

25th
Anniversary

Egmont Group
of Financial Intelligence Units

ANNUAL REPORT

2019/2020

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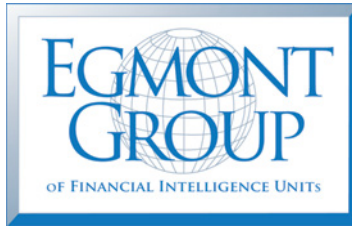
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Egmont Group of Financial Intelligence Units

ANNUAL REPORT

2019/2020

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Egmont Group and Egmont Members' proved **adaptability** and **resilience** in their fight against Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing through the COVID-19 pandemic.

The unexpected COVID-19 pandemic has fundamentally changed business operations around the world. Financial Intelligence Units (FIUs), other governmental agencies and international organizations, like the Egmont Group of Financial Intelligence Units (EG), from around the world were required to adjust their operations to support measures such as social distancing and teleworking. The EG successfully adjusted its operations to accommodate the need for virtual business while maintaining peak productivity, efficiency and effectiveness. From organizing virtual Plenary webinar sessions on *FinTech with a focus on Virtual Assets and Mobile Payment Services* to conducting virtual Working and Regional Group meetings and implementing a contingency plan, the EG was able to adapt and show resilience in the face of adversity quickly. The Group also supported its members in managing the situation. Support was offered to members, for instance, with the ECOFEL virtual roundtable sessions where EG members learned from the FIUs who experienced the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic first. These roundtables ensured a rapid exchange of best practices. The ECOFEL also developed its *COVID-19 Best Practices Paper for FIUs*. The COVID-19 situation has certainly involved challenges – ones that the EG has risen admirably to meet.



Remarks by the Chair Mrs. Hennie Verbeek-Kusters

2019-2020 is a year that we will probably never forget.

Personally, following the last EGAR, I had not expected to share more words with you in another edition. I have selected the picture you see here because it reflects the satisfaction we all felt when selecting Mr. Mariano Federici as our Chair. The situation changed quite unexpectedly, and I stepped in as Interim Chair during the January 2020 Working Group Meetings in Mauritius.

For now, the Mauritius Working Group Meetings were the last Egmont Group (EG) meetings where we could physically meet and work jointly. I want to extend my gratitude to the FIU-MU, Mauritius, for the excellent work in bringing us together in a very inspiring environment. I also want to extend my gratitude to Mr. Jérôme BEAUMONT and the EGS for all they contributed to making the meeting the success it was. We achieved a great deal while we were there. I wish to congratulate all the Working Group Chairs and the Regional Representatives for the results of their work.

We all know that shortly after this meeting, the COVID-19 pandemic paralyzed the world and all of us had to get adjusted to new ways of working. The ECOFEL did a great job organizing roundtables and sharing best practices to ensure we could learn from the experiences of the FIUs who dealt with the situation first. Not only did our FIUs have to adapt, but the Egmont Group, as a whole, had to find new ways of moving forward. And, like the entire world, we adjusted to virtual meetings and communicating out-of-session. I want to compliment all of us for our proven flexibility; that alone has been a good experience since it demonstrates our agility.

Despite the circumstances, the exchange of information continued. Among other exchanges, a trend involving specific types of fraud emerged – fraud schemes stemming from medical gear becoming scarce or governments starting to support parts of their economies.

We also managed to finalize some significant projects throughout this reporting period, including:

- ▶ *Conclusions from large scale cross-border Money Laundering schemes – The Case Book (Project Work Stream III)*
- ▶ *Combating online child sexual abuse and exploitation: analysis and application of financial intelligence*
- ▶ *Money laundering of serious tax crimes: enhancing Financial Intelligence Units' detection capacities and fostering information exchange*
- ▶ White Paper on *The Role of FIUs in Combatting Illicit Finance Associated with Human Trafficking*
- ▶ *Customs – FIU Cooperation Handbook* (jointly published by the Egmont Group and World Customs Organization)
- ▶ Arabic, French, Russian and Spanish translations of the Egmont Group Charter and the *Egmont Group Support and Compliance Process*
- ▶ Continued work on the Egmont Group IT Review

During the reporting period, the ECOFEL continued to roll out its products, namely:

- ▶ The [ECOFEL eLearning Platform](#)
- ▶ Development of eLearning Courses
- ▶ The Mentorship Program
- ▶ Classroom and online workshops on financial investigations in wildlife and forestry crime
- ▶ The continued delivery of the A-SAC
- ▶ FIU operational independence and autonomy related discussions at FSRBs
- ▶ Targeted assistance to individual FIUs
- ▶ Three online, operational training sessions (webinars) on *The Role of the FIUs in National ML/TF Risk Assessments: Lessons Learned, COVID-19 Best Practices for FIUs, and Illegal Wildlife Trade as a Financial Crime* during the Plenary week

Unfortunately, previously scheduled meetings had to be postponed. Still, we managed to replace them with very productive webinars on *FinTech with a focus on Virtual Assets and Mobile Payment Services* and various eLearning courses. Additionally, this reporting period also featured a very successful Best Egmont Case Award competition, which, as usual, demonstrates the added value of international cooperation between FIUs.

We were also happy to welcome a new member to the Egmont Group this year – Financial Intelligence Department (FID) Bhutan.

Another very important step we took was the out-of-session selection of two Egmont Group Vice-Chairs. I wish to congratulate Mr. Marko STOLLE (FIU Germany) and Mrs. Xolisile KHANYILE (FIC, South Africa) on their election. I'm sure their appointments will constitute a broader and more resilient basis for the Egmont Group's leadership.

I also wish to thank Mrs. Ramatoulaye GADIO AGNE (CENTIF, Senegal) for serving as the interim Vice-Chair of the EC between July 2019 and July 2020. Mrs. AGNE, you did an excellent job!

Another heartfelt thank you is for the EGS, led by Mr. Jérôme BEAUMONT. They managed to assure continuity in the Egmont Group's activities and have worked tirelessly to achieve this goal.

As mentioned, it's been an extraordinary time, but the situation isn't over yet. However, based on experiences so far, I have full confidence in this organization and its members. Undoubtedly, we'll always find ways to manage and continue to further our endeavours. Nonetheless, I'm looking forward to the next opportunity for us to meet in person.



Remarks by the Executive Secretary Mr. Jérôme Beaumont

In my past remarks, I have often underlined our organization's adaptability, and in 2019-2020, I believe we went even further by showing tremendous resilience. With the COVID-19 pandemic, how FIUs and the Egmont Group operate has dramatically changed. We've seen FIUs and the EG moving towards digital operations to accommodate physical distancing and teleworking while maintaining their core functions. The Group's flexibility and nimbleness have been truly put to the test and exemplified during this reporting period. All this during a time where money launderers and terrorism financiers have shown adaptability and resilience as well. I am proud to see all that we, as an organization, have been able to accomplish in the face of such challenges.

