

PREFACE

It is our great pleasure to publish this comprehensive report of the Workshop on Measures to Combat Economic Crime, including Money-Laundering held at the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, Bangkok, Thailand, 18-25 April 2005.

The Workshop, held from 20 to 21 April 2005 as an official component of the Congress, followed the mandates given by the United Nations General Assembly, most specifically by its resolution 56/119 of 23 January 2002, which stated that the panels of experts "shall hold workshops dealing with the topics of the congress", and resolution 58/138 of 4 February 2004 which decided that one of the issues to be considered by workshops within the framework of the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice shall be "Measures to combat economic crime, including money-laundering".

The Workshop was organized by the United Nations Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFEI), which was invited to assist in the preparation and organization of the Congress Workshop as one of the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme Network by the General Assembly resolution 56/119, and the Swedish National Economic Crimes Bureau.

The organizers invited eighteen prominent experts from all over the world which comprised a moderator, two sub-moderators, a scientific rapporteur and fourteen panellists. In addition, the Workshop had two keynote speakers to whom we express our sincere gratitude for their contribution. The names and titles of these experts can be found in Annex A.

The Workshop consisted of two keynote speeches and four panel discussions: two panels (Panels 1 and 2) focusing on economic crime and the other two (Panels 3 and 4) on money-laundering. In Panels 2 and 4, discussion was based on the practical issues appearing in the hypothetical case elaborated beforehand and included in the annex of the background document of the Workshop (A/CONF.203/13), which should be read making reference to the PowerPoint presentation contained in Part I, C of the present report.

This publication is a compilation of the transcripts of all the presentations and discussions of the Workshop, and all the papers and PowerPoint presentations made available to the Workshop.

The organizers of the Workshop hosted four preparatory meetings to identify the issues to be covered by the Workshop, as well as how to organize its work. The first meeting was held 13-14 October 2003 in Tokyo, the second in Stockholm 24-25 May 2004, the third again in Tokyo 16-18 September 2004, and finally the Swedish National Economic Crimes Bureau hosted the last meeting on 16 April 2005 in Bangkok, just prior to the Congress. In addition to the moderator, sub-moderator, scientific rapporteur, keynote speakers and panellists of the Workshop, there were many other experts who contributed to the success of the Workshop to whom we would like to express our sincere gratitude. The names of these experts can be found in Annex B. We would especially like to thank Mr. Dimitri Vlassis of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, who provided us with valuable advice both on organizational and substantive matters and Ms. Bronwyn Somerville, of the Secretariat of the Asia/Pacific Group on Money Laundering, who made an essential contribution in preparing the chapter on technical cooperation for the background paper of the Workshop.

We would also like to thank the staff members of UNAFEI and the Swedish National Economic Crimes Bureau for their work in assisting in the preparation of the Workshop, and the present report.

Our special thanks go to Mr. Kunihiko Sakai, the Director of UNAFEI from April 2002 until 1 July 2005, who played an essential role in the organization of this Workshop.

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