
INTRODUCTORY NOTE

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 Resource Material Series No. 69.

This volume contains the Annual Report for 2005, the work produced in the 130th International Training Course that was conducted from 16 May to 23 June 2005 and the Seventh Course on Corruption Control in Criminal Justice that was conducted from 18 October to 12 November 2004. The main theme of the 130th Course was “Integrated Strategies to Confront Domestic Violence and Child Abuse”.

Domestic violence and child abuse are problems that plague every nation. They are particularly harmful because they often affect the most vulnerable members of society, i.e. women and children, and most often occur in the home – the place where we are supposed to feel most safe. Up until quite recently such violence and abuse was considered a family matter in all but the most extreme cases. Coupled with the fact that these crimes occur invariably in the home, and thus are rarely witnessed by others, law enforcement agencies rarely intervened and the victims were thus left to suffer in silence.

However, there is a growing realization in most societies that domestic violence and child abuse need to be taken more seriously and treated as the crimes they are. Many countries have now established specific laws, legal procedures and agencies to deal appropriately with the problem. The United Nations has taken the lead in this matter in order to make the international community aware of its responsibilities with the 1978 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), the 1989 Convention on the Rights of the Child, the CEDAW General Recommendations and many General Assembly resolutions calling for action against domestic violence and child abuse.

Nevertheless, there are still many countries that are behind in taking the necessary measures to protect their most vulnerable citizens. This topic was chosen for this Course in order to highlight the need for governments to take the necessary measures to combat domestic violence and child abuse.

Corruption undermines democratic institutions, retards economic development and contributes to government instability. It is a problem for both rich and poor nations in both the public and private sector. It is a perennial evil that constantly needs to be challenged. For these reasons UNAFEI holds a multiple country course specifically on Corruption Control every year.

The adoption in 2003 by the United Nations General Assembly of the Convention against Corruption was a milestone, creating for the first time a treaty specifically intended to address corruption across the whole of the globe. Its entry into force in December of 2005 will require States Parties to implement a number of measures to tackle corruption in a comprehensive way, including measures directed at prevention, criminalization, international cooperation, and asset recovery. It is hoped that all countries, including our participants’ countries, will promptly ratify this Convention and in so doing take a step closer to a world free of corruption.

In this issue, in regard to the 130th Course, papers contributed by visiting experts, selected individual presentation papers from among the participants, and the Reports of the Course are published. I regret that not all the papers submitted by the Course participants could be

published. In regard to the Seventh Corruption Course the papers contributed by the visiting experts and the Report of the General Discussion are 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; in particular, the editor of Resource Material Series No. 69, Mr. Simon Cornell, who so tirelessly dedicated himself to this Series.

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