GPML was established in 1997 in response to the mandate given to UNODC by the 1988 UN Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances.

GPML mandate was strengthened in 1998 by the United Nations General Assembly Special Session (UNGASS) Political Declaration and Action Plan against Money Laundering which broadened its remit beyond drug offences to all serious crime.

Three further Conventions have been adopted / specify provisions for AML/CFT related crimes:

- International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism (1999),
- UN Convention against Corruption (2003)
GPML Mandate


GPML has capacities and a special mandate to assist Member States in ratifying and implementing the international standards related to money-laundering and financing of terrorism.

Resolution 1617 (2005) of the UN Security Council:
“Strongly urges all Member States to implement the comprehensive, international standards embodied in the Financial Action Task Force’s (FATF) Forty Recommendations on Money Laundering and the FATF Nine Special Recommendations on Terrorist Financing;”

Resolution 60/288 of the UN General Assembly (20 Sept 2006):
Annexed Plan of Action:
“To encourage States to implement the comprehensive international standards embodied in the Forty Recommendations on Money-Laundering and Nine Special Recommendations on Terrorist Financing of the Financial Action Task Force, recognizing that States may require assistance in implementing them;”