During the reporting period, the Egmont Group welcomed FID-Bhutan, bringing our membership to 165 members.

From the Working and Regional Groups side, many important publications were released, including *Combatting Online Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation through Financial Intelligence*, the joint Egmont Group-World Customs Organization's *Customs-FIU Cooperation Handbook*, *Money laundering of serious tax crimes: enhancing Financial Intelligence Units' detection capacities and fostering information exchange* and the White Paper on *The Role of FIUs in Combatting Illicit Finance Associated with Human Trafficking*.

This reporting period also saw the ECOFEL's eLearning platform's launch, which has been so relevant during the pandemic. The ECOFEL team also produced several eLearning courses in-house, such as the *FIU Operational Independence and Autonomy* and the *COVID-19 Emerging Risks* courses. In June 2020, the ECOFEL hosted virtual workshops on financial investigations into wildlife and forestry crime.

Because of the pandemic, our Plenary scheduled for July in Mexico was postponed. As a result, the Egmont Group opted to hold a live webinar series on *FinTech with a focus on Virtual Assets and Mobile Payment Services*. These webinars provided members with the opportunity to discuss the topics with subject matter experts. I must thank our moderators and speakers for their support in facilitating such fruitful discussions.

Concurrently during the live webinar week, the ECOFEL team produced virtual training on *The Role of the FIUs in National ML/TF Risk Assessments: Lessons Learned, COVID-19 Best Practices for FIUs, and Illegal Wildlife Trade as a Financial Crime*.

As mentioned in her remarks, Mrs. Hennie VERBEEK-KUSTERS stepped in as Interim Chair in January, after our Chair, Mr. Mariano FEDERICI, left the Egmont Group. I want to thank him for the tremendous work he did as Chair and all the support and strategic thinking he provided to the EGS and the Group. I also would like to thank Mrs. Hennie VERBEEK-KUSTERS for her natural leadership, her profound engagement and dedication that led to her taking on the role once more – in January as the Interim Chair and Chair at the end of July 2020. At the Egmont Group Secretariat, we felt fortunate to have such leaders. Appreciation must also be extended to the Egmont Committee members who dedicate so much time to Egmont

matters in such a collegial spirit and the HoFIU for their assistance and constant support.

I would also like to thank my team, the Egmont Group Secretariat, for their continued work to tirelessly and convivially advance the *Egmont Group Strategic Plan*.

I genuinely believe this report allows us to see how much work, adaptation, and resilience the global challenges required from Egmont this year. I'm pleased that despite this year's difficulties, the Egmont Group has been able to maintain its work to combat money laundering and terrorism financing. This is very telling of what we, as a group, can achieve.

Chapter 1 | Egmont Group of Financial Intelligence Units (EG)

WORK COMPLETED: ✓

- ✓ *Conclusions from large scale cross-border Money Laundering schemes – The Case Book (Project Work Stream III)*
- ✓ *Combating online child sexual abuse and exploitation: analysis and application of financial intelligence*
- ✓ *Money laundering of serious tax crimes: enhancing Financial Intelligence Units' detection capacities and fostering information exchange*
- ✓ White Paper on *The Role of FIUs in Combatting Illicit Finance Associated with Human Trafficking*
- ✓ *Customs – FIU Cooperation Handbook* (jointly published by the Egmont Group and World Customs Organization)
- ✓ Egmont Group live webinars on *FinTech with a focus on Virtual Assets and Mobile Payment Services*
- ✓ Arabic, French, Russian and Spanish translations of the Egmont Group Charter and the *Egmont Group Support and Compliance Process* became available
- ✓ Launch of the [ECOFEL eLearning Platform](#)
- ✓ The ECOFEL's [eWorkshop Series on Financial Investigations in Wildlife and Forestry Crime](#)

WORK STARTED: →

- The IEWG advanced its work of the following projects:
 - › Conclusion from Large Scale, Cross-border ML Schemes project (Workstream I and II)
 - › The FIU-FinTech Cooperation project
 - › The Asset Recovery – The Role of FIUs project
 - › The eCatalogue on VASPs project
 - › The Extreme Right-Wing TF project
 - › The Operation TENTACLE (jointly with WCO and Interpol) project
 - › The IEWG is assisting IMF in the drafting of a CTF Handbook. The Group is also working on developing flexible and consistent information exchange standards.
- The ECOFEL's *Financial Investigations into Wildlife Crime* report
- The ECOFEL *COVID-19 Best Practices for Financial Intelligence Units* paper

MEMBERSHIP



New member FIUs endorsed:

Financial Intelligence Department (FID) Bhutan



Membership changes:

UKFIU, United Kingdom, following Brexit, is now a member of the Europe II Regional Group

MEETINGS

2 MEETINGS
WITH
441 PARTICIPANTS

LEADERSHIP

During the Hague Plenary, the HoFIU selected Mr. Mariano FEDERICI of UIF-AR (Argentina) as Egmont Group Chair. Mr. FEDERICI served as Chair until January 26th, 2020, when Mrs. Hennie VERBEEK-KUSTERS assumed the role of Interim Chair of the Egmont Group. Mrs. VERBEEK-KUSTERS subsequently became Egmont Group Chair at the end of this reporting period.

At the end of the reporting period, the Egmont Group welcomed two new Vice-Chairs, Mr. Marko STOLLE (Deputy Head of FIU Germany and Chair of the Egmont Group's Information Exchange Working Group) and Mrs. Xolisile KHANYILE (HoFIU South Africa).

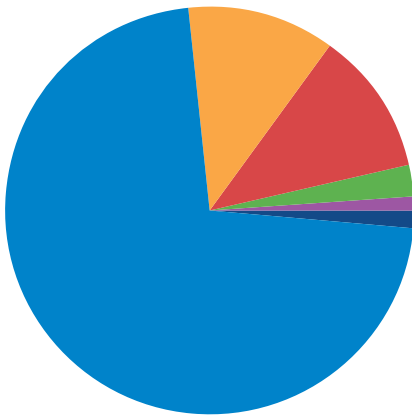
The Egmont Group extends its thanks to the outgoing Vice-Chair of the Egmont Committee, Mrs. Ramatoulaye GADIO AGNE of CENTIF, Senegal, for her dedication and leadership during her time as Vice-Chair.

