



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

Secretariat for Multidimensional Security

**XLIV 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/doc.16/17
September 21, 2017
Original: Spanish**

**PRESENTATION
ASSET RECOVERY INTER-AGENCY NETWORK FOR THE CARIBBEAN (ARIN-CARIB)**



Asset Recovery Inter-Agency Network for the Caribbean (ARIN-CARIB)

- ▶ **Simone Graham**
- ▶ **ARIN-CARIB Secretariat**
- ▶ **Regional Security System – Asset Recovery Unit**
- ▶ **Barbados**

How it All Started.....

- Established in response to a recommendation of the Group of Experts for the Control of Money Laundering of the Organization of American States (GELAVEX/OAS);
- The Technical Secretariat was asked to explore the possibility of establishing an asset recovery inter-agency network for the Caribbean;
- Need was identified through meetings co-ordinated by OAS that resulted in a Workplan for the creation of an ARIN network for the Caribbean;
- The Caribbean was the only part of the world where there was no established network;
- Regional Security System (RSS) was identified as an agency with the expertise to take forward the initiative drawing on the RSS ARU's innovative approach to tackling serious organised crime in the Caribbean common law jurisdictions, through partnerships and the robust application of proceeds of crime and money laundering legislation;

In The Beginning.....

- November 15–16, 2016 a Practitioner Meeting was held in Barbados, co-hosted by **OAS**, the Government of Barbados through the office of the Director of Public Prosecution, and the Regional Security System – Asset Recovery Unit (**RSS–ARU**);
- Discussed the establishment of an Asset Recovery Inter–Agency Network for the Caribbean Region and how it can be taken forward;
- 25 Caribbean Jurisdictions agreed to form the network;
- Consisted of 70 leading practitioners from law enforcement and prosecutorial authorities;
- Along with Key experts from existing ARIN networks from around the globe;

Outcomes.....

