



Laundrying News

A quarterly publication from the Secretariat of the Asia/Pacific Group on Money Laundering

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FRAUD WARNING:
 It has been brought to our attention that the name of APG is being used for fraudulent purposes: people wishing to make international transfers of funds are allegedly asked by the APG to pay fees for fictitious services relating to verification of the origin of the funds. If the customer fails to pay the fees, the funds are blocked. In fact, the APG does not provide any such services nor does it request fees or have the capacity to block any account. In addition, the APG does not maintain any regional office or employees outside its Secretariat in Sydney

Changes in APG Co-chairs

Korea's term as APG Co-chair came to an end on 30 June 2004. Korea played an active role as Co-chair right up to the end of its term, hosting the very successful APG Annual Meeting in Seoul in early June 2004 and representing the APG at the FATF Plenary in Paris in late June. Yangho Byeon, Commissioner of the Korea Financial Intelligence Unit and former APG Co-Chair, will however serve on the APG Steering Group for 12 months from July 2004 in accordance with APG policy.

On 1 July 2004, Japan commenced its term as APG Co-chair with Mr Tatsuya Kanai, Director of the Japan Financial Intelligence Office (JAFIO) serving as Co-chair. Due to a reshuffle of positions in the Japanese Civil Service, Mr Kanai moved to a position with the Cabinet Office and Mr Naotaka Kawakami became the new Director of JAFIO and Co-chair of the APG in August 2004. The APG extends its warmest welcome to Mr Kawakami. An introductory article by Mr Kawakami can be found below.

Strength in Diversity Article by Naotaka Kawakami, Co-Chair, APG



Annual Meeting

15 – 18 June 2004



Above: Participants of the 7th Annual Meeting of the APG in Seoul

The Seventh Annual Meeting of the Asia/Pacific Group on Money Laundering was held in Seoul, Korea over four days. The meeting resulted in a commitment by the APG membership to undergo compliance assessments against the recently expanded and enhanced global anti-money laundering and anti-terrorist financing standards.

These standards are set out in the 40 Recommendations & 9 Special Recommendations of the Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering (FATF).

The APG Annual Meeting in Seoul was attended by over 210 participants representing 28 member jurisdictions, nine observer jurisdictions and 13 international and regional organisations.

"With Mongolia and Cambodia joining the APG as our 27th and 28th members, we achieve even wider commitment to combating money laundering and the financing of terrorism in the region," said APG Australian Co-chair, Commissioner Mick Keelty.

"This forum brought together delegates from legal, financial and law enforcement sectors

WELCOME

Remarks by Rick McDonell, Head of APG Secretariat



Welcome to *Laundering News*, the newsletter of the Asia/Pacific Group on Money Laundering.

After a break in publication and now with increased staffing resources, the APG Secretariat will endeavour to publish *Laundering News* four times per year in order to keep members and other interested persons informed of the APG's work. This edition is in a new format allowing for easier reading on computer screens. We welcome your contributions to and feedback on the newsletter and its new format.

During 2003 and 2004, the APG has been fully engaged in delivering an ever-expanding program of events and activities. The regional demand for technical assistance and training programs continues to grow, as does the need for compliance assessments of APG members through mutual evaluations. The APG is also an important provider of advice and assistance and much of this exchange and coordination takes place through the APG's major events, the Annual Meeting, the Annual Forum on Technical Assistance and Training and the Typologies Workshop.

This year's Annual Meeting in Seoul was the APG's largest ever. The stories in this Newsletter cover both the Annual Meeting and the Forum on Technical Assistance and Training, which was held in conjunction with it.

Similarly, the just-completed 2004 APG Typologies Workshop in Brunei Darussalam was the largest ever and included a one day Implementation Workshop on Alternative Remittance Systems. A report on this event

Above: Naotaka Kawakami, Japan Co-Chair of the APG

It gives me great pleasure to be able to contribute a brief introductory article to this edition of the *Laundering News*. Communication in a body as diverse and geographically spread as the APG is paramount, and publications such as the APG Newsletter help to close the physical divide and create an important source of information and news for all APG members, observer jurisdictions and organisations as well as members of the public.

