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## INTRODUCTORY NOTE

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It is with pride that the United Nations Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFEI) offers to the international community the Resource Material Series No. 107.

Part One of this volume contains the work product of the 170th International Training Course, conducted from 22 August to 20 September 2018. The main theme of the 170th Course was *Treatment of Illicit Drug Users*. Part Two contains the work product of the 21st UNAFEI UNCAC Training Programme, conducted from 10 October to 15 November 2018. The main theme of the 21st UNCAC Programme was *Combating Corruption through Effective Criminal Justice Practices, International Cooperation and Engagement of Civil Society*.

The 170th Course offered participants an opportunity to deepen their understanding of relevant theories and practices to facilitate the treatment of illicit drug users and breaking the cycle of drug dependence. Dependence on drugs entails a complex multifactorial health disorder characterized by a chronic and relapsing disease with social causes and consequences. It is a result of a long series of biological and environmental factors that can be prevented and treated in a health-oriented framework. Therefore, it is necessary not only to instruct users to desist from using drugs but also to have awareness that it is a disease that can be recovered from by continuous treatment and support. With the aim of promoting desistance from drug use, this training programme offered participants an opportunity to deepen their knowledge and understanding of effective systems and practices for withdrawal from drug use.

The 21st UNCAC Programme took a comprehensive look at measures to combat corruption. Specifically, this programme focused on: (1) effective anti-corruption investigation, prosecution and adjudication in cooperation with relevant agencies (including special investigative techniques, whistle-blower and witness protection, utilization of financial intelligence units, etc.); (2) international cooperation (mutual legal assistance, extradition, joint investigations, and asset recovery); and (3) preventive measures against corruption in cooperation with civil society and the private sector.

UNAFEI, as one of the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme Network, held these training programmes to offer participants opportunities to share experiences, gain knowledge, and examine crime prevention measures in their related fields, as well as to build a human network of counterparts to further international cooperation, which is vital to addressing these issues.

In this issue, in regard to both the 170th International Training Course and the 21st UNAFEI UNCAC Training Programme, papers contributed by visiting experts, selected individual presentation papers from among the participants, and the reports of each programme are published. I regret that not all the papers submitted by the participants of each programme could be published.

I would like to pay tribute to the contributions of the Government of Japan, particularly the Ministry of Justice, the Japan International Cooperation Agency, and the Asia Crime Prevention Foundation for providing indispensable and unwavering support to UNAFEI's international training programmes. Finally, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to all who so unselfishly assisted in the publication of this series.

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