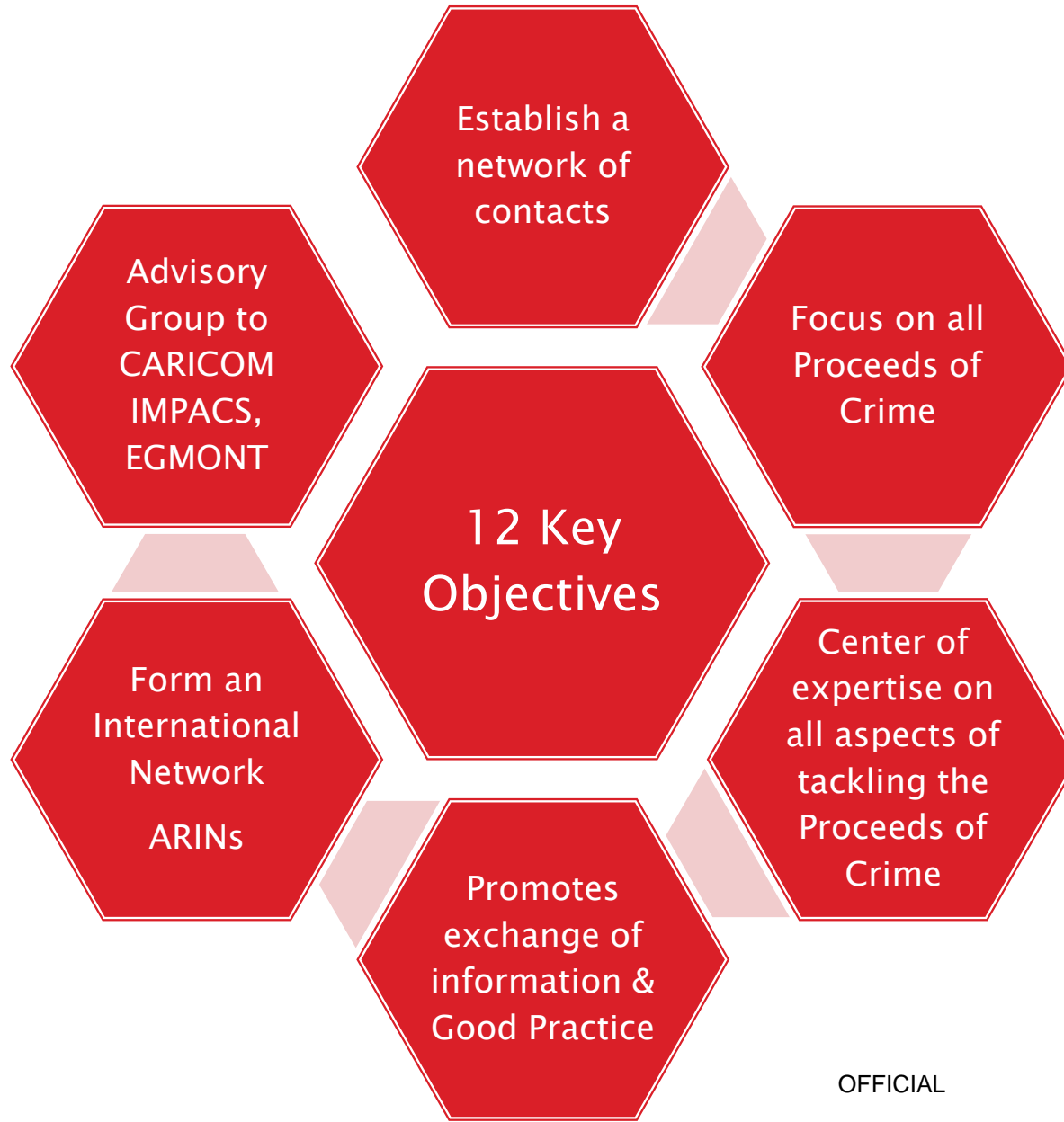
➤ **Yes!!!!**

- Need to improve international co-operation among law enforcement and judicial agencies, in order to provide a more effective method of depriving criminals of their illegal profits;
- Membership open to all jurisdictions that attended the Practitioner Meeting in Barbados 2016;
- Member status available to other jurisdictions within the Caribbean region with other applications for membership to be considered by the Steering Group
- Use of the CARIN model to establish the Caribbean network;
- Working language of the network is English;
- Agreement on name of network – ARIN-CARIB;

Outcomes.....

- The RSS to provide a permanent secretariat function;
- The Secretariat to be located on the premises of the RSS ARU and the staff of the Secretariat will be part of the RSS ARU staff;
- 2018 Presidency – St Vincent & the Grenadines;
- 2019 Presidency – Jamaica;
- Steering Group was formed with consideration to the geo-political and legal variations of the region;
- First Steering Group meeting set for 7–8 Feb, 2017 in Trinidad;
- ARIN–CARIB to be officially launched in Miami in June 2017;

Network Objectives.....



Network Objectives.....



Membership.....

➤ Membership Criteria

- Member (full)
- Observer

- Full Membership is automatically open to all jurisdictions invited to the Caribbean Asset Recovery Practitioner Meeting held November 2016 in Barbados;
- Other jurisdictions in the Caribbean region;
- Each Member may nominate two representatives, one from a law enforcement officer and one from a judicial expert to be their ARIN-CARIB point of contact;
- Civil forfeiture (for those jurisdictions that have non-conviction based forfeiture an additional lawyer is nominated e.g. St Vincent & the Grenadines;

Membership.....

- Asset Recovery Offices may represent either law enforcement officer or the judiciary expert;
- Observer status will be available to states, jurisdictions and non-private bodies concerned with the identification and confiscation of the proceeds of crime e.g Canada, Spain.
- Observer status also available to co-operating and supporting bodies that, although not involved with the operational exchange of law enforcement and judicial information, demonstrate a complementary strategic role in the identification and confiscation of the proceeds of crime e.g CFATF, CARICOM, Commonwealth Secretariat

Members:

