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Secretariat for Multidimensional Security

**XLV MEETING OF THE GROUP OF EXPERTS
FOR THE CONTROL OF MONEY LAUNDERING
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**ACTIVITIES REPORT
DEPARTMENT AGAINST TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME
2017-2018**

(Updated on August 9th, 2018)

ACTIVITIES REPORT
2017 - 2018

The activities carried out by the Department against Transnational Organized Crime (DTCO/OAS) in asset laundering and other manners of transnational organized crime over the period of time between 2017 and 2018 were designated by the Experts for the Control of Money Laundering (GELAVEX) during the XLIV Plenary Meeting, which took place in Asuncion, Paraguay, in September 2017, as well as by the mandates of the sixty-second ordinary session of the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD), which took place in Washington D.C., in the United States of America, during the month of December, 2017.

The following report illustrates the activities of technical assistance and training carried out during the aforementioned period:

A. In the framework of the Program for Seizure and Recovery of Assets, the following activities have been carried out:

a) 3rd Steering Group Meeting about a Caribbean Asset Recovery Inter-Agency Network (ARIN - Carib): The meeting took place in February 23rd and 24th 2018, in **Miami, Florida, USA**. The goal of this reunion was to present the achievements of the Network since it was originated in June 2017, the establishment of financial strategies for future meetings, as well as the proposal by the current president (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines) of a new date and location for the 2018 plenary meeting. The meeting was organized by the Department against Transnational Organized Crime (DTCO/OAS) and the Regional Security System (RSS); with a total of 24 attendants, 16 member States and 2 observer organizations were present.

B. In the framework of the Program for Asset Laundering Control, the following activities have been carried out:

a) National Risk Assessment ML/TF Workshops: From January 30th - 31st 2018, in **Paramaribo, Surinam**, the meeting took place with the financial support of the USA; there was the participation of experts from the DTCO, CFATF, and the Centrale Bank van Aruba, with the purpose of bettering the knowledge in CFATF Mutual Evaluation of key actors in Surinam's public sector, and the national risk assessment to be developed by the country. There was the participation of 45 government officials from the FIU, the Central Bank, the Ministry of Justice, the Police, the Attorney General, and Tax Management.

b) Launch meeting of the National Risk Assessment (NRA) in Surinam: in February 1st 2018, in **Paramaribo, Surinam**, the meeting took place with the financial support of the USA; there was the participation of 170 officials from institutions and entities from both the private and public sector, all relevant for the NRA process. The goal was to better their knowledge about this process and to increase coordination between key actors involved in it.

c) 2Regional Workshop on Strategical Analysis for Financial Intelligence Units in Central America and the Caribbean: the workshop took place from March 7th to the 9th, 2018, in **Guatemala City, Guatemala**. The regional workshop was organized by the DTCO/OAS and the Special Verification Intendance (IVE) from the Superintendencia of Banks of Guatemala, and with the financial support of the USA. With the

purpose of training financial intelligence Unit analysts in financial information analysis techniques, participated 20 financial intelligence officials from 5 Central American countries.

- d) Regional Workshop on Asset Laundering in Free Trade Areas: The workshop took place from July 2nd to 5th 2018, in Lima, Peru. The regional workshop was organized by the DTOC/OAS and the Superintendence of Banks, Insurance and PFA of Peru, and with the financial support of the USA. Through the exchange of existing legislative and structural frameworks, and with the purpose of minimizing operational risks in free trade, 40 prosecutors and analysts from the Latin-American FIUs participated in the promotion of interinstitutional cooperation and of best practices sharing.
 - e) International Summit on Corruption and Organized Crime for Judges and Prosecutors in Peru: The summit took place from July 18th to 20th, in Lima, Peru. The international summit was organized by the DTOC/OAS and the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights of Peru, and with the financial support of the USA. The DTOC supplied support on the identification of regional experts who would train 200 Peruvian officials (judges, attorneys, public defenders, the police, prosecutors and private lawyers).
- C. **In the framework of the Program for the implementation of the Hemispheric Action Plan against Transnational Organized Crime**, the following activities have been carried out:
- a) In the framework of the project "**Capacity Building for Norther Central American Countries (Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras) against Transnational Organized Crime**", the DTOC, with the financial support of the USA, is currently developing an "Analysis of National Efforts in the Fight against TIP and Migrant Smuggling in the Norther Central American Countries: Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras".
 - b) In the framework of the project "**Capacity building on Organized Transnational Crime Investigations: effective investigation instruments application to fight illegal financial networks**", the DTOC, with the financial support of the USA, is currently developing a "**Methodological Tool for Practical Implementation of Specialized Investigation Techniques on Controlled Delivery, Covert Affairs, and Electronic Monitoring , in cases of Transnational Organized Crime.**"
- D. **DTOC participation in diverse activities of international cooperation within the 2016 - 2017, including:**
- a) From March 19th to 23rd 2018, in **Montevideo, Uruguay**, with the purpose of building capacity for the FIU of Uruguay, the DTOC continued supporting the International Monetary Fund (IMF) Technical Assistance Mission in the areas of asset laundering and terrorism financing.
 - b) From May 27th to 31st 2018, in **Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago**, the XLVII Plenary Meeting of the Caribbean Financial Action Task Force (CFATF), where the DTOC presented to the plenary the progress that has been done on the mandates received by GELAVEX and the Committee of Hemispheric Security of the OAS Permanent Council; with the purpose of supporting and providing technical assistance to the countries in the Caribbean region on matters of asset laundering and terrorism financing.

- c) From June 25th to 29th, in **Panama City, Panama**, with the purpose of building capacity for the FIU of Panama, the DTOC supported the International Monetary Fund (IMF) Technical Assistance Mission in the areas of asset laundering and terrorism financing.

- d) From June 25th to 29th, in **Lima, Peru**, in the framework of the Project CRIMJUST - Strengthening criminal investigation and criminal justice cooperation along the cocaine route in Latin America, the Caribbean and West Africa, the DTOC was part of the Workshop on International Judicial Cooperation, specifically in the matters of organized crime, drug trafficking, and asset laundering, which was organized by UNODC. Participants were officials from the prosecutor offices of Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Panama and Peru.

- e) From July 23rd to 27th, in **Panama City, Panama**, DTOC was part of the XXXVII Plenary Meeting of GAFILAT, as well as its reunions on Capacity and Developments, Mutual Evaluations, Operational support, and terrorism financing. DTOC presented to the plenary the activities done on 2018 and announced upcoming activities in the framework of the various programs and projects that are currently underway in matter of asset laundering linked with transnational organized crime.