



OAS | More rights
for more people

Secretariat for Multidimensional Security

**XLVII Meeting of the Group of Experts
for the Control of Money Laundering
23 to 25 September 2019
Bogotá – Colombia**

**OEA/Ser.L/XLV.4.47
DDOT/LAVEX/doc.2/19
22 September, 2019
Original: Spanish**

ACTIVITY REPORT

DEPARTMENT AGAINST TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME (DTOC)

2018-2019

(Updated as of September 23, 2019)

ACTIVITY REPORT
2018-2019

The activities carried out by the Department against Transnational Organized Crime (DTC/OAS) in the area of money laundering and other manifestations of Transnational Organized Crime during the 2018-2019 period were determined by the Group of Experts for the Control of Money Laundering (GELAVEX) at the XLVI Plenary Meeting, held in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, in October 2018, as well as by the mandates issued by: a) the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) in its Sixty-Fourth Regular Session, held in Washington DC, United States of America, in November 2018; and b) of the OAS General Assembly at its Forty-Eighth Regular Session, held in Washington D.C., United States of America, in June 2018.

The following is to inform about the technical assistance and training activities carried out during the period in question:

A. Under the Asset Forfeiture and Recovery Program:

- a) Simulated Investigation of a Case of Money Laundering and Transnational Organized Crime (TOC): Conducted on February 25 and 28, 2019, in Asunción, Paraguay. In addition to creating a space for the inter-institutional meeting of the justice operators of Paraguay, this exercise was aimed at: Improving the coordination and exchange of information that should exist between the police, the prosecutor's office, the FIU and the entities managing assets of illicit origin during the investigation processes; Addressing the crimes associated with money laundering and their links with organized crime; Using tools such as investigation planning, special investigative techniques, case theory and argumentation typical of the criminal procedure system with accusatory tendency and; The technical use of international cooperation mechanisms to obtain useful information in investigations.

B. Within the framework of the Asset Laundering Control Program, the following activities have been carried out:

- a) Workshop on AML/CFT Audit for Designated Non-Financial Activities and Professions (DNFBP): From November 14 to 15, 2018, in Paramaribo, Suriname. This workshop was held with US financial support; and with the participation of expert facilitators from the DTC and Aruba, with the objective of improving the knowledge and capacity of 9 FIU officials from Suriname in AML/CFT supervision.
- b) Regional Course on Strategic Analysis for Suriname Financial Intelligence Units: From March 13 to 14, 2019, in Paramaribo, Suriname. This workshop was held with the financial support of the US; and with the participation of expert facilitators from the DTC who provided training on financial information analysis techniques to 9 officials of the FIU of Suriname.

- c) Introductory training session on FATF methodology and the guide on mutual evaluations in the preparation of national risk assessments (NRAs), for the Suriname Prosecutor's Office. On June 18, 19, and July 15, 2019, virtual sessions conducted by DTOC and the IDB were held, with the participation of 91 officials, including focal points, the Project Management Team and the National Commission on Money Laundering of Suriname (NAMLAC).

C. Under the Program for the implementation of the Hemispheric Plan of Action against Transnational Organized Crime, the following activities have been carried out:

- a) Within the execution of the project **“Strengthening the Capacities of the countries of Northern C.A. (El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras) to combat Organized Crime”**:
- Missions for the development of the **“Regional Assessment of National Efforts to Combat the crimes of Trafficking in Persons and the Smuggling of Migrants in the countries of Northern CA: El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras”**, were held from 23 to 25 October 2018, in Guatemala City, Guatemala; from November 28 to 30, 2018 San El Salvador; and from January 23 to 25, 2019 in Tegucigalpa, Honduras; in order to gather information and interview the key national authorities responsible for the investigation and prosecution of the crimes under study.
 - The DTOC, in July 2019, concluded the **“Diagnosis of National Efforts to Combat the Crimes of Trafficking in Persons and the Smuggling of Migrants in the countries of Northern C.A.: El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras”**.
 - From August 21 to 23, 2019 and from September 10 to 12, 2019, the DTOC conducted two **“Binational workshops on investigation and prosecution of crimes of Trafficking in Persons and the Smuggling of Migrants”**, in El Salvador and Honduras respectively. The workshops addressed national and regional efforts to combat the crimes of Trafficking in Persons and the Smuggling of Migrants, in light of the results of the situational diagnosis carried out by the OAS, in order to improve the investigation criminal, criminal prosecution and prosecution of these crimes, with special reference to their link to transnational organized crime (TOC). These bi-national workshops were attended by 60 officials from El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras with responsibility for the investigation and prosecution of the crimes of Trafficking in Persons and the Smuggling of Migrants.
- b) As part of the execution of the project **“Capacity building in transnational organized crime investigations: effective application of investigative instruments to combat illegal financial structures”**, the DTOC, with the financial support of the US government, carried out the following activities:
- Published the **"Guide to Special Investigation Techniques in Transnational Organized Crime cases"**.
 - From September 3 to 5, 2019, in Lima, Peru the **“Workshop on the effective application of Special Investigative Techniques in cases of Transnational Organized Crime”** was held, in which were trained 50 Prosecutors, Attorneys, Investigators and Criminal Intelligence Analysts from specialized investigative bodies , in order to build their technical capacity in the development of efficient investigation processes in organized crime cases, to examine the existing international