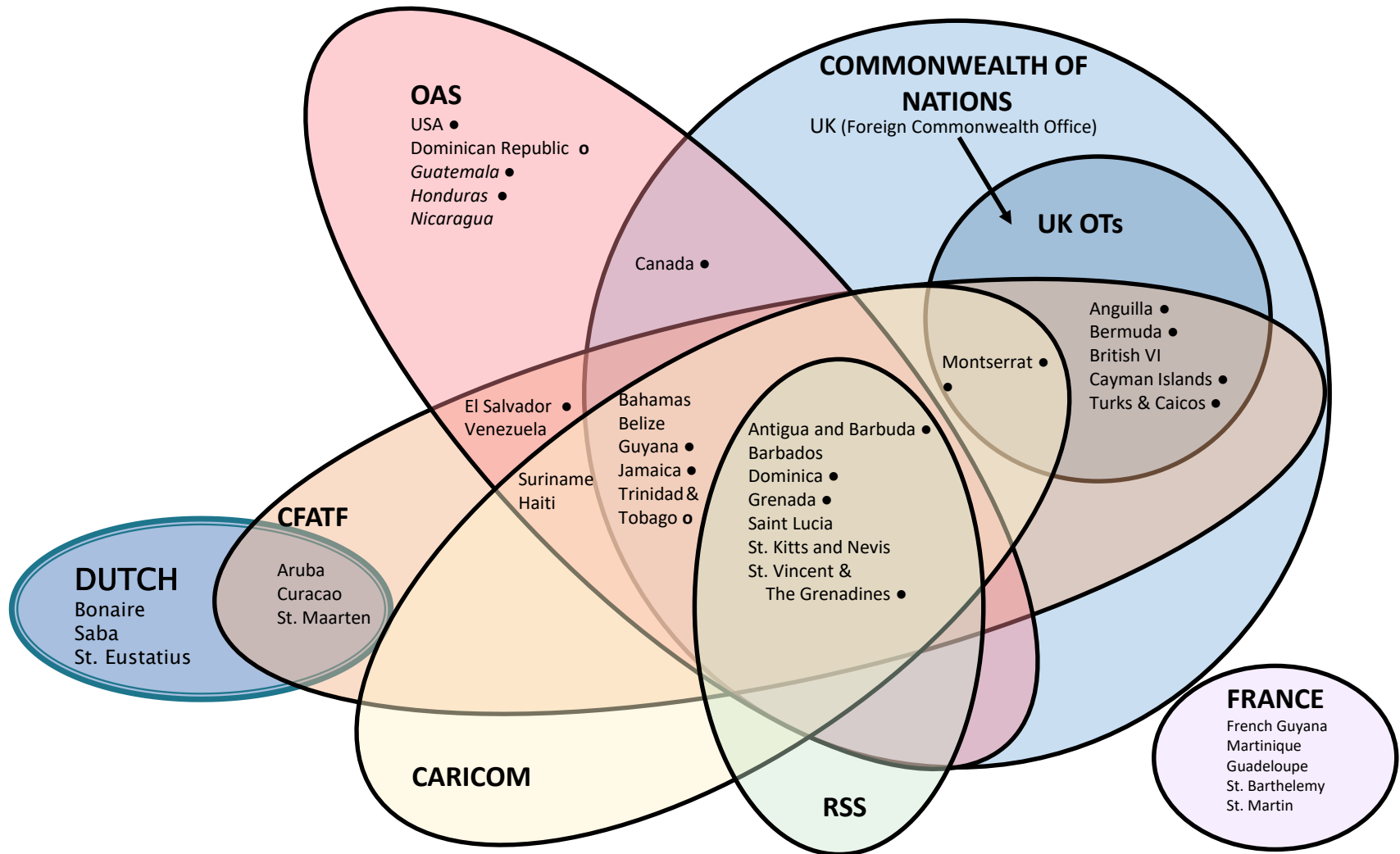
- Antigua & Barbuda
- Anguilla
- Aruba
- Bahamas
- Barbados
- Belize
- Bermuda
- British Virgin Islands
- Cayman Islands
- Curacao
- Dominica
- Dominican Republic
- Grenada
- Guyana
- Guadeloupe (France)
- Jamaica
- Martinique (France)
- Montserrat
- St Christopher & Nevis

- St Lucia
- St Martin (France)
- St Maarten
- St Vincent & the Grenadines
- Suriname;
- Trinidad & Tobago;
- Turks & Caicos
- USA

Observer Status:

- Spain
- United Kingdom
- Canada
- CFATF
- CARICOM IMPACS
- The Commonwealth Secretariat
- Other ARIN Networks

ARIN-CARIB Venn Diagram



The Presidency.....

- The Steering Group will elect the Presidency;
- Each Presidency will be elected at least two years in advance;
- A member of the steering group will hold the presidency for at least one year;
- The Presidency period will commence on 1st January each year and conclude on 31st December to allow for planning of the AGM;
- The Presidency will oversee the external communication on behalf of the network;
- The Presidency and Steering Group in cooperation with the Secretariat will oversee the preparation of a summary on the activities of ARIN–CARIB for the Year.