TRAINING AND WORKSHOPS

Over **2400 participants** attended virtual and in-person training sessions and workshops delivered by the TATWG and the ECOFEL. Topics included:

- ▶ Illegal Wildlife Trade:
 - > *Identification of IWT Financial Flows*
 - > *Financial Investigations in Wildlife and Forestry Crime*
 - > *Wildlife Crime as a Financial Crime*
- ▶ The new eLearning Platform
- ▶ *The Role of the FIUs in National ML/TF Risk Assessments: Lessons Learned*
- ▶ COVID-19 best practices and virtual roundtables for FIUs
- ▶ *Advanced Strategic Analysis Course*

TYPES OF FIU



- **119** Administrative
- **19** Law Enforcement
- **19** Hybrid (Administrative/Law Enforcement)
- **4** Hybrid (Judicial/Law Enforcement)
- **2** Hybrid (Administrative/Judicial)
- **2** Judicial

OPERATIONS IN NUMBERS*:

25,301

information requests sent among EG member FIUs

20,963,239

STR/SAR/UTR received by EG members

1,454,473,942

other reports received by EG members

*Numbers based on survey results from 79% of EG member FIUs.



MANDATE



THE HEADS OF FINANCIAL INTELLIGENCE UNITS (HOFIU)

Governing Body

Establish the organization's mandate and priorities while making decisions on any developments affecting its membership, structure, budget, and principles. The HoFIU may delegate specific authorities to expedite certain decisions, enhance effectiveness and streamline issues before HoFIU consideration.



THE EGMONT COMMITTEE (EC)

Advisory Body

Serves as the consultation and coordination mechanism for the HoFIU, the Regional Groups, and the Working Groups. Led by the EG Chair, the EC comprises the Vice-Chairs, Working Group Chairs, the Regional Representatives, the ESW Representative, and the Executive Secretary.

The EC is the decision-maker in specific areas designated by the HoFIU. The EC is responsible for ensuring the EG's work is horizontally and vertically cohesive.



WORKING GROUPS (WGs)

Operational Bodies

Created by the HoFIU upon the EC's recommendation, their activities are mandated by the *Egmont Group Strategic Plan*.



REGIONAL GROUPS (RGs)

Regional Representation

Provide support to member FIUs in their respective regions and represent their EC members regarding compliance matters and other important issues.



THE EGMONT GROUP SECRETARIAT (EGS)

Administrative, Strategic and Technical Support

Provides strategic and administrative support to the HoFIU, the EC, the WGs, and the RGs. The EGS assists with content management in open areas of the ESW.

The EGS is headed by the Executive Secretary, whose appointment is endorsed by the HoFIU and reports directly to the EG Chair.



THE EGMONT CENTRE OF FIU EXCELLENCE AND LEADERSHIP (ECOFEL)

Implementing FIU Capacity Building Programmes

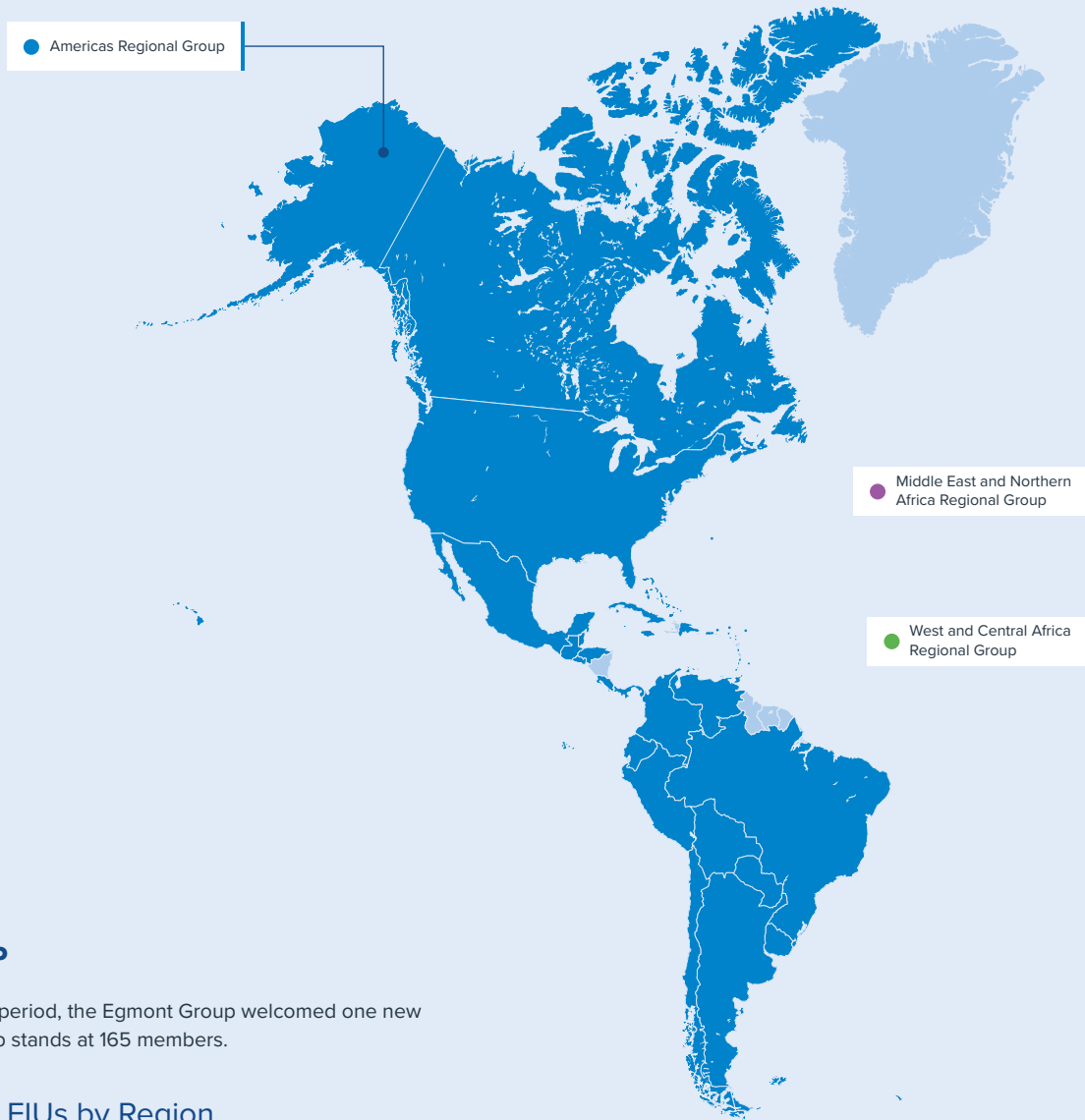
The Egmont Centre of FIU Excellence and Leadership (ECOFEL) is fully integrated into the EG and is organizationally part of the EGS. It reports to the EC's ECOFEL Reference Group and Heads of FIUs on the implementation of its work plan.



EGMONT GROUP SECURE WEB (ESW)

Secure Communications

An electronic communication system that provides an encrypted platform for members to communicate electronically and share financial intelligence and other information of interest. The ESW is critical to the functioning of the EG.



MEMBERSHIP

During the reporting period, the Egmont Group welcomed one new member. Membership stands at 165 members.