This newsletter is of course just one medium for which those involved in the fight against money laundering and combating the financing of terrorism can utilise for effective communication, but it is a vital one. I welcome the return of this publication after a short absence, and strongly encourage readers to contribute articles and feedback to future editions.

I feel honoured to hold the position of Co-Chair of the APG, an organisation which amongst its members continues to develop robust anti-money laundering mechanisms and to combat the financing of terrorism with rigour and dedication.

As I have stated before, one of the strengths of the APG is its diversity. The more differences we have, the more we can learn from each other. During my term as Co-Chair, I hope to continue the strong tradition that the APG fosters of accepting the differences of its members but building on the shared desire to maintain a region that takes its responsibilities seriously in the international fight against money laundering and terrorist financing.

The valuable contribution made by the APG and its members internationally can be clearly illustrated from the recent FATF Plenary meeting I attended in Paris, where giant steps forward were taken in regard to the delisting of a number of NCCT countries who are members of the APG. This represents a clear vindication of the cooperative work of APG members to ensure their international obligations are fulfilled. During my tenure as Co-Chair, I look forward to being able to finalise this delisting process for our member countries.

Finally, I look forward very much to being able to contribute to the proposed joint FATF/APG meetings proposed for June 2005, which again represent the strong spirit of cooperation in the international arena.

from across the Asia/Pacific region to confirm plans and resources for the continued development and implementation of anti-money laundering initiatives to combat the threat of money laundering and terrorist financing in the region," stated the APG Korean Co-chair, Commissioner Yangho.

"Money laundering and the financing of terrorism continue to be major challenges facing the jurisdictions across the region. These activities rob much needed resources from our economies, and our health and education services. The APG's mandate is far from complete and the importance of working together to defeat money launderers and terrorists must continue." stated the APG Co-chairs.

Other major outcomes of the Asia/Pacific Group meeting included:

- An expanded commitment to practical cooperation between APG members to combat money laundering and the financing of terrorism.
- Commitments by international organisations and a number of APG members to provide technical assistance and training to speed up the process of implementing the global standards for combating money laundering and the financing of terrorism.
- The production of a report on methods and trends of money laundering and terrorist financing in the Asia/Pacific region, which has been made available via the APG website www.apgml.org
- An agreement to use the new (2004) standard assessment methodology developed by the FATF (in conjunction with the IMF & World Bank) and to begin a new round of compliance assessments in the APG.

The Australian Co-chair, on behalf of all APG members, expressed sincere gratitude to the Korean Government and to the Korea Financial Intelligence Unit for hosting this very successful meeting of the APG.

Key issues considered and agreed by members at the Annual Meeting were:

The duration and mandate of the APG

Members endorsed the Steering Group recommendation that the APG Co-Chairs write a letter to the relevant Minister/Central Bank Governor (as nominated by the APG Primary Contact point) seeking their agreement that the APG continue in existence until December 2012, in order to:

can also be found in this Newsletter.

Globally, the scope and depth of anti-money laundering and combating the financing of terrorism (AML/CFT) standards has been a significant implementation challenge for APG members and the APG Secretariat. A few of the more important issues exercising the minds of APG members and experts both regionally and globally include:

- the implementation of the FATF revised 40 Recommendations and Nine Special Recommendations;
- expanding assessment work through the development of a comprehensive assessment methodology for AML/CFT compliance; and
- regional and global initiatives to better coordinate the provision of technical assistance and training.



FCO & Commonwealth Secretariat funding



Above: Bronwyn Somerville

The APG has recently received very generous financial support from both the Commonwealth Secretariat, via the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Assistance and from the United Kingdom Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) to extend the APG Secretariat's capacity in technical assistance and training. This support will enable continuation of the placement of the TA&T consultant to the APG Secretariat, Ms Bronwyn Somerville.

Bronwyn has been with the Sydney-based Secretariat since July 2002. The initial

These continue to be challenging times both in our region and globally. I look forward to meeting these challenges head on in my position of Co-Chair of the APG.

