



17th St. & Constitution Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
United States of America

Organization of American States

P. 202.458.3000
www.oas.org

**XLIII MEETING OF THE GROUP OF EXPERTS
FOR THE CONTROL OF MONEY LAUNDERING
September 25-26, 2017
Asuncion, Paraguay**

**OEA/Ser.L/XIV. 4.44
DDOT/LAVEX/INF1/17
June 15, 2017
Textual**

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Group of Experts and Working Groups:

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

Source of the Terms of Reference:

Secretariat for Multidimensional Security (SMS)

Organization:

Organization of American States (OAS)

According to:

- The recommendations of the Group of Experts in its meeting held on September 28-29, 2016, in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic (LAVEX XLIII); and
- The Work Plan 2016-2017 approved by the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CIDAD) in its Sixtieth regular session, held in Nassau, The Bahamas, in November 2016.

Considering that:

- As a working basis for the Group of Experts for the Control of Money Laundering (GELAVEX), the areas of action identified by the GELAVEX at its XXIV plenary session held in Santiago, Chile November 7-9, 2007, are 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;
- GELAVEX will hold two annual meetings, depending on the availability of resources; one during the first half of the year, exclusively for the Sub Working Groups; and the second during the second half of the year, which will feature a plenary session as well as an additional meeting for the Sub Working Groups;

- The Plenary of the Group of Experts recommended in its meeting held in Montevideo, Uruguay, September 25-26, 2014, (LAVEX XXXIX) the approval of the lines of action proposed for a new GELAVEX's Strategic Plan for 2015-2017. This proposal was approved;
- According to the approved Working Plan 2016-2017, the Sub-Working Group on International Cooperation and Forfeiture will work on the following line of action: a) Study on best practices in the coordination between administrative and judicial authorities with the specialized agencies for the administration of seized and forfeited assets; and b) Study on the need of administration of seized and forfeited assets training in OAS Member States. Likewise, according to the Work Plan approved by CICAD, the Sub-Working Group of Financial Intelligence Units and Law Enforcement Agencies will: a) develop a diagnostic study on expert evidence reports used by the countries in cases of money laundering; and b) develop a Study on new typologies in money laundering, specifically in the use of virtual currency.

Profile of the delegates to the Group of Experts:

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.
3. 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 the interest of maintaining the work continuity of the GELAVEX, the Technical Secretariat kindly requests, if possible, that countries participating in subgroups try to retain and send the delegates who have attended previous meetings. Consecutively, for better results at the working sessions, the Technical 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 Technical Secretariat 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.

Financial Support:

According to article 22, paragraph 2 of the regulation of CICAD, “the expert groups and their members shall be responsible for the expenses they incur for their meetings unless other funds are available for

this purpose". For this reason, **given that the Technical Secretariat does not have financial resources available at the moment, in this case, it will not be possible to provide any financial assistance.**