Distribution of FIUs by Region

Region	# of Member FIUs
● Americas Regional Group	39
● Asia and Pacific Regional Group	29
● Europe I Regional Group	29
● Europe II Regional Group	23
● Eurasia Regional Group	7
● East and Southern Africa Regional Group	10
● Middle East and Northern Africa Regional Group	14
● West and Central Africa Regional Group	14

Areas of Focus

With over 160 members, the EG is a truly global organization. However, more work is necessary to reach FIUs in Africa and Asia that would benefit from becoming EG members.

Through outreach and the activities of the ECOFEL, the EG supports candidates with training and technical assistance throughout the application process.

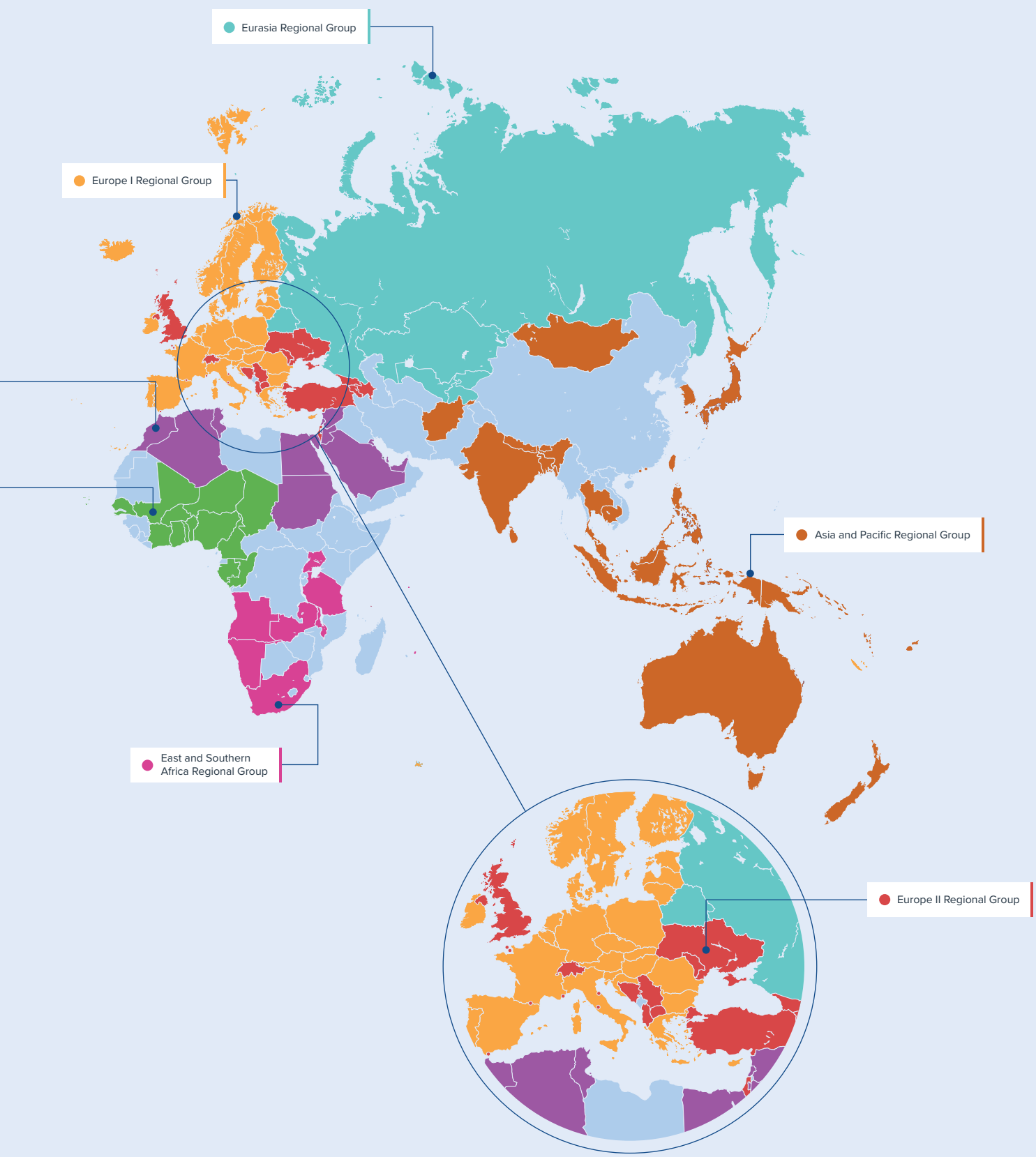
● Eurasia Regional Group

● Europe I Regional Group

● Asia and Pacific Regional Group

● East and Southern Africa Regional Group

● Europe II Regional Group



Chapter 2

Strategic Plan in Action

EGMONT GROUP STRATEGIC PLAN 2018-2021

The *Egmont Group Strategic Plan 2018-2021* was approved during the 25th Egmont Group Plenary in September 2018. The *Strategic Plan* was extended until 2022 by the HoFIU through out-of-session approval in July 2020. The *Strategic Plan* outlines the Group's vision, focusing on global reach, effective information exchange, and strong member capabilities.

During the reporting interval, the *Strategic Plan* allowed the EG to remain resilient in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic's challenges. The *Strategic Plan* also afforded the EG the ability to be nimble in providing support to FIUs worldwide for conducting effective information exchange to mitigate the threats from the pandemic and share knowledge to identify, assess and understand any emerging risks.



The *Egmont Group Strategic Plan 2018-2021* is available at <http://bit.ly/EG-Strategic-Plan>

The Egmont Group is:

- ▶ Based on a foundation of mutual trust, fairness and reciprocity.
- ▶ Focused on the proactive exchange of operational and strategic information.
- ▶ Sustained by members' free commitment.
- ▶ Innovative in its ability to anticipate and prepare for emerging challenges.
- ▶ Flexible in its use of policy instruments at national and international levels.
- ▶ Proud of the diversity of its members.

Strategic Objectives



Bilateral and Multilateral Exchanges of Information:

Increase volume and quality with an emphasis on exchange mechanisms.



Develop New Partnerships:

Leverage non-traditional partnerships to increase knowledge and influence.



Strengthen FIUs' Capabilities:

Promote excellence and leadership through ECOFEL.



Expand the Group's Field of Knowledge:

Keep the Group updated on the evolving financial landscape.

Strategic Initiatives: Four Areas of Focus



The ECOFEL

We are equipped to improve the performance of our members.



Africa & Asia

More outreach is required to FIUs who would benefit from joining the EG.



Technology

An assessment of our needs to improve current technology used within the EG is needed.



WG Thematic Work

The EG will continue to integrate our WG Thematic Work.