Spotlight on New Members – Cambodia, Mongolia



Cambodia and Mongolia Missions

In May and July 2004, the IMF, in conjunction with the APG, organised very successful technical assistance missions to Mongolia and Cambodia respectively to raise awareness of money laundering and terrorist financing issues and to support the formulation and adoption of both countries' AML/CFT legislation. The APG was represented on the missions by Bronwyn Somerville and David Shannon of the APG Secretariat, and in addition Malaysia and Korea attended as APG members. The seminars provided an opportunity for the APG and other experts to meet with government officials and parliamentarians for a frank and wide ranging exchange of information on AML/CFT. The seminars also provided an opportunity to meet with private sector representatives to raise awareness of their role in combating money laundering and the financing of terrorism. Cambodia and Mongolia having been APG observers for a number of years, both joined the APG as full members in June 2004.



- allow greater certainty and stability;
- allow for the reality that the work of the APG is likely to last for that period; and
- mirror the FATF, whose mandate was recently extended until December 2012

Identifying and supporting new members

APG members endorsed a process for assisting APG observer jurisdictions identified as priorities for potential membership, to become full and active APG members. This will involve:

- Engaging identified jurisdictions to build commitment to AML/CFT implementation;
- Pre-membership awareness raising, including exposure to APG activities and guidance and support from members and supporting observers;
- Pre-membership AML/CFT needs assessments (identified by the DAP Group as a significant gap and essential for TA&T coordination);
- Implementation planning in response to the needs assessment (up to and after joining);
- Coordination of assistance to begin to implement sequenced delivery.
- Placing a time limit of two years for priority jurisdictions to join or show sufficient other commitment in order to remain observers.

It was agreed that the APG Secretariat will ensure that the obligations on observer jurisdictions identified for potential membership are made clear to them (including preparedness to undergo an AML/CFT needs assessment; to work with the APG Donors and Providers Group; the placing of a time limit on being an observer; and the APG's formal membership requirements).

Breaches of the APG rules of membership

It was agreed that APG Secretariat should make formal contact at a high level with any members who have failed to pay their budget contributions, or who have been late with payments, to ascertain the problem with contributing, encourage their future payment and explain the possible consequences of non-payment.

The role, responsibility and tenure of the APG Co-chairs

While the "formative stage" of the APG referred to in the APG Terms of Reference should be considered completed, it was

assignment was funded by the Commonwealth Secretariat and resulted in significant progress in improving, expanding and supervising the APG's technical assistance and training strategy. This has included providing support to improve the co-ordinated delivery of needs-based assistance and training, in collaboration with international donor and provider organisations and jurisdictions.

"The call for assistance and training from individual member countries has been growing exponentially. There was a clear need to not only meet this demand but to also build on and expand the program", said Rick McDonell, Head of the APG Secretariat. "With Ms Somerville's invaluable contribution needed to continue this work, we sought to supplement the very generous contribution from the Commonwealth and made an approach to the UK. Both the Commonwealth and the FCO recognised the significant progress made in the 1st phase of the assignment when generously agreeing to fund the 2nd phase of the assignment for a further two years from July 2004."



APG Typologies Workshop 2004

The APG's primary event since the June 2004 APG Annual Meeting has been the APG Typologies Workshop 2004, which was successfully held in Brunei Darussalam on 5 and 6 October 2004. This year, for the first time, a one day Implementation Workshop on Alternative Remittance Systems was also held on 7 October.

The Workshops were attended by more than 155 law enforcement and regulatory experts from 30 jurisdictions and nine international and regional organisations.

Major highlights of the Typologies Workshop included:

- Further consideration of corruption-related money laundering issues in the Asia/Pacific region. Presentations were heard from Hong



Egmont Group meeting

In June 2004 the Head of the APG Secretariat, Rick McDonell, participated in the Annual Meeting of the Egmont Group of Financial Intelligence Units in Guernsey. Two APG members (the Cook Islands and Indonesia) were welcomed as new members of the Egmont Group. There are currently 94 FIUs which are members of the Egmont Group. 17 current members of the Egmont Group are also APG members or observer jurisdictions.

A number of key issues for the APG were discussed and decided upon during the Egmont Plenary including:

- A roundtable discussion concerning the AML/CFT FIU Assessments.
- Feedback was provided to the Egmont Committee from the APG's 2004 Plenary Meeting as a result of which the Committee agreed to place more information on the Egmont public website, such as sanitized cases.
- The need for the Egmont Group to work closely with FATF-style regional bodies (FSRBs) and the FATF, particularly in relation to typologies development, training and other operational matters.
- The 3rd joint Egmont Group and UNODC Training Seminar in Bangkok October 2004, the first to take place in Asia.