legal frameworks that govern the use of Special Investigative Techniques, identify new developments, exchange views on the challenges faced by officials in applying such techniques, and promote best practices to overcome these challenges with full respect for due process and fundamental rights.

- c) From March 19 to 20, 2019, in Washington D.C. The Second Meeting of National Authorities on Transnational Organized Crime (RANDOT II) was held, for which the DTOC serves as Technical Secretariat. At that meeting OAS member states adopted recommendations to promote full implementation of the Hemispheric Plan of Action against Transnational Organized Crime.
- d) On April 5, 2019, in Washington D.C. The Nineteenth Regular Session of the Consultative Committee of the Inter-American Convention Against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and other Related Materials - CIFTA - was held, during which States Party informed on their efforts to implement the CIFTA; the paragraphs related to the CIFTA for the General Assembly Resolution were approved; the pro tempore Secretariat of the CIFTA Consultative Committee was elected, and; the date for the 20th Regular Session of the CIFTA Consultative Committee was established.

D. Participation of DTOC in various international cooperation activities within the 2018-2019 period, namely:

- a) The DTOC participated in the XXXVIII and XXXIX Plenary of GAFILAT, held from 3 to 6 December 2018 in Quito, Ecuador, and from 22 to 25 July 2019 in Asuncion, Paraguay; actively participating in the meetings of the Training and Development Working Groups, Mutual Evaluations, Operational Support and Terrorism Financing. The DTOC gave an oral presentation to the Plenary on the activities carried out during the period, and announced the next activities to be carried out within the framework of the different programs and projects that are being implemented in the area of money laundering linked to transnational organized crime.
- b) The DTOC participated in the XLIX Plenary of the Caribbean Financial Action Task Force (CFATF), held May 27-31, 2019 in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago; in which the DTOC made presentations to the Plenary on the progress on the mandates received from GELAVEX and the Committee on Hemispheric Security of the OAS Permanent Council, in order to support and provide technical assistance to the countries of the Caribbean region in matters of Money Laundering and Terrorism Financing.
- c) The DTOC supported 2 Technical Assistance missions of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), from October 8 to 12, 2018 and from February 11 to 15, 2019, in **Panama City, Panama**, aimed at improving the institutional capacities of the Financial Intelligence Unit of Panama in the areas of Money Laundering and Terrorism Financing.

- d) From June 25 to 29, 2018, in **Panama City, Panama**, the DTOC supported the Technical Assistance Mission of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to improve the institutional capacities of the Financial Intelligence Unit of Panama in the areas of Money Laundering and Terrorism Financing.
- e) From October 15 to 19, 2018, in **Vienna, Austria**, DTOC participated in the IX Conference of States Parties of UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC), in order to maintain and improve coordination between DTOC and UNODC, as well as to know the progress made by OAS member states regarding the implementation of the UNTOC.
- f) From May 22 to 23, 2019, in **Madrid, Spain**, DTOC participated in the CELAC-EU bi-regional Meeting for the exchange of good practices COPOLAD II: Money Laundering and Asset Recovery, organized by the Cooperation Program between Latin America, the Caribbean and the European Union on Drug Policies, COPOLAD. The meeting aimed to analyze and discuss the most important aspects related to Money Laundering and Asset Recovery: emerging typologies; importance of asset investigations in investigations against organized crime; best practices in the European Union and in Latin America and the Caribbean regarding the exchange of information through the Asset Recovery Offices; reintegration of forfeited assets into national anti-drug structures; and the importance of international cooperation in this area.
- g) From June 25 to 27, 2019, the DTOC met in **Lima, Peru** with the Committee for the Implementation and Monitoring of the National Strategy for the Fight against Money Laundering of Peru (CONTRALAFI), in order to coordinate the launch of the project: "Strengthening of the anti-money laundering/terrorist financing system in Peru", which begins in October 2019 with 2 training activities: The First Workshop on Forensic Audit, Creative Accounting and Link Analysis for analysts of the Financial Intelligence Unit of Peru; and a Seminar on money laundering and terrorist financing in gambling and casinos.
- h) From August 14 to 15, 2019, in **Panama City, Panama**, the DTOC participated as presenters at the XXIII Hemispheric Congress for the Prevention of Money Laundering, Terrorism Financing and the Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction, organized by the Banking Association of Panama.