Management of seized and confiscated assets pending return
Ukrainian experience practice

International Expert Meeting on the management and disposal of recovered and returned stolen assets, including in support of sustainable development
Addis Ababa, 14-16.02.2017,
Presented by Anatolii Yezhov, PGO Ukraine
Case Pavlo Lazarenko, ex-PM of Ukraine

- Mr. P. Lazarenko in 2004 was defined by UN and WB as one of the ten World biggest corruptionists.
- Ukrainian PGO and sui juris governmental bodies of partner countries frozen approx. $ 270 Mio.
- Circa $200 Mio. is now matter of civil litigation in US Court (DC).
Returning money of Mr. P. Lazarenko from Switzerland

In 1998-2002 we have excellent experience in cooperation with Office of Prosecutor General of Canton Geneva (Switzerland).
Mr. Lazarenko was put to jail on the crimes of money laundering, when enter Switzerland with Panama Pass (Rentista Retirado) in late 1998.

In July 2000 he has been convicted for money laundering and his assets in Geneva bank were seized.
Two months later according to the decree of Government of Geneva, seized money 10,5 Mio SFr was returned to Ukraine.

High level of MLA cooperation we’ve got also in Canton Zuerich. About 15 MLAR’s, more than dozen witness interview, including the declaration on giving bribe, about 30 seized files of documents concerning bank accounts. This documents were vitally important for our investigation.
US assets confiscation process

- Circa $200 Mio. is now matter of civil litigation in US Court (DC). Parties- US DoJ and Mr. P. Lazarenko – proceeding of civil confiscation;
- There are thousands of volumes of evidential documents, gathered in US and Ukraine, they’re presented in US district court for showing the criminal origin of assets, blocked in 6 jurisdiction;
- PGO send approx. 400 MLAR to circa 50 countries worldwide;
- Till 15 of January 2017, the parties provided to the Court materials for collection of evidences. Now there are preparation measures for hearing;
- Ukraine pretend for assets recovery, according to MLAT and UNCAC, both as active participant of investigation and country, where money are stolen (victim);
- Ukraine enter into negotiation with representatives of 6 countries, mentioned above.
New challenges, V. Yanukovich (Ex-President) criminal group

- Mr. Yanukovich, after victory of Revolution of Dignity (end of February 2014)
‘STATE MAFIA’ OF YANUKOVYCH

EU ‘sanction list’
Freeze of assets

Abroad
> USD 80 mil

BANK accounts in Ukraine
> UAH 230 mil
New Legislation for Assets recovery and confiscation

• Since October 2016 Ukraine adopted a new Law about National Agency for Assets Recovery;
• Article 10 of this Law contains a wide list of power of this Agency;
• This Agency will be effective in execution its powers and authority.
Thank you for your attention.

- Anatolii Yezhov
- Deputy Director of the Department for International Legal Cooperation and European Integration
- Prosecutor General’s Office of Ukraine (Central Authority)
- Tel: +380445967277
- Fax: +380442889391
- Cell: +380677625987
- e-mail: ezhov.av@gp.gov.ua
- web: http://en.gp.gov.ua/ua/department_legal_cooperation.html