According to Neil Jensen, the Director of Australia's FIU, AUSTRAC, the Egmont Group is an excellent example of how the commitments governments make to international cooperation really work in practice.

"At the 2004 Egmont Group Plenary meeting we proved that many countries can collect and share information, countries can work together seamlessly, to combat transnational crime and terrorism. The work of FIUs is recognised and their assistance is being sought by many international organisations." Mr Jensen said.

agreed that the status quo be maintained and that no change to the APG's Co-chairing arrangements should be made at this time.

Other Issues

Members also endorsed the recommendation that Bangladesh; Fiji; Hong Kong, China; Thailand; and the United States should serve on the APG Steering Group as the representatives of their geographical regions for a further 12 months, and noted that under the TORs for the Steering Group, Japan, Australia and Korea will serve on the Steering Group in 2004 – 05 as the current and immediate past APG Co-chairs.

Annual Forum on TA&T

14 June 2004

The APG's 2004 Annual Meeting in Seoul was preceded on 14 June 2004 by the Annual Forum on Technical Assistance and Training, the third such Forum held. Very positive feedback was received on the value of the Forum and particularly the technical and training needs matrix developed by the APG and the individual meetings where donors were able to make significant progress toward identifying needs and coordinating the delivery of assistance to a number of priority jurisdictions.

Following on from the Forum in Seoul, where several Pacific-focused meetings were held, the APG Secretariat has been working closely with the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS) and members of the APG Donors and Providers Group to develop comprehensive AML/CFT TA&T needs information and coordination mechanisms for the Pacific region. The purpose of this ongoing collaboration is to assist individual jurisdictions to implement the global standards and to meet the AML/CFT commitments made by the Pacific Islands Forum.



APG Steering Group

At the 2003 APG Annual Meeting, APG members agreed to establish an advisory APG Steering Group, endorsed Terms of Reference (TORs) for the Steering Group

Kong ICAC, US Dept of Justice and Indonesian Corruption Eradication Commission (KPK). The APG will prepare a scoping paper on corruption-related money laundering issues and will work with a number of collaborating organisations to progress priority issues including implementation of AML/CFT measures related to Politically Exposed Persons (PEPs) and cooperative work between FIUs and specialist anti-corruption agencies.

- Consideration of priority Terrorist Financing typologies issues, including wire transfers, non-profit organisations (NPOs) and investigating and detecting cash couriers. Presentations were heard from the Australian Federal Police on the financial investigation of the Bali bombing, from the Pakistan National Accountability Bureau and from Dr Zachary Abuza on terrorist financing in South East Asia. The APG Typologies Working Group will produce two scoping papers, one on wire transfers for terrorist financing and another on NPO typologies in the Asia/Pacific region.

- Consideration of the development of 'red flag' indicators for cash couriers. Detailed presentations were given by Hong Kong Police and US Dept of Homeland Security and breakout workshop sessions were held to consider practical issues in developing 'red flag' indicators. The APG will consider the need to develop further guidance for APG members on measures to combat cash couriers.

- Initial consideration of illegal logging and related money laundering issues. Presentations were heard from International Forestry Research (CIFOR) and the World Bank; and an expert panel discussion on priority issues was held. The APG will work with the World Bank and other organisations to pursue AML issues relating to illegal logging money laundering in the Asia/Pacific region.

- Members agreed that the APG Typologies Working Group will produce the 2004-05 APG Yearly Typologies Report for distribution to APG stakeholders, in particular the financial sector. The report will be available to the public and will include sanitised case studies and other typologies information.

In addition to the Typologies Workshop, a one day Implementation Workshop on Alternative Remittance Systems (ARS) was

“The Egmont Group is committed to continue working closely with the APG, other FSRBs and the FATF, by contributing FIUs' insight into the actual methodologies for dealing with funds related to money laundering, terrorist financing and other transnational crimes.”



FATF's mandate extended

On 14 May 2004, Ministers of the FATF 33 members agreed to extend FATF's mandate until December 2012. Ministers congratulated FATF on its achievements since its inception in 1989. They declared that FATF will continue to set global AML/CFT standards in the context of an increasingly sophisticated financial system, and work to ensure global compliance with those standards.

