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CICAD

Organization of American States

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Secretariat for Multidimensional Security

XLI GROUP OF EXPERTS FOR THE CONTROL OF MONEY LAUNDERING 1 – 2 October 2015 Lima, Peru

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TERMS OF REFERENCE

Working Group:

Group of Experts for the Control of Money Laundering (LAVEX) Sub-Working Groups on International Cooperation and Forfeiture; and Financial Intelligence Units and Law Enforcement Agencies (LEA)

Source of the Terms of Reference:

Executive Secretariat of the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (ES/CICAD)

Organization:

Organization of the American States (OAS)

According to:

- The recommendations of the LAVEX XXXIX Group of Experts, held in Montevideo, Uruguay, September 16-17, 2014
- The Working Plan approved at the fifty-sixth regular session of CICAD held in Ciudad de Guatemala, Guatemala, November, 19-21 2014;
- The recommendations of the Sub-Working Groups on International Cooperation and Forfeiture; and Financial Intelligence Units and Law Enforcement Agencies (LEA) at the LX GELAVEX Meeting, held in Washington D.C., United States, May 19-20, 2015.

Considering that:

 CICAD, during its Forty-Second Regular Session held in Santa Marta, Colombia, agreed on the working basis for the Group of Experts for the Control of Money Laundering (GELAVEX) the action areas identified at the XXV GELAVEX, as follows: forfeiture, in rem forfeiture, asset recovery agencies, coordination and integration between Financial Intelligence Units (FIU) and Law Enforcement Agencies (LEA), and terrorism financing;

- CICAD, at its Forty-Second Regular Session held in Santa Marta, Colombia, agreed that GELAVEX will hold two annual meetings; one during the first half of the year exclusively for the Sub-Working Groups (one Sub-Working group regarding Forfeiture and International Cooperation and a subworking group in Cooperation and Integration between Financial Intelligence Units and Law Enforcement Agencies), and the second one during the latter half of the year which will feature a plenary session as well as an additional meeting for the Sub-Working Groups.
- That the XXXIX Meeting for the Group of Experts recommended to CICAD the approval of the action lines proposed for a new Strategic Plan for GELAVEX to the 2015-2017 period, and that this proposal was approved by CICAD on its Fifty-Sixth Regular Sessions, held in Ciudad de Guatemala, Guatemala, from 19 to 21 November of 2014.
- Regarding the work plan 2014-2015 approved by CICAD, the <u>International Cooperation and Forfeiture Sub-Working Group</u> will focus their work in the following subjects: a) Develop a helper reference to the administration offices of seized and forfeited in the process of disposal of such assets; b) supporting the ES/CICAD to study victims' and bona fide third party rights in the framework of the Program for Technical Assistance of International Cooperation in Asset Recovery. Also, according to the same work plan, the <u>Sub-Working Group in Financial Intelligence Units and Criminal Investigation Organizations</u> will be dedicated to: a) formulating recommendations for the security and integrity of the officials charged with combatting money laundering and connected crimes; and b) developing an asset investigation guide.

Profile of the delegates to the Experts' Group:

- 1. Be a representative of an OAS Member State;
- 2. Desirable qualifications of the delegates: experts in criminal law, international cooperation, asset administration agencies and/or financial intelligence;
- The following countries, international organizations and/or entities participate as observers: United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), Global Program for Money Laundering (GPML/UN), Council of Europe, Spain, Financial Action Task Force (FATF), Caribbean Financial Action Task Force (CFATF), Financial Action Task Force of Latin America (GAFILAT), Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE – OAS), Inter-American Development Bank (IADB), The World Bank, International Monetary Fund (IMF) and Egmont Group.

In order to keep the work continuity of the Group of Experts Meeting (GELAVEX), the Executive Secretariat kindly requests, if possible, that countries participating in subgroups preserve the delegates who have attended previous meetings. Consecutively, for better results at the working sessions, the Executive Secretariat suggests to those countries participating in more than one subgroup, according to its possibilities, designate an expert for each subgroup.

Structure and Working Methodology:

The Executive Secretariat of CICAD will provide administrative and professional support in the design and development of the final report and other documents, as well as to facilitate the subgroups discussions providing technical support as requested. Once they are agreed upon, these documents will be submitted to Member States for their review and comments in the following 30 days. By the end of the mentioned deadline the Secretary will circulate within 15 days the final document.

Financial Support:

In accordance with the decision of the Commission at its twenty-first regular session, the Groups of Experts are open to all Member States of CICAD and financial assistance to the delegates to attend the event may be provided under exceptional circumstances and based upon the existence of funds for this purpose. Those delegations that would like to request financial assistance should do so expressly and not presume that funds will be provided automatically by the Executive Secretariat.