
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 the Resource Material Series No. 99. This volume contains the Annual Report for 2015 and the work produced in the 162nd International Senior Seminar, conducted from 13 January to 12 February 2016. The main theme of the 162nd Seminar was *Multi-Agency Cooperation in Community-Based Treatment of Offenders*.

As the challenges facing prison systems around the world have increased, community-based treatment of offenders has become a global trend. After release, prisoners require not only supervision by probation officers but also support for their rehabilitation, particularly in terms of employment and housing assistance. Thus, to prevent recidivism effectively, offender rehabilitation agencies and organizations should supervise and support offenders seamlessly and collaboratively to facilitate the reintegration of offenders into the community.

UNAFEI, as one of the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme Network, held this Seminar to explore various issues that relate to multi-agency cooperation in community-based treatment of offenders. This issue of the *Resource Material Series*, in regard to the 162nd International Senior Seminar, contains papers contributed by visiting experts, selected individual-presentation papers from among the participants, and the Reports of the Seminar. I regret that not all the papers submitted by the participants of the Seminar 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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