Moreover, as the formal financial system becomes increasingly closed to terrorists and criminals, the FATF will enhance its focus on informal and non-traditional methods of financing terrorism and money laundering, including through cash couriers, alternative remittance systems, and the abuse of non-profit organisations.

FATF Plenary, Paris

Naotaka Kawakami, Co-Chair of the APG and Rick McDonnell, Head of the APG Secretariat attended the FATF Plenary and Working Group meetings in Paris in October 2004. A number of key issues for the APG were discussed and decided upon during the FATF Plenary including:

- The issue of the new Special Recommendation IX on Cash Couriers.
- A new FATF Working Group on Assessment and Implementation was established.
- The FATF decided to hold a Plenary Meeting in Singapore in June 2005 and for the first time, as part of its policy of increasing engagement with FATF-style regional bodies, will invite the APG to participate in a one day joint session and FATF Working Groups.
- Agreement was reached to work closely with the APG in relation to Typologies, particularly in relation to

and called on the Steering Group to prepare a Discussion Paper on certain governance issues for the consideration of the Co-chairs and the members at the 2004 Annual Meeting.

The membership of the APG Steering Group includes a representative from each of five broad geographical areas within the APG, namely North Asia, Pacific Islands, South Asia, South East Asia, and 'Other'. The current geographical representatives are Hong Kong, China, Fiji Islands, Bangladesh, Thailand and the United States. In addition, Steering Group membership includes the current APG Co-chairs, and the immediate past and nominated future Co-chair from their jurisdictions, for one year respectively. Thus Korea, Japan and Australia are currently members of the Steering Group. The APG Co-chairs preside over any meetings of the APG Steering Group.

The Steering Group prepared a Preliminary Discussion Paper to canvass a number of priority governance issues for discussion at the 2004 Annual Meeting; and subsequently to prepare a full Discussion Paper to canvass the full range of governance issues. The Preliminary Discussion Paper was subsequently considered by members at the 2004 Annual Meeting and its recommendations were accepted by members (see Annual Meeting outcomes).

Future Work

It is now necessary to progress the work of the Steering Group. Apart from 'ad hoc' advice to the Co-chairs on issues arising, this will involve two strands of work:

- implementing and/or further developing the outcomes from members' consideration of the Preliminary Discussion Paper at the 2004 Annual Meeting; and
- preparation of a further Discussion Paper on the remaining governance issues originally referred to the Steering Group by members at the 2003 Annual Meeting.



Secretariat staff changes

held on 7 October, which focused on the practical steps countries are taking to implement Special Recommendation VI (SR VI). The ARS Implementation Workshop included an overview of the international standards on ARS; guidance and implementation issues; typologies issues (recent methods, trends and countermeasures); licensing/ registration and compliance issues; law enforcement challenges; and technical assistance for implementation. A clear conclusion from the ARS Implementation Workshop was that as with other regions, jurisdictions in the Asia/ Pacific region do not as yet have fully effective system to regulate and oversee ARS. There are challenges and opportunities for all APG jurisdictions in implementing FATF SR VI. APG members agreed to work together to identify specific needs for assistance and to work with the APG Donor and Provider Group on meeting identified assistance needs. Further work will be undertaken by APG members to analyse implementation issues relating to SRVI and to improve the APG's ARS Regulation Implementation Package.

Detailed records of both workshops will be distributed in due course and placed on the members' section of the APG website.

Eight FATF members attended the APG Typologies Workshop and ARS Implementation Workshop. The FATF Secretariat also participated in the Workshops as did Mr Paolo Costanzo representing the FATF Typologies Working Group project on ARS.

There was also discussion on the practical steps that can be taken to further improve coordination and cooperation in the typologies area and in implementing SRVI, which resulted in an agreement that the APG Secretariat will participate in the FATF Typologies Working Group projects on ARS and on FATF projects on money laundering and terrorist financing trends and indicators.

Awareness Raising for the Private Sector

An AML/CFT Awareness Raising Seminar for Financial Institutions in Brunei was successfully held on Friday 8 October. This session included representatives from the APG Secretariat, FATF Secretariat, Malaysia, the Co-Chair of the APG's Implementation Issue Working Group, the ADB and a wide group of financial institutions.

