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**XLIII MEETING OF THE GROUP OF EXPERTS FOR THE CONTROL  
OF MONEY LAUNDERING  
SEPTEMBER 28-29, 2016  
PUNTA CANA, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC**

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**ACTIVITIES REPORT FROM THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT (TS/ DTOC)  
ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING 2015-2016**

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ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING

The Technical Secretariat (TS) reports that the activities regarding money laundering developed by the Department Against Transnational Organized Crime (DTCO/OAS), during the period 2015-2016, were determined by the Group of Experts for the Control of Money Laundering (GELAVEX) at the XLI Plenary Meeting held in Lima, Peru, in October 2015; as well as by the mandates of the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) at its fifty-eighth regular session, held in November of the same year in Trujillo, Peru.

The following paragraphs aims to inform about technical assistance and training activities carried out during the period in question:

**Under the Seized and Forfeited Asset Management Project in Latin America (BIDAL)**, following activities were accomplished:

a) In Brazil, during the execution of the Final Phase of the Project held in Brasilia from October 20 to 22, 2015, the "Regional Seminar on Management of Seized and Forfeited Assets". The seminar was attended key-actors of forfeiture systems from Brazil, Paraguay, Peru, Ecuador, Costa Rica and Mexico, as well as international experts in the field. In addition, on February 23 and 24, 2015, the 3rd Meeting of the Interagency Working Group (GTI) was performed in order to conclude the proposal for improving the forfeiture system in Brazil, which was officially handed over to the national authorities on February 25 of the same year, thus concluding the BIDAL Project in the country.

b) Regarding the implementation of BIDAL Project in Paraguay, on November 16, 17 and 18, the "National Seminar on Management of Seized and Forfeited Assets" took place with the aim of promoting the development and specialization of an agency responsible for the efficient administration of seized and forfeited assets and improving the procedures related to patrimonial investigation in the country; from July 6 to 8, 2016, an exchange of experiences between the Republics of Honduras and Paraguay was carried out. The main purpose was to familiarize the Congress of *Paraguay* with the results and impact of the application of the *Ley de Privación de Dominio de Bienes de Origen Ilícito* in Honduras. In addition, the meeting aimed to implement the Working-Pan established in BIDAL Project, through the presentation and official hand over of the proposal for improving the system of administration of seized and forfeited assets to the authorities of Paraguay during the visit to the Republic of Honduras, and to conclude the project.

**As for technical assistance for the capacities strengthening of law enforcement agencies**, from 29 February to 2 March 2015, the "Regional Workshop on Special Investigation Techniques regarding anti-money laundering in Central America for prosecutors and investigators" took place in February 29 to March 2, in Panama City, Panama. Counting with the financial support from Canada, about 35 officials participated, among prosecutors and investigators of the 5 Central American countries and Dominican Republic. Also, from April 4 to 7, 2016, in Los Angeles, California, United States of America, in conjunction with the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE) the "Inter-Regional Specialized Workshop on Illicit Finance and Criminal and Terrorist Networks from the Archipelagos ", was held. 13 participants from Kiribati, Micronesia, Palau, Samoa, Tonga, Barbados, Dominica, Granada, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and Trinidad and Tobago attended. Still in conjunction with CICTE, from June 14 to 17, 2016, in Iquique, Chile, the "Sub-regional Workshop on terrorism financing and money

laundering: minimizing the risks in free trade zones" was held. About 34 officials participated, among prosecutors and specialized investigators from Chile, Peru and Bolivia.

**The Training Program on Money Laundering for Judicial Agents** held in San Jose, Costa Rica, the "Regional Workshop on Money Laundering Control for Judges and Prosecutors", on April 26 to 28, 2016. In this occasion, about 32 judicial officers of the 5 countries of Central America and the Dominican Republic attended. This training journey was organized with the technical collaboration of Canada.

**DTOC participated in various international cooperation activities in the period of 2015-2016, namely:**

In Montevideo, Uruguay, the DTOC participated and supported the Technical Assistance Mission of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to enhance the capacity of the Financial Intelligence Unit of Uruguay in matters of Money Laundering and Terrorism Financing, which was held from November 16 to 20, 2015. A second follow-up mission of the IMF technical assistance went along with DTOC from March 7 to 11, 2016.

Regarding MECOOR - constituted by the Secretariats of CICAD (now DTOC by delegation) and CICTE, the Executive Directorate of the Counter-Terrorism Committee of the UN (CTED), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the Executive Secretariat of GAFILAT-, DTOC continued to implement the Strengthening Program of GAFILAT Asset Recovery Network, (RRAG), performing the "Workshop on Patrimonial Investigation for the Points of Contact of the RRAG/GAFILAT " from October 26 to 29, 2015 in Santiago de Chile. The Workshop counted with the support of the ES/GAFILAT and GAFILAT/EU Project. During the same date, the DTOC also participated in the XII Meeting of the RRAG.

From May 3 to 5, 2016 the XIII Meeting of the GAFILAT Asset Recovery Network (RRAG) was held in Guatemala City, Guatemala, conference in which DTOC participated as a speaker and observer, actively participating in the exchange of experience in criminal origin asset recovery.

From November 22 to 26, 2015, it was held in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, the XLII Plenary Meeting of the Caribbean Financial Action Task Force (CFATF). DTOC made presentations to the Heads of CFATF Financial Intelligence Units (FIUs) Forum, FATF's International Cooperation Review Group (ICRG) and to the Plenary on matters regarding the mandate received by the GELAVEX to support the creation of a Caribbean asset recovery network. Besides, DTOC actively participated in the XLIII Plenary Meeting of the CFATF, held in Montego Bay, Jamaica, from June 5 to 9, 2016, in which the activities carried out since the last plenary were presented. Among these activities, the beginning of efforts to hold the regional meeting of experts on asset recovery from the Caribbean, which will be held in Bridgetown, Barbados, in November of the present year.

As part of the same initiative, the DTOC presented the concept note and the work plan at the regional meeting of asset recovery networks, held in the Hague on July 6 and 7.

From December 7 to 11, 2015, the XXXII Plenary Session of GAFILAT Representatives took place in Merida, Mexico. The TS actively participated in the working sessions and presented the respective report of activities, in order to generate synergies with that agency, donors and other entities specialized in AML/CFT. Also, from August 1 to 5, 2016, in Buenos Aires, Argentina, the XXXIII Meeting of the Latin American Financial Action Task Force (GAFILAT) took place. In this event, the DTOC

participated in the meetings of the Working Group on Operational Support, which took place on August 2 and 3, respectively.

On May 26 and 27, 2016, the XLII Meeting of the Group of Experts for the Control of Money Laundering and its Sub-Working Groups was held in Washington DC, USA. The Meeting aimed to continue implementing to the Work Plan approved by the plenary in October 2015 in Lima, Peru, and by CICAD in December of the same year.