UNITED NATIONS OFFICE FOR DRUG CONTROL AND CRIME PREVENTION GLOBAL PROGRAMME AGAINST MONEY LAUNDERING

The Global Programme against Money Laundering (GPML) is a research and technical assistance three-year programme (1997-99) implemented by the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention (ODCCP).

Its aim is to increase the effectiveness of international action against money laundering through comprehensive technical cooperation services offered to Governments.

The Programme encompasses three main areas of activity, each of which provides various means for States and institutions in their efforts to effectively combat the money laundering phenomenon.

I. Technical cooperation is the main pillar of the Programme, encompassing activities of awareness-raising, institution building and training:

- Organization of national and regional awareness-raising seminars at technical level for public officials, judicial officers, and financial sector representatives, including elaboration of awareness-raising methods and materials. The purpose of awareness-raising is to achieve proper recognition of the threat that money laundering represents to national economies and to eliminate the misperception that anti-money laundering measures could negatively impact foreign investment and trade liberalization.
- Assistance in building legal and institutional frameworks through legal and drafting assistance; development of model instruments to establish appropriate countermeasures in the law and financial sectors; delivery of country-tailored recommendations for policy making and action; and transfer of know-how for the establishment of Financial Intelligence Units (FIUs).
- Provision of training to government agencies and financial institutions in the form of workshops for finance, law enforcement and judicial professionals; training tools tailored to the needs of specific professionals; and highly specialized courses in financial investigations for judges, prosecutors and investigators.

II. The research and analysis pillar aims at offering States key information to better understand the phenomenon of money laundering and to enable the international community to elaborate more efficient countermeasure strategies.

The research/analysis pillar provides States with access to documented and reliable information on the money laundering problem.

- Research is being conducted on key issues such as: bank secrecy, offshore centers and money laundering, the impact of public policies on money laundering strategies of criminal organizations, reversed onus of proof in confiscation matters, etc.
- Results of conducted research on money laundering and related issues will be published, as well as periodic series of thematic and geopolitical working papers, which will be made available for public information and governmental bodies.
- A newly created International Money Laundering Information Network (IMoLIN), an Internet-based information network, offers to States and institutions a secure News Forum, an electronic library, a database on laws and regulations (AMLID), and a calendar of events in the anti-money laundering field. It can be accessed at https://www.imolin.org (access to some services is restricted).

III. The recent commitment to support the establishment of financial investigation services (FIS) will contribute to raising the overall effectiveness of law enforcement measures.

Support to financial investigation services is the most recent dimension of the Programme. This newly established service will open the following possibilities of assistance to interested States:

- Advisory services in the conception and establishment of Financial Investigation Services, study tours for newly established FIS managers, training of FIS staff on money laundering investigations.
- Assistance in the management of the international aspect of investigations and facilitation in establishing contacts with foreign services, as well as technical advice with respect to the conduct of financial investigations.

The implementation of the Global Programme against Money Laundering is carried out in the spirit of cooperation with other international, regional and national organizations and institutions.

A number of activities are conducted in concert with other organizations and initiatives, including banking associations, existing Financial Intelligence Units, the Financial Action Task Force and its counterparts in Asia and the Caribbean, the Commonwealth Secretariat, the Organization of American States /CICAD, Interpol, the World Customs Organisation, the Council of Europe, EC Phare Programme, the IMF, the World Bank, the Egmont Group and other institutions associated with the UN such as UNDP, ISPAC, ISISC.

To request assistance from the United Nations Global Programme against Money Laundering, please contact the United Nations at the following address:
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