Strategic Objectives in Action

Strategic Objective 1

Facilitate Bilateral and Multilateral Exchanges of Information

- ▶ During the reporting interval, FID-Bhutan joined the Egmont Group, which further reduces the 'no visibility' zones within the global financial system.
- ▶ The organization continued to develop an enhanced information exchange form intended to enhance the effectiveness of bilateral cooperation between members on operational matters.
- ▶ Existing impediments to free information exchange between FIUs have been further explored, and solutions were considered for addressing them.
- ▶ Through multilateral exchanges of information between member FIUs, the Egmont Group identified lessons that could be learned from large-scale, cross-border ML schemes and what FIUs could do for early identification and disruption of such cases. The Group also looked into the role of FIUs in the Asset Recovery process.
- ▶ To facilitate bilateral and multilateral exchanges of information, the IEWG produced the following:
 - › *Combatting online child sexual abuse and exploitation: analysis and application of financial intelligence*: the IEWG's CSAE project develops and consolidates the strategic intelligence picture associated with payments relating to the online streaming of CSAE. The data from Egmont Group member FIUs and other sources, including private sector entities, provided the project team with an understanding of financial transactions suspected to be linked to online CSAE.
 - › *White Paper on The Role of FIUs in Combatting Illicit Finance Associated with Human Trafficking*: this project aimed to identify practical approaches and country-specific examples that FIUs can implement within their jurisdiction to assist in identifying and disrupting human trafficking-related activity. The White Paper highlights six specific tools and examples Egmont FIUs can employ to support efforts to combat human trafficking.
 - › *Money laundering of serious tax crimes: enhancing Financial Intelligence Units' detection capacities and fostering information exchange*: the purpose of this project was to present key lessons, best practices, and representative case examples to help enhance the fight against ML of serious tax crimes both at the national and international levels.
- ▶ The ECOFEL supports the International Financial Intelligence Task Forces established by member FIUs, which exchange operational information regarding significant ML and TF cases as well as categories of predicate offences.

Strategic Objective 2

Strengthen FIUs' Capabilities

- ▶ The ECOFEL launched products and services such as the eLearning platform, online courses, operational training sessions, and mentoring program. Moreover, the ECOFEL continued implementing the joint DFID (now FCDO) funded (ECOFEL & UNODC) project on the illegal wildlife trade, delivering *Advanced Strategic Analysis Course (A-SAC)* and providing assistance to FIUs following requests for assistance.

Strategic Objective 3

Expand the Group's Field of Knowledge

- ▶ The EG continued work on understanding changes and emerging risks in the FIU environment. In particular, the EG organized a webinar series for the HoFIU on *FinTech with a focus on Virtual Assets and Mobile Payment Services*. These webinars offered participants the opportunity to learn about these emerging trends from experts.
- ▶ The organization started a large-scale review of its IT infrastructure to enhance the EG's support to member FIUs.
- ▶ The ECOFEL continues to work on the Financial Investigations in Wildlife and Forestry Crime project.

Strategic Objective 4

Develop New Partnerships

- ▶ In February 2020, the HoFIU and the World Customs Organization (WCO) endorsed the joint *Customs-FIU Cooperation Handbook*. This product is derived from the cooperation between the two organizations in the field of AML/CFT. In designing and distributing this handbook, the WCO and the Egmont Group's goal is to provide a practical and current AML/CFT tool and reference guide for all FIUs and Customs Services, which will enhance their capacities to combat financial crime and money laundering.

Following these initial steps of cooperation, the Egmont Group was invited by the WCO to participate in the joint Customs-Law Enforcement-FIU AML/CFT efforts dedicated to fighting bulk currency, gems, and precious metal smuggling (e.g. Operation TENTACLE – Africa 2020). Egmont Group member FIUs that decided to join the operation were encouraged to use, as much as possible, the received customs information in their operational analysis, and whenever appropriate, to disseminate it to the competent LEAs to proceed with an investigation into sources or intended use of cash.

- ▶ Within Strategic Objective 4, the IEWG has conducted work on the joint EG-FATF TBML report. The IEWG are also closely coordinating with the FATF on other projects of common interest, such as:
 - The FIU's capabilities and involvement in the fight against the financing of extreme right-wing terrorism: state of play and perspectives;
 - Asset Recovery – The Role of FIUs;
 - eCatalogue on Virtual Assets Service Providers (VASPs).
- ▶ The IEWG also supports the IMF with its CFT Handbook by reviewing and assisting in drafting the chapters dedicated to international cooperation on CFT matters.
- ▶ As a result of the implementation of the Financial Investigations in Wildlife and Forestry Crime project, the ECOFEL has built a partnership with relevant stakeholders in environmental matters, including the CITES Secretariat and Interpol's Wildlife Crime Working Group. Similarly, a good working relationship has been established with several NGOs and environmental authorities in many jurisdictions.

Strategic Initiatives in Action:

Strategic Initiative 1:

The ECOFEL

The ECOFEL delivered a wide range of products and projects, including:

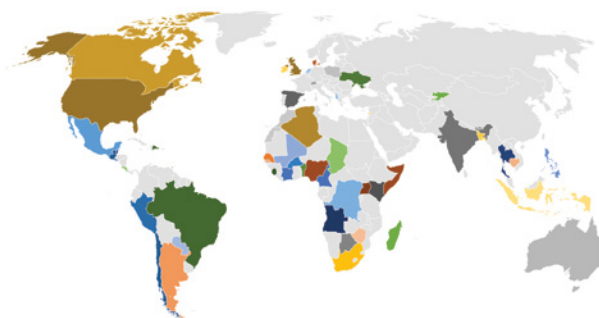
- ▶ Launching the eLearning platform;
- ▶ Developing several eLearning courses;
- ▶ Launching the Mentorship Program;
- ▶ Continuing the delivery of the *Advanced Strategic Analysis Course (A-SAC)*;
- ▶ Providing assistance based on the requests for assistance from FIUs;
- ▶ Continuing to implement the Financial Investigation in Wildlife and Forestry Crime project jointly with the UNODC;
- ▶ Operational training sessions, eWorkshops, and webinars on several AML/CFT related topics.

Strategic Initiative 2:

Africa and Asia

- ▶ The EG focused its efforts on member jurisdictions from the four FSRBs covering Africa and Asia and their non-EG member FIUs. The EG's new member for this reporting period, FID-Bhutan, is from the Asia region.
- ▶ Besides maintaining an active engagement with the regional FSRBs (ESAAMLG, GABAC, GIA-BA, and APG), the ECOFEL has had active participation in the FIU Forums of West Africa and Central Africa.
- ▶ Pacific Islands Initiative: the ECOFEL has been working with APG and AUSTRAC, Australia, to foster capacity-building activities involving several Pacific Islands (both member and non-member FIUs). The intention is to deliver an "in-person" regional event in early 2021.
- ▶ *Financial Investigations in Wildlife and Forestry Crime Workshop* in Thailand, March 11-12, 2020: This event engaged seven FIUs in the A&P Region. FIUs from the following jurisdictions attended: Bangladesh, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mongolia, Thailand. Additionally, FIU Vietnam (candidate FIU) was engaged.
- ▶ *Financial Investigations in Wildlife and Forestry Crime eWorkshop series*, June 2-5, 2020. The series involved FIUs from the East and Southern Africa region, namely, Kenya, Madagascar, South Africa, and Zambia. The West and Central Africa region FIUs in attendance included the Central Republic of Africa, Cote d'Ivoire, Niger, Nigeria, and Senegal.
- ▶ In the image below, you may see the global attendance to the *eWorkshop series*.