Alternative Remittance Systems and Cash Couriers.



11th UN Congress on Crime Prevention and criminal justice

The APG Secretariat has been participating in preparatory meetings for a Workshop on Economic Crimes, Including Money Laundering, to be held in conjunction with the 11th UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in Bangkok, 18 – 25 April 2005. An initial preparatory meeting was held in October 2003 in Tokyo, a second in Stockholm in May 2004 and a third was held in Tokyo in September 2004. Ms Bronwyn Somerville has attended the preparatory meetings on behalf of the APG Secretariat. APG members Thailand, Japan, Australia and the USA have also attended and contributed to the preparatory meetings for the Workshop.



The Workshop is being organised jointly by the UN Asia & Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and Treatment of Offenders (UNAFEI) and the Swedish government's National Economic Crimes Bureau.



Above: At the 11th UN Congress is Bronwyn Somerville with Police Major General Peeraphan Prembooti, Secretary-General, Anti Money Laundering Office, Thailand; Det

There have been some welcome additions to the APG Secretariat over the last few months to help provide additional services to all APG members. Marnie Campbell has joined the APG Secretariat as an on-going assistant administrator, Jennifer Ford has joined as a temporary administrator until July 2005 and Arun Kendall has joined as a second Executive Officer for a two year term.

Arun's primary roles will include implementation and terrorist financing issues. In addition, he will be the new Editor of Laundering News as well as assuming responsibility for all aspects of the APG Secretariat's communications.



Above, from left to right: Arun Kendall, Marnie Campbell and Jennifer Ford

Website Enhancement

The APG has received valuable assistance from the Asian Development Bank to assist with improvements to the APG website.

The purpose of the APG Website is to:

- Engage the broadest range of APG stakeholders to enhance the APG's public relations and communications, to provide information and educative resources on AML/CFT and increase the transparency of the APG; and
- Provide an online database to APG members of APG information and AML/CFT resources and to enhance communication with APG members.

The APG Website continues to receive positive feedback and good 'hit' statistics. However, a range of stakeholders have identified limitations with the current design of the Website which are detracting from its purpose. These limitations indicate specific needs for enhancing the Website.

There are three main areas for enhancements:

New FSRBs being formed

Two new FATF-Style Regional Bodies (FSRBs) have been formed recently.

The Eurasian Group (EAG) was established on 5 October 2004. The group will include China and the ex-Soviet republics of Russia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan. The United States, Georgia and Ukraine requested observer status.

Discussions on the establishment of the Middle East and North Africa Financial Action Task Force (MENAFATF) have been completed and an announcement is expected on the formal establishment of MENAFATF in November, in Bahrain.



Calendar 2004-05

The APG has a busy work program for 2004 – 2005. Some of the major APG and related events taking place over the next six months are listed below.

Mutual Evaluations:

- Marshall Islands: 1 to 5 November 2004 (confirmed);
- Pakistan: 25 November to 2/3 December 2004 (confirmed);
- Niue: 29 November to 3 December 2004 (confirmed);
- Brunei Darussalam: 27 January to 4 February 2005 (confirmed);
- Nepal: 3 to 11 February 2005 (confirmed);
- India: Late February/early March (awaiting confirmation from India);
- Sri Lanka: Late February/early March 2005 (awaiting confirmation from Sri Lanka).

Other Activities:

Chief Supt. Felix McKenna Chief Bureau Officer, Criminal Assets Bureau, Ireland; and (background) Mr Hagan Oberg, Director, Division for International Affairs, Swedish National Economic Crimes Bureau.

FATF Training Workshop on new Assessment Methodology Singapore, 8 – 10 November 2004

The APG Secretariat, Asia/Pacific FATF members and assessors from as far as South Africa, Bahrain and Guernsey attended a 'Train the Trainer' session in the new 2004 Assessment Methodology. The training session was presented by representatives from FATF, the IMF and the World Bank, and hosted by the Monetary Authority of Singapore.

