual presentations, lectures from esteemed international and Japanese experts, group workshops, and study visits/trips. Participants will have the opportunity to share the latest knowledge on the topic of the course and gain insight into best practices around the world. Throughout the programme, participants will stay at the UNAFEI dormitory and will build personal and professional relationships with experts and other participants. We hope you will join us in Tokyo!

Note: These programmes are organized by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). If you are interested in participating, please contact your nearest JICA office or Japanese Embassy and tell the “JICA name” (see below) of the course.

I. Spring (May to Jun 2023)—International Training Course

“Countermeasures against Transnational Organized Crime”

–The 20th Anniversary of UNTOC–

(JICA Name: “Criminal Justice (Focus on Investigation, Prosecution, Adjudication, and International Cooperation)”)

Duration and venue: Five-weeks in Tokyo, Japan

Target: Criminal justice officials and practitioners (police officers, prosecutors, judges and officials from other relevant agencies) who deal with criminal cases

Objective: Marking the 20th anniversary since coming into effect, UNTOC has been indispensable for effective investigation, adjudication and implementation of mutual legal assistance. Moreover, with the recent implementation of the UNTOC Review Mechanism, the need for technical assistance in relation to UNTOC is increasing. This course aims to share best practices in each jurisdiction and to promote closer cooperation, supporting the achievement of the SDGs, specifically Goal 16.4.

Possible Topics:

1. Current situation of organized crime and challenges in investigations and trials
2. Use of special investigation techniques
3. Measures to protect witnesses and whistle-blowers and ensure cooperation
4. Measures for confiscation and recovery of criminal proceeds (including money-laundering)
5. International cooperation in countering organized crime

II. Autumn-1 (Aug to Sep 2023)—International Training Course

“Effective Support for Reintegration of Released Inmates

– Toward Seamless Support for Employment, Housing and Medical Care”

(JICA Name: “Management of Correctional Facilities and Rehabilitation of Offenders”)

Duration and venue: Five-weeks in Tokyo, Japan

Target: Criminal justice officials and practitioners (police, prosecution, judiciary, corrections, probation, parole, and other relevant agencies) who are involved in the treatment of juvenile and young-adult offenders

Objective: Because reintegration of released inmates into society entails various difficulties, providing appropriate support is indispensable in preventing reoffending. Many offenders who are reintegrating into society require support for basic needs (employment, housing and medical care). This course aims to share knowledge and efforts in implementing seamless and effective support throughout the period of and after incarceration. This course supports the achievement of the SDGs, specifically Goals 4 and 16.

Possible Topics:

1. Current situation and challenges of support for released inmates
2. Effective assessment to understand individual needs for rehabilitation
3. Partnership with government agencies and the private sector in employment, housing and medical care
4. Examination of measures to introduce, promote and improve support for rehabilitation

III. Autumn-2 (Oct to Nov 2023)—UNAFEI-UNCAC Training Programme

(JICA Name: "Criminal Justice Response to Corruption")

Duration and venue: Six-weeks in Tokyo, Japan

Target: Criminal justice officials and practitioners (investigators, prosecutors, judges and officials from other relevant agencies) who deal with corruption cases

Objective: To effectively implement the provisions of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) by sharing good practices and exploring effective measures to investigate, prosecute and adjudicate corruption offences with transnational aspects. This programme supports the achievement of the SDGs, specifically Goal 16.5.

IV. Winter -1 (Jan to Feb 2024)—International Senior Seminar

"Management of Correctional Facilities in the 21st Century –Focusing on the Nelson Mandela Rules"

(JICA Name: "Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (Senior Seminar)")

Duration and venue: Five-weeks in Tokyo, Japan

Target: Senior officers involved in policymaking in the field of criminal justice, and high-ranking criminal justice practitioners (police, prosecution, judiciary, corrections, probation, parole and other relevant agencies)

Objective: Correctional officers are responsible for protecting human rights of inmates and keeping the facility environment safe and comfortable for both inmates and staff. The course will review how the international standards and norms are respected and advanced in each jurisdiction, especially focusing on the Nelson Mandela Rules, which were significantly updated in 2015. This seminar supports the achievement of the SDGs, specifically Goals 16.3 and 16.6.

Possible Topics:

1. Effective measures to ensure appropriate and transparent procedures and practices in facility management
2. Measures to protect human rights of inmates (complaints and internal and external inspection)
3. Inmates' access to medical care
4. Issues that should be addressed by criminal justice agencies other than correctional facilities

V. Winter-2 Two-week International Training Course

"Effective Measures for Preventing and Responding to Domestic Violence"

(JICA Name: "Criminal Justice Response to Vulnerable Groups Towards Inclusive Society")

Duration and venue: Two-weeks in Tokyo, Japan

Target: Criminal justice officials and practitioners (mainly police, prosecution, judiciary and other relevant agencies)

Objective: Considering situations related to the Covid-19 pandemic, to share good practices and explore effective measures for preventing and responding to domestic violence (DV), particularly for female and child victims. This programme supports the achievement of the SDGs, specifically Goals 16.1 and 16.2.

Possible Topics:

1. Current trends and issues of DV (including the impact of the pandemic)
2. Best practices in detecting and prosecuting DV cases
3. Effective protection measures at trial and other stages taken for DV victims