REGIONS IN ATTENDANCE



Strategic Initiative 3:

Technology

- ▶ To enhance the support that the EG could provide member FIUs, work on the large-scale IT Review continued. This review aims to understand the Egmont IT infrastructure's current state and articulate improvements for effectiveness and efficiency.

Strategic Initiative 4:

WG Thematic Work

- ▶ In 2015, the HoFIU decided to focus Plenary meetings on specific themes to have more strategic discussions within the EG. Despite not being able to have an in-person HoFIU meeting during this reporting period, the theme of FinTech with a focus on *Virtual Assets and Mobile Payment Services* was selected for a HoFIU live webinar series. These webinars could serve as a foundation for future HoFIU meetings and discussions.

OPERATIONAL OUTCOMES: EGMONT GROUP PUBLICATIONS

Project	Description
<i>Conclusions from large scale cross-border Money Laundering schemes – The Case Book (Project Work Stream III)</i>	<p>This case book aims to enhance knowledge on different methods and techniques of money laundering by sharing cases that FIUs have observed and analyzed. These case studies abstractly illustrate different modes of operandi and typologies applied when laundering illicit funds. This collection is intended to serve as a stimulus and raise awareness among AML-stakeholders on the variety and diversity of schemes when analyzing possible money laundering instances.</p> <p>The <i>Case Book</i> is compiled in four parts: Part I contains case studies relating to TBML. Part II illustrates cases of money laundering of proceeds from criminal activities relating to trade. Part III entails other money laundering cases in large-scale cross-border money laundering schemes. And finally, Part IV showcases a small collection of falsified document samples.</p>
<i>Combatting online child sexual abuse and exploitation: analysis and application of financial intelligence</i>	<p>The IEWG's CSAE project sought to develop and consolidate the strategic intelligence picture associated with payments relating to the online streaming of CSAE. The data from Egmont Group member FIUs and other sources, including private sector entities, provided the project team with an understanding of financial transactions suspected to be linked to online CSAE.</p> <p>The resulting financial indicators and keywords produced within the CSAE project can be used by FIUs to proactively identify financial transactions likely to be linked to the online streaming of CSAE within their datasets. The key findings of this project will enable FIUs to better contribute to efforts to tackle online streaming of CSAE, including options for more effective handling of intelligence and the types of information exchanged with the private sector.</p> <p>This project's results came in at a critical moment. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Internet traffic increased and, with it, the level of risks for online child sexual abuse and exploitation.</p>
<i>Money laundering of serious tax crimes: enhancing Financial Intelligence Units' detection capacities and fostering information exchange</i>	<p>The purpose of this project is to present key lessons, best practices, and representative case examples to help enhance the fight against ML of serious tax crimes both at the national and international levels.</p> <p>The information provided in the report should assist with establishing national strategies and facilitating effective cooperation between FIUs, tax authorities, and tax practitioners. It should also aid reporting entities in better detecting ML of serious tax crimes.</p>
<i>White Paper on The Role of FIUs in Combatting Illicit Finance Associated with Human Trafficking</i>	<p>This project aims to identify practical approaches and country-specific examples that FIUs can implement within their jurisdiction to identify and disrupt human trafficking-related activity.</p> <p>The white paper highlights six specific tools and examples Egmont FIUs can employ to support efforts to combat human trafficking:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. guidance to reporting institutions to improve suspicious transaction reporting and foster communication of human trafficking-related typologies and financial indicators to reporting entities; 2. analytic tools and techniques, such as advanced information technology tools, used to analyze financial, human trafficking patterns; 3. typologies and case studies; 4. exchange of information across the public sector; 5. exchange of information with the private sector; and 6. exchange of information with global partners.

Chapter 4

Looking Back and Looking Ahead

Over the past 25 years, the Egmont Group has accomplished a great deal.

The Egmont Group membership has increased to 165 member FIUs. The EG also covers eight regions across the globe, and has four productive Working Groups and the ECOFEL. To celebrate where the Egmont Group is now, it is vital to look back at where we started.

Before sharing the Egmont Group's key milestones from the past 25 years, it is essential to note the contributions and direction of our past EG Chairs:

- ▶ William (Bill) F. Baity (2002 - 2008; FinCEN, USA)
- ▶ Neil Jensen (2008 - 2009; AUSTRAC, Australia)
- ▶ Luis Urrutia Corral (2009 - 2010; FIU-Mexico)
- ▶ Boudewijn Verhelst (2010 - 2013; CTIF-CFI, Belgium)
- ▶ Murray Michell (2013 - 2015; FIC, South Africa)
- ▶ Sergio Espinosa (2015 - 2017; UIF-Peru)
- ▶ Hennie Verbeek-Kusters (2017 - 2019; FIU-Netherlands)
- ▶ Mariano Federici (2019 - 2020; UIF-AR, Argentina)
- ▶ Hennie Verbeek-Kusters (2020 - 2022; FIU-Netherlands)

The contributions of the Egmont Group's Executive Secretaries must also be acknowledged:

- ▶ Ms. Bronwyn Somerville (2007 - 2012)
- ▶ Mr. Kevin Mark Stephenson (2012 - 2016)
- ▶ Mr. Jérôme Beaumont (2016 - present)

OUR PAST-CHAIRS REFLECT ON THE EGMONT GROUP

William Baity

Egmont Group Chair, 2002-2008

The challenges facing financial intelligence units (FIUs) today are vastly different than the challenges in 1995-1997. Our vista was not ten or fifteen years; say nothing of 25 years. We were concerned with finding the appropriate audiences to listen to and hopefully agree that something called an FIU had utility. Moreover, the concept of such units acting together was often resisted by more established entities in many jurisdictions. The Egmont Group would never have grown to what it is today without each member FIU demonstrating its value to its individual jurisdiction.

After about the first six years of the Egmont Group, with 35+ members, we began to discuss the need for some type of organizational structure. We chose to create the Egmont Committee comprised of a representative from each major area of work and geography to manage the day-to-day operations of the Group. I was honoured to be asked to serve as the first Chair.