The Steering Group.....

- Will comprise of up to seven (7) members from which one will be elected president;
 - One UK
 - One French
 - One British Overseas Territories
 - One Spanish
 - One Dutch
 - One RSS/CFATF
 - One non-RSS/CFATF
- Will oversee the administration of the network;
- Will receive applications for membership and consider eligibility based on criteria;
- Will assist in preparation of an annual conference agenda;
- Will promote ARIN-CARIB in conferences, meetings and other events.



The Secretariat.....

- Will provide the necessary professional experience, history and continuity for the network to function effectively;
- Will provide effective administrative support to the ARIN–CARIB Members and Observers, thus allowing them to undertake to meet the objectives and functions as set out in the Statement of Intent;
- Support and facilitate the Presidency and the Steering Group;
- Will maintain the ARIN–CARIB Contacts list;
- Draft documents related to ARIN–CARIB activities, and prepare action plans to implement ARIN–CARIB outcomes and recommendations;
- Will keep an up-to-date record of ARIN–CARIB strategic planning, projects and decisions taken

The Secretariat.....


- Will provide support to ARIN–CARIB meeting hosts in relation to the organization of Steering Group, Plenary and sub–working group meetings;
- Will establish and maintain relations with other bodies and structures in the field of asset recovery;
- Will promote ARIN–CARIB, and the ARIN–CARIB concept, in meetings, conferences and other events;
- Will facilitate initial contact between ARIN–CARIB Members and Observers and other ARINs, within the available international legal frameworks

The Secretariat.....

RSS Fusion Centre



RSS Fusion Centre

- 
- UK funded state of art facility
 - Constructed at GBP 3 million
 - Law enforcement and other agencies e.g RSS ARU, NCA, US DEA, Cyber Crime Lab involved in crime and security work

First Steering Group Meeting.....

And We Are Off!!! Trinidad the Land of the Hummingbird



OFFICIAL

First Steering Group Meeting.....

- Held in Port of Spain, Trinidad – 7th + 8th February 2017 and hosted by the Government of Trinidad & Tobago;
- Successfully drafted first copy of the Statement of Intent
- ARIN–CARIB Logo
- Website
- Marketing of the network
- Identified several funding streams

The Launch of ARIN-CARIB.....

- Held in Miami – 27–29 June 2017;
- Commenced with Second Steering Group Meeting on 26th June;
- Inaugural meeting held 28–29 June 2017 and attended by criminal justice officials representing 32 jurisdictions and constituent countries in the Caribbean region;
- Aim of Caribbean network is to enhance international cooperation both within the region as well as with countries belonging to other asset recovery networks worldwide,
- Good press coverage on ARIN-CARIB launch within the region;

ARIN Is In The Caribbean!!!!!!

➤A-R-I-N is actually in the word c**AR**ibbea**N** and here we are



Achievements and Successes.....

- Meeting of the Minds from the initial meeting throughout process;
- Final draft of Statement of Intent;
- Creation of the ARIN–CARIB logo;
- Introduction and use of a WhatsApp Group Chat for members for quick and cost-effective information sharing and gathering;
- 70 requests received via WhatsApp to date/11 via Secretariat's email;
- Requests received from international agencies and other ARIN networks;
- Funding and hosting of the ARIN–CARIB website provided by the kind compliments of the Government of Jamaica;

The Future.....

- ARIN–CARIB is expected to hold 1 AGM and 3 steering committee meetings annually
- Website to be established;
- All enquiries from other networks will be addressed through the Secretariat;
- Establish itself as a centre of excellence for asset recovery in the Caribbean;
- To facilitate training of practitioners and key stakeholders;
- To encourage and assist members to adopt up to date Proceeds of Crime legislation;
- To promote the exchange of information and good practice;
- To assist colleagues worldwide in tracing, freezing/restraining and forfeiting/confiscating the proceeds of crime.



Thank you!!!!!!!

ARIN – CARIB SECRETARIAT

**Fusion Centre, Regional Security System – Asset Recovery Unit
Paragon Base, Christ Church, Barbados, W.I.**

Tel: (246) 428-1488/428-1439

Email: arin-carib@rss.org.bb