The Training Session was opened by Mr Eric Chan from the Monetary Authority of Singapore and Richard Chalmers of the Financial Services Authority of the United Kingdom provided an overview of the purpose of the training session. He stated that the intention of the training was to specifically look at problematic and difficult areas of the new methodology rather than provide a detailed account of each of its elements.

The topics covered included distinguishing the material elements of the Recommendations such as the criminalisation of money-laundering, how to apply the new rating system, how to apply, measure and rate risk and a look in detail at Designated Non-Financial Businesses and Professionals.

This was the fourth workshop of this type held by the FATF this year, as part of a global training program on the new Methodology. Similar workshops were held in St Petersburg and Washington DC in September 2004.

The 2004 Assessment Methodology has been developed to assess countries' compliance with the revised FATF 40 Recommendations and eight Special Recommendations on Terrorist Financing. The APG will be using the 2004 Assessment Methodology for APG mutual evaluations commencing in January 2005.

The workshop was aimed primarily at FATF members in the Asia/Pacific region, but was also open to the APG Secretariat and to a limited number of experts from the APG's non-FATF members. The Secretariat sent

- a) Communications upgrade – developing secure discussion groups for members.
- b) Content upgrade – improved structure, navigation and expanded content;
- c) Improved data management – enhanced content management system, increased account capacity & compliance with Australian Government online standards;

The Secretariat hopes to complete these enhancements early in 2005.

Send in Your Views and Suggestions

Readers are welcome to send any additional ideas or suggestions to improve the service provided, care of the Editor of the Newsletter.

The Secretariat is considering a change to the title of this publication. Please send in any suggestions you may have for an appropriate name.



APG Secretariat re-location

As noted during the APG Annual Meeting in Seoul, the APG Secretariat will be moving location due to a change within the Australian government with respect to which agency will administratively host the APG Secretariat. The Secretariat is busy preparing for the move, which is just a number of city blocks to the premises of the Australian Federal Police building in Sydney. Updated address and telephone details for the APG Secretariat will be sent to all APG contact points and interested parties in the first quarter of 2005.



- The APG's 2005 Annual Meeting will be held in Cairns, Australia in the week beginning Monday 11 July 2005. Further details will be provided at a later date.
- 17-21 Jan 2005: Council of Europe Moneyval Committee Plenary Meeting, Strasbourg, France
- 29-30 Jan 2005 (to be confirmed): APG TA – Donors Coordination Meeting, Mongolia
- 9-11 Feb 2005 FATF - Second Plenary Meeting of FATF-XVI, Paris, France (and Working Groups 7-9 Feb)
- March-April 2005 (to be confirmed): CFATF Plenary meeting
- 18-25 April 2005: 11th UN Congress – Bangkok, Tokyo
- 6-10 June 2005: FATF Plenary, Singapore
- 27 June-1 July 2005: Egmont Plenary, Washington
- TBC July 2005 Council of Europe Moneyval Committee Plenary Meeting
- TBC 18 August 2005 ESAAMLG Annual General Meeting
- TBC October 2005 CFATF Plenary Meeting

five Secretariat officers to the training, together with three legal, financial and law enforcement experts from APG member jurisdictions. Priority was given to training experts who will be participating in APG mutual evaluations taking place in the first quarter of 2005.

A further training workshop on the 2004 Methodology is planned for 2005. This will be an APG workshop open to all APG members and will be run in conjunction with the IMF and the World Bank.

'It is essential that the APG have a large pool of qualified experts to draw on for its mutual evaluations, which are a core aspect of our work. The two phases of training planned for late 2004 and 2005 will help ensure that such a pool is developed as quickly as possible', said Rick McDonnell, Head of the APG Secretariat.

Further information concerning the 2005 training workshop will be provided closer to the event.



Trainers at the FATF Training Workshop in Singapore (from left to right): Ted Greenberg (World Bank), Richard Lalonde (IMF), Riccardo Sansonetti (Swiss Federal Finance Administration), Joy Smallwood (IMF), Richard Chalmers (Financial Services Authority UK), Peter Csonka (IMF) and Alain Damais (World Bank). See story at right.



Laundering News is a Quarterly Publication of the APG. The deadline for the next publication will be 30 January 2005 and every three months after that.

Editor: Arun Kendall

All contributions are welcome!

Please send to: mail@apgml.org

Visit our website at: www.apgml.org