While there are so many memories, two things will always stand out. First was how September 11, 2001, changed drastically what others expected from Egmont. With terrorist financing included as a world-wide target, the very concept of analyzing and sharing financial information went from “would be nice” to an imperative. The ability of FIUs to use their data, tools, and skills to help identify those who financed terrorism allowed FIUs to prove their value in detecting suspected criminal activity and protecting national security. The second concern was governance. It was the recognition by all FIUs that we needed an internal infrastructure to support the growing administrative demands due to the evolution from a set of informal associations into a recognizable global body. We needed to create a Secretariat.

Chairing Egmont reinforced a long-held belief. All parties concerned may be in total agreement with a concept or an idea. Yet, because of jurisdictions' history, culture, or priorities, the idea of consensus is a constant struggle. However, when achieved, it strengthens the efforts of the entire organization and the decision-making process.

Let me close by congratulating my extended family, the Egmont Group, on having a Happy 25th Anniversary with many, many more to come.



Neil Jensen

Egmont Group Chair, 2008-2009

My sincere congratulations to the Egmont Group on its 25th Anniversary.

My time with the Egmont Group was extremely enjoyable and provided me with very strong memories of all of my friends in the Egmont Group, both operationally and socially.

The Egmont Group was and continues to be a very important, highly regarded and successful part of the global AML/CFT program.

[What stands out most in my mind about the EG is in] 1995, it was evident that the newly created, like-minded and AML tasked operational entities from a number of countries needed to get together in an operational sense. To become effective, this required a formalization of the entities into a cohesive group. To formalize the group, I joined with a number of other FIU representatives at the Egmont Palace in Brussels, Belgium, in 1995 to create the entity of the Egmont Group. Formalization of operational

cooperation was out of necessity, to remain between countries specifically linked to an operational matter. However, a range of other activities was identified, which necessitated the creation of a number of working groups, which included legal, training, outreach and, by 2002, an operational working group. Also, with the rapidly increasing membership, regional groups were established to ensure that regional issues were considered and developed and could be provided to the then newly created Egmont Committee. All decisions of the Egmont Group were made by the Heads of FIUs, through consensus, at a Plenary meeting in the middle of each year.

What stands out in my mind is the very positive and honest friendship that grew between many FIUs, despite sometimes having differing views as to administrative and operational matters. We were all part of the Egmont Group with similar overarching concerns and desires to counter ML and FT. We were a family!

As Chair, I necessarily had regular and at times daily contact with the Egmont Group Secretariat, particularly with regard to administrative matters relating to legal issues, logistics for each of the working groups and Plenary meetings, and a range of other administrative issues. Being on the other side of the world in Australia, with the secretariat being in Toronto, Canada created a significant contact issue. I enjoyed my phone contact with the Executive Secretary almost on a daily basis at the start and end of each working day. Of course, much work was done electronically by email etc., but Skype, Zoom and other online meeting facilities were still in their infancy or not developed at that time.

Probably the most important lesson [of my tenure as EG Chair] was to identify and accept that the FIUs were all varied in structure, size, legal establishment and staffing. Consequently, this creates difficulties in some circumstances for all of the FIUs to meet all of the issues raised by the Egmont Group. Consensus was the key to decision-making in the Egmont group. It was very important to provide for all Heads of FIUs to be able to outline their comments and opinions on the various issues raised with them, to contribute to an appropriate outcome and to reach a consensus on those issues. This was done by sending out draft documents and providing face-to-face discussion at the Plenary and Working group meetings. It was extremely important to listen and communicate effectively.

These are but a few comments. I have many more memories and anecdotes locked somewhere in my memory. I hope this brief insight is useful and assists in getting the staff of FIUs to commit to the working of the Egmont Group in the future. I can recommend involvement in the Egmont Group for personal development and the development of the Egmont Group in the future.

Luis Urrutia Corral

Egmont Group Chair, 2009-2010

Intelligence agencies are challenged with the need to produce reliable information in a timely manner. The challenge becomes harder when the information needed is located outside their boundaries. To tackle this challenge, intelligence agencies have the advantage of obtaining information faster than formal areas within governments. This is one relevant area in which the Egmont Group contributes effectively to the work of financial intelligence units. That contribution derives not only from the technical and procedural tools that the Egmont Group provides to FIUs for a timely and secure exchange of information. The other relevant piece of contribution relies on the human aspect of the Egmont members.

FIUs understand the importance of an effective, well-organized international FIU network, and that motivates an active direct involvement of the heads of FIUs. Such involvement produces a smooth collaboration and effective support among members in a fitting venue provided by the organization. In this context, personal relationships play a key role.

As head of a developing FIU, I took great benefit from the experience, knowledge and support provided by my colleagues from more developed FIUs, which proved useful in the conclusion of a robust agency. The commitment from members of the Egmont Group, topped with the professionalism and dedication of its staff, increased my motivation to contribute more actively to the work carried out there. That work was rewarded with the confidence deposited in me by my colleagues to take the Chair of the Egmont Group, which represents the highest honour a head of an FIU can have in that community. The responsibility was very demanding, but it turned out to be a great satisfaction with the strong support from its members and the secretariat, at the time conducted by the admirable Bronwyn Somerville.

I am happy to address the Egmont community on the occasion of its 25th anniversary and look at its evolution. Anyone who contributed to the work of this organization should feel proud of the accomplishments achieved so far. As the challenge to produce reliable and timely information still remains, the Egmont Group shall continue to play a key role in the fight against financial crimes carried out across borders. Such a role can only be effective as long as members continue to dedicate their effort to that common goal.



Boudewijn Verhelst

Egmont Group Chair, 2010-2013

As deputy director of CTIF-CFI, the Belgian FIU co-founder of the Egmont Group together with our FinCEN colleagues, my association with the Group coincided with its creation in June 1995 in the Egmont Palace in Brussels. As far as I know, I'm the only survivor still active in an FIU from this historic first meeting of the so-called "disclosure receiving agencies" (the term FIU was agreed on later). This was also the start of my chairmanship of the Legal Working Group, which lasted 15 years, until 2010, when the HoFIU accepted me as Chair of the Group at the Committee's proposal. I held this position until 2013.

At the time of my chairmanship, although the FIUs were already firmly established in the anti-money laundering and asset tracing domain, the challenges and the expectations were still great. For me, the main challenge was to keep the momentum going, quantity-wise but more importantly in terms of quality: improving the cooperative and operational information exchange, together with the establishment of a level playing field where all FIUs had comparable legal capacities and powers sustaining effective cross-border cooperation. At that time a number of FIUs still had problems mostly as a result of legal impediments, more particularly in collecting financial information, creating an area of inequality and affecting the credibility of the Egmont Group as a whole. However, we made some substantial progress in that respect and I particularly want to salute the German colleagues who radically overturned their system conforming to the Egmont standards. On the other hand, I unfortunately did not succeed in my endeavours to bring in the People's Republic of China.

