

INTRODUCTORY NOTE

It is with pride that the 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. 58.

This contains the work produced in two UNAFEI international training programmes: the 116th International Training Course (conducted from 28 August to 15 November 2000) and the 117th International Seminar (conducted from 15 January to 16 February 2001). The main themes of these training programmes were “Effective Methods to Combat Transnational Organized Crime in Criminal Justice Processes”, and “Current Situation and Countermeasures against Money Laundering”, respectively.

Bearing in mind that transnational organized crime is a serious problem in various countries of the world, and that the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime was adopted by the UN General Assembly in November 2000, UNAFEI has decided to undertake a series of training programmes in the coming years under the general subject of “transnational organized crime”. The above-mentioned training programmes were part of UNAFEI’s continuing commitment to this internationally important theme. The 116th International Training Course explored the ways and means of strengthening and improving investigative methods in the fight against transnational organized crime. The 117th International Seminar tried to develop more effective countermeasures against money laundering, an activity which is perpetrated under the influence of transnational organized crime.

In this issue, papers contributed by visiting experts selected individual presentation papers from among the Course and Seminar participants, and the reports of the Course and Seminar are published. I regret that not all the papers submitted by the Course and Seminar participants could be published. Also, I must request the understanding of the selected authors for not having sufficient time to refer the manuscripts back to them before publication.

I would like to pay tribute to the contributions of the Government of Japan, particularly the Ministry of Justice and the Japan International Cooperation Agency, and the Asia Crime Prevention Foundation for providing indispensable and unwavering support to UNAFEI international training programmes.

Finally, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to all who so unselfishly assisted in the publication of this series; in particular, the editors of Resource Material Series No. 58, Mr. Hiroshi Iitsuka (Chief of Training Division) and Ms. Rebecca Findlay-Debeck (Linguistic Adviser), who so tirelessly dedicated themselves to this series.

December 2001

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Mikinao Kitada". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'M'.

Mikinao Kitada
Director of UNAFEI