

**Report of the First Meeting
of the BIMSTEC Sub-Group on Combating the Financing of Terrorism**

**28-29 April 2005
Bangkok, Thailand**

1. The First Meeting of the BIMSTEC Sub-Group on Combating the Financing of Terrorism (SG-CFT) under the BIMSTEC Joint Working Group on Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crime (JWG-CTTC) was held on 28-29 April 2005 in Bangkok, Thailand.
2. Delegates from Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka and Thailand attended the Meeting. The list of delegates appears as Annex I.

Agenda Item 1: Opening Session

3. The SG-CFT Meeting opened with Welcoming Remarks by Pol. Maj. Gen. Peeraphan Prempooti, Secretary General of the Anti-Money Laundering Office of Thailand (AMLO).
4. Pol. Col. Yuthabool Dissamarn, Deputy Secretary General of AMLO, was elected Chair of the Meeting.

Agenda Item 2: Adoption of the Agenda

5. The agenda adopted by the Meeting appears as Annex II.

Agenda Item 3: Business Arrangements

6. The Meeting was held in plenary.

Agenda Item 4: Matters for Consideration

4.1 Designation of Nodal Points

7. The Sub-group noted that identification of a nodal point in each member country would be helpful for coordination purposes. The nodal points nominated are as follows:

Bangladesh	-	General Manager, Anti-Money Laundering Department, Bangladesh Bank
Bhutan	-	to be nominated
India	-	Head of Indian Financial Intelligence Unit
Myanmar	-	Head of Myanmar Financial Intelligence Unit
Sri Lanka	-	Director of Criminal Investigation Department
Thailand	-	Secretary General of Anti-Money Laundering Office of Thailand (AMLO)

The Sub-group agreed that, as Nepal was absent from the Meeting, Nepalese authorities should be requested through diplomatic channels to nominate a nodal point for future coordination within the Sub-group.

4.2 Proposed Draft Terms of Reference of the SG-CFT

8. The member countries exchanged views on the draft Terms of Reference (TOR) for the Sub-group prepared by Thailand.
9. The adopted Terms of Reference appears as Annex III.

4.3 Exchange Review of Current Activities: Country Presentations

10. The representatives of BIMSTEC member countries presented to the Meeting the current situation in their respective countries, including policies and measures against terrorist financing activities. The country presentations appear as Annex IV.

4.4 New Initiatives: Proposed Programme of Cooperation among the Member Countries

11. The member countries exchanged views on possible future cooperation among BIMSTEC countries. The member countries decided to recommend to the JWG-CTTC that the Sub-group may henceforth be known as “The BIMSTEC Sub-Group on Combating the Financing of Terrorism” (SG-CFT).
12. The Sub-group emphasised the importance of modern communication facilities for effective exchange of information among the nominated nodal points. The Meeting noted the importance of cooperation in capacity building, in terms of training, exchange programmes and visits among the members to share best practices and learn more about one another’s anti-money laundering institutions.
13. The Sub-group called upon the member countries to put in place appropriate legislative framework to enable effective and timely exchange of information/intelligence related to combating the financing of terrorism.

Agenda Item 5: Other Matters

14. The member countries agreed that the Sub-group should focus on three major areas as follows:
 - 1) Sharing of information/intelligence on combating the financing of terrorism;
 - 2) Short-term training programmes to enhance capacity building; and
 - 3) Exchange of visits to strengthen networking.

Agenda Item 6: Date and Venue of the Second Meeting of SG-CFT

15. The Sub-group decided that the SG-CFT should meet at least once a year, while additional meetings could be convened as necessary. The Meeting welcomed Thailand’s offer to host the 2nd Meeting of the Sub-group. Thailand would communicate the exact date and venue to the member countries.

Agenda Item 7: Consideration and Adoption of the Report of the SG-CFT Meeting

16. The Meeting adopted the report of the First Meeting of the BIMSTEC Sub-Group on Combating the Financing of Terrorism.

Agenda Item 8: Closing Session

17. The Chair thanked the delegates for their active cooperation which resulted in a fruitful outcome of the Meeting. The Chair also noted the importance of networking within the region to help facilitate the task of combating the financing of terrorism.
18. The delegations from Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar and Sri Lanka expressed their sincere appreciation to the Chair for conducting the Meeting in a highly efficient manner. The delegates also expressed their gratitude to the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand, in particular, the Anti-Money Laundering Office, for its generous hospitality and excellent arrangements.
19. This Report was adopted in Bangkok, Thailand, on 29 April 2005.