As Chair, I addressed the HoFIU under the motto "*Citius, Altius, Fortius*" (Faster, Higher, Stronger), which is a message that I still find valid. There's

no time for complacency: the Egmont Group has grown into a solid structure and organization, but there is still so much work to do in enhancing effective cooperation and information exchange. We should not forget that this is the primary purpose and "*raison d'être*" of the Egmont Group.

I must also applaud the new selection procedures for the Chair and Vice-Chairs of the Egmont Group. These new measures, I believe, help further the Group's transparency and maturity.

I will be leaving the Egmont family shortly when my mandate with the Belgian FIU ends. It will be an inevitably sad moment, but I will keep cherishing the experience of my chairmanship of the Group. Egmont Group: *Ad multos annos!*

Murray Michell

Egmont Group Chair, 2013-2015

I was privileged to be elected Chair of the Egmont Group in 2013, at a really interesting and what turned out to be a dynamic moment for the organization. When I agreed to take on the responsibility, I had little sense of the enormity of the challenge ahead, nor the huge shoes to be filled by following on after Boudewijn Verhelst, who I've always regarded as being the institutional memory of the Group and who was personally responsible for bringing the South African FIU into Egmont.

A rigorous and exciting process was started in the Egmont Committee and engagements with the Heads, with long hours spent considering how to go about doing this. Each committee meeting was accompanied by several lever arch folders with endless versions of documents, lines marked in red and all in a state of semi-completeness. Hours of effort were put in by the EC members before proposals were put to the Heads for adoption.

The EG Heads proposed that the Egmont Committee itself needed to be 'closer' to the members. The organization needed better representation of the membership on the EC, as well as become more closely aligned to the regional bodies. We believed that in doing so, Egmont needed to draw in new members in those regions where FIUs were in their dormancy and which were not well represented. After all, FIUs were often the fulcrum for AML/CFT matters within their own countries and regions. If I had a bias in these discussions, it was to help build a bridge for FIUs in the 'global south' to be better able to fully participate in Egmont activities.

I felt most pleased that the Egmont Strategic Plan was eventually adopted in the 2014 Heads meeting in Lima. The process of getting to that point had probably been the most challenging. The Plan introduced the idea of a rolling three-year perspective during which Heads could monitor if the organization was meeting its objectives. It also provided a measure of certainty because activities also had to take place within a defined envelope of funds drawn primarily from membership fees.

The Strategic Plan also emphasized the important place for training and awareness within the EG. An aspect of this emphasis successfully developed into the ECOFEL. But it also recognized that most Heads of FIUs seldom had an opportunity to engage with new ideas. Thus, awareness sessions could be standard for Heads, with matters ranging, for example, from changes in technology to the abuse of virtual currencies. They were exposed to analytic tools being developed in the financial services industry that could rapidly scrutinize large volumes of data in a variety of different ways and which would disrupt the old working methods of FIUs. But they also provided opportunities for the future. The Plan laid the basis for Egmont to consistently address these and other issues over time.

The Egmont Secretariat has always been the pillar around which the Group's work could happen. They were critical in managing the Committee while I was Chair and are also the unsung heroes in the preparation of various Egmont meetings. I think especially of the Heads meetings in South Africa in 2013, then in Lima and Barbados, which were superbly organized events. They also developed a wonderful working relationship with my office staff, who toiled tirelessly and took great stress in managing me over this time. They made easy what could otherwise have been a tough job. I always privately hoped that Sergio Espinosa would be as lucky as I had been in his period as Chair.

I shall remain grateful for the trust and honour Egmont members placed in me by electing me chair of the Group. I have built life-long friendships and working relationships and have been given an opportunity to learn from the many exceptional people who work in FIUs and participate in Egmont. Egmont thrives because of the vibrancy of all individuals active within it - members who constantly probe and push for ways in which FIUs can improve the global effort to pursue the proceeds of crime, money laundering and terror financing, and to deal with the criminals who benefit from this. Egmont will succeed in this, notwithstanding the challenges it may face.



Sergio Espinosa

Egmont Group Chair, 2015-2017

It has been almost six years since the Heads of the FIUs entrusted me with the great responsibility of chairing the Egmont Group. At that time, it gathered approximately 150 financial intelligence units from around the globe, with different legal and cultural backgrounds but with the same goal of making the world a safer place by battling the economic power of criminal organizations.

During this period, we focused on three relevant and critical AML/CFT challenges: counter financing of terrorism, beneficial ownership/transparency issues, and the risk posed by not being responsive to the innovations in the financial sector.

On these issues, I think it is important to highlight the Project ISIL (the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant), which was developed regarding the study of multilateral information sharing to identify foreign terrorist fighters (FTF) characteristics and indicators. The goal was to identify FTF facilitation networks related to ISIL/Daesh, al-Qaida and their affiliates with an emphasis on logistical and travel networks.

Additionally, time was allocated for a series of training sessions that covered the role and capacities of FIUs in battling the financing of recruitment for terrorist purposes, the disruption of illicit financial flows, new payment methods, how reporting entities detect TF suspicious transactions / I.D. and document fraud, open-source information for TF issues, and business email compromise.

I would like to highlight the endorsement of the ECOFEL, which came as a response to a request from the members for a dedicated and sustainable structure that would provide technical assistance, training, and mentoring activities to enhance the effectiveness of FIUs.

During my tenure as Chair, I was deeply honoured to co-chair the Egmont Group WGs and HoFIU Intersessional Meetings (January 31 – February 5, 2016, Monte Carlo, Monaco), the Egmont Group WGs and HoFIU Meetings (January 29 - February 2, 2017, Doha, Qatar) and the Egmont Group Plenary XXIV (July 2 – Friday 7, Macao, SAR).

As well, FIUs of Cape Verde, Ecuador, Kosovo, Kuwait, and Sudan were endorsed as new Egmont Group members, strengthening the global network and information sharing in AML/CFT efforts. In addition, after a hard-fought

selection process, over which I presided, I had the opportunity to welcome Mr. Jérôme Beaumont as the new Executive Secretary, which ultimately led to the organizational restructuring of the Egmont Group Secretariat.

Finally, I would like to dwell on the role of the Egmont Group. Although the exchange of information is of paramount importance in a globalized world, since promoting the development and effectiveness of the FIUs through cooperation, my experience showed me the impact and importance of training and the sharing of expertise as crucial elements for the fight against money laundering and terrorist financing.

The continued implementation of anti-money laundering and terrorist financing national policies and coordinated strategies in each of our members, following the international standards, especially the new amendments to the FATF Recommendations, will allow us to go forward in the frontal combat against these crimes. In addition to this, we need to improve the abilities and skills of all FIUs' staff. Although this is a task that the Egmont Group has been working on since its beginning, it is also true that today, more than ever, the best practices gained by the countries with more experience in this matter must be passed and implemented between our peers.

Given the level of compromise that the member FIUs has shown since the creation of this organization, I am convinced that we will meet our ambitious goals for