



Targeting Criminal Proceeds in the Caribbean

Meeting of Prosecutors and Law Enforcement Officers
15 & 16 November, Barbados

Practitioner Meeting to Discuss the Establishment of an Asset Recovery
Inter-Agency Network for the Caribbean Region

PRESS RELEASE

On 15 and 16 November 2016, the Organization of American States, with support from the Public Prosecution Service of Barbados, and the Regional Security Systems of the Caribbean, hosted an international meeting of asset recovery practitioners, to discuss establishing a criminal asset recovery inter-agency network for the jurisdictions of the entire Caribbean region.

The meeting, held in Bridgetown, Barbados, brought together over 70 leading practitioners from law enforcement and prosecutorial authorities representing 25 Caribbean jurisdictions, along with key experts from existing asset recovery inter-agency networks around the globe. Regional and international organizations present included The Caribbean Financial Action Task Force (CFATF), The Caribbean Community (CARICOM), The United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and Europol.

Regional asset recovery inter-agency networks are cooperative groups of law enforcement and judicial practitioners specialist in the field of criminal asset identification, freezing, seizure and confiscation. Their aim is to improve international co-operation among law enforcement and judicial agencies, which in turn will provide a more effective method of depriving criminals of their illegal profits. This initiative in the Caribbean follows on from the successful launch of asset recovery inter-agency networks in Europe, Latin America, East, West and Southern Africa and the Asia Pacific.

Preventing legitimate business within the Caribbean being exploited or undermined by criminal enterprise is an ongoing focus for agencies and authorities operating in the region. The level of support this initiative has attracted from Caribbean jurisdictions and organizations indicates that authorities in the Caribbean will not allow criminal profit from across the globe to undermine the economy in the region. Once established, the Caribbean criminal asset recovery network aims to enhance international cooperation both within the region as well as with countries belonging to other asset recovery networks worldwide.