

APG Money Laundering Methods & Typologies Workshop

29 – 30 October 2002,
President Ballroom, Radisson President Hotel & Suites
Vancouver, Canada



Hosts: The Royal Canadian Mounted Police

WORKSHOP SUMMARY REPORT

Introduction

The Fifth Typologies Workshop of the Asia/Pacific Group on Money Laundering (APG) was held on 29 – 30 October 2001 in Vancouver, Canada, hosted by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

The Workshop was attended by more than 120 law enforcement and regulatory experts from 28 jurisdictions¹ and seven international and regional organisations². The Workshop was chaired by Mr Rick McDonell, Head of the APG Secretariat and Superintendent Garry W. G. Clement, Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

The Workshop participants were honoured to have an opening address delivered by Deputy Commissioner Bev Busson of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police gave the Opening Address.

A detailed report of the discussions, presentations, conclusions and recommendations of the Workshop will be prepared by the APG Secretariat and sent to each of the delegations. The detailed report will also form part of the APG Typologies Report for 2002.

Workshop Highlights

The Workshop was held in the context of a very strong global focus on money laundering and terrorist financing issues. This resulted in a topical, open and wide ranging exchange of information and expertise and a shared commitment to improved practical cooperation in the region. Special attention was given to:

- the use of underground banking and alternative remittance systems to launder money;
- tracing the proceeds of crime and terrorist financing; and

¹ Australia; Cambodia; Canada; Chinese Taipei; Cook Islands; Fiji Islands; France; Hong Kong,China; India; Indonesia; Japan; Korea, Republic of; Lao PDR; Macau,China; Malaysia; Myanmar; Nepal; New Zealand; Niue; Pakistan; Philippines; Samoa; Singapore; Thailand; United Arab Emirates; United States of America; Vanuatu; Vietnam.

² Commonwealth Secretariat; Egmont Group of FIUs; Financial Action Task Force of Money Laundering Secretariat; International Monetary Fund; Interpol; Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat; The World Bank

- information sharing issues.

Highlights of the Workshop included:

- special presentations on underground banking and alternative remittance systems by representatives of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP), the US Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FINCEN) and The World Bank;
- special presentations on information sharing by representatives of Interpol, The Egmont Group of Financial Intelligence Units and the Anti-Money Laundering Office of Thailand;
- breakout sessions to discuss in depth issues relating to alternative remittance systems and information sharing as they relate to money laundering and terrorist financing;
- special presentations on tracing the proceeds of terrorist financing and money laundering by representatives of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) Secretariat, the RCMP, the US Federal Bureau of Investigation and Citigroup;
- development of a clearer picture of current money laundering methods and trends in the region; and
- discussion of future typologies workshops.

The Workshop concluded with agreement on the need for a continuing and increased understanding of money laundering methods in the region and renewed commitment to effectively counteracting these methods. This will include the preparation of a Yearly Report on Typologies by the APG summarising money laundering and terrorist financing methods and trends and APG typologies work being done by the APG and others.

The participants in the Workshop extended their gratitude to Canada, and in particular to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, for the arrangements they made in hosting the Workshop.

APG Secretariat
30 October 2002