

Global Programme against Money Laundering

Situation analysis

The Global Programme against Money Laundering (GPML) was established in 1997 in response to a mandate arising from the 1988 Convention under which Member States were required to criminalize money-laundering related to the proceeds of illicit trafficking in drugs and to put legal frameworks in place to facilitate the identification, freezing, seizing and confiscation of the proceeds of crime. The role of GPML was strengthened by the Political Declaration and the measures countering money-laundering (resolution S-20/4 D of 10 June 1998) adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session, under which Member States were called upon to put a number of specific measures in place, in particular with reference to the activities of financial institutions. UNODC was specifically requested to continue its work within the framework of GPML. Under the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (General Assembly resolution 55/25, annex I, of 15 November 2000), the definition of money-laundering will be expanded to include the proceeds of all serious crime and legal force will be given to a number of issues addressed in the Political Declaration. Those issues include the requirement to adopt legal and administrative measures to regulate financial activities and to facilitate the detection, investigation and prosecution of money-laundering.

Member States need to establish legislative frameworks to criminalize the laundering of money derived from serious crimes and to prevent, detect, investigate and prosecute money-laundering. They also need to establish effective financial and regulatory regimes to deny criminals and their illicit funds access to national and international financial systems. They further need to implement law enforcement measures to provide tools against money-laundering criminals, including their extradition, as well as effective information-sharing mechanisms.

Objective

The objective is to strengthen the ability of Member States to fight money laundering and to assist them in depriving persons of the proceeds of their criminal activity.

Strategy

GPML continues to fulfil its mandate principally through technical cooperation and research. Technical cooperation will focus on assisting legal, financial and law enforcement authorities in developing the necessary infrastructure to fight money-laundering. Specific initiatives are built around awareness-raising, institution-building and training. The research activity will continue to focus on work that adds to the body of information on contemporary issues relevant to money-laundering, the maintenance and improvement of relevant databases, the analysis of data on specific aspects of money-laundering and the provision of logistic support for technical cooperation activities at the country level. GPML will seek to ensure that Member States create legal frameworks and administrative machinery required to give effect to relevant money-laundering provisions contained in the 1988 Convention and generally to meet accepted international anti-money-laundering standards. It will also seek to ensure that Member States introduce the measures highlighted in the Political Declaration and the measures countering money-laundering adopted at the twentieth special session.

GPML will continue to provide the following principal types of assistance to Member States: initiatives to raise levels of awareness among key persons in Member States, in both the Government and financial sectors, about money-laundering, its potential negative impact on an economy and the measures necessary to combat it; assistance in drafting and reviewing money-laundering legislation and legislative amendments; developing and updating model legislation on money-laundering and proceeds of crime, in coordination with the UNODC Legal Assistance Programme; assistance in establishing institutional

machinery required to give effect to the legislation, in particular the development of financial intelligence units in the context of the GPML working relationship with the Egmont Group; training for legal, judicial, law enforcement and financial regulatory authorities, as well as for relevant private sector officials, to enhance their capacity to undertake their respective roles within an anti-money-laundering infrastructure; databases and analysis of information that can be used by Member States and organizations involved in the fight against money-laundering; developing and maintaining strategic relationships with the Commonwealth Secretariat, the Egmont Group, the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), the International Monetary Fund, Interpol, the World Bank, the World Customs Organization and FATF-style Regional Bodies (the Asia/Pacific Group on Money Laundering (APG), the Caribbean Financial Action Task Force (C-FATF), the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) of the Organization of American States (OAS), the Eastern and Southern Africa Anti-Money Laundering Group (ESAAMLG) and the Council of Europe Select Committee of Experts on the Evaluation of Anti-Money Laundering Measures (PC-E-RV)). In so doing, GPML will broaden the range and diversity of resources on which it can draw to assist in undertaking its work and avoid duplication in the delivery of technical assistance.

GPML will produce studies on various aspects of money-laundering and manage a web site, the International Money Laundering Information Network (IMoLIN) and the associated Anti Money Laundering International Database (AMLID) on behalf of a number of international organizations involved in the fight against money-laundering.

Money-laundering is a dynamic field, frequently subject to changes in techniques, technology, jurisprudence and policy approaches (both at the national and international level). Activities of GPML will naturally continue to be structured, and altered as necessary, to take account of current circumstances and thus to remain responsive to the changing needs of Member States and the international community.

External factors that can impact the work of GPML include initiatives undertaken by other multilateral organizations. The level of political commitment to implement necessary measures at the national level and the effectiveness of the public sector in implementing changes are also important variables. So too is the responsiveness of the private sector, in particular that of financial institutions and providers of professional services.

GPML will be subject to an external evaluation during the biennium to assess outcomes and impact.

Results

Outcome: an increased level of awareness among public and private sector officials on key issues and developments related to money-laundering. Objectively verifiable indicators: references made in public statements and newspaper articles; comments by readers (internal and external) of the reports, studies and other information materials prepared by GPML.

Outcome: an increased number of countries with a legal and institutional anti money- laundering infrastructure that meets international standards. Objectively verifiable indicators: the completion of new or amended legislation related to money-laundering; establishment of financial intelligence units that meet the functional requirements established by the Egmont Group; improvements made in other anti-money-laundering institutional structures.

Outcome: upgraded technical skills of persons in the judicial, law enforcement, financial and regulatory sectors. Objectively verifiable indicators: replies to evaluation questionnaires and other comments by participants in training workshops and conferences, as well as feedback from the recipients of advisory services.

Outcome: increased regional coordination of anti-money-laundering activities. Objectively verifiable indicator: development of anti-money-laundering initiatives among regional groups that GPML has assisted.

Outcome: increased quantity and quality of money-laundering-related information and analyses.
 Objectively verifiable indicators: increased use of the IMoLIN web site; increased feedback from users of research papers and other research outputs.

Budget and funding

The table below provides a breakdown of the proposed biennial budget for 2002-2003 by thematic area, ongoing and pipeline activities and general- and special-purpose resources totalling \$2.6 million. The revised budget has gone up by \$ 1.3 million to \$ 2.6 million due to increased funding. Resources of \$194,000 from the regular budget of the United Nations support activities are to be added as described in the Programme.

Programme on money-laundering: budget for 2002-2003
 (Thousands of United States dollars)

<i>Thematic area</i>	<i>Activities</i>		<i>Resources</i>		<i>Total</i>
	<i>Ongoing</i>	<i>Pipeline</i>	<i>General-purpose</i>	<i>Special-purpose</i>	
Suppression of illicit drug trafficking	2608.9	--	50.0	2558.9	2608.9
Total	2608.9	--	50.0	2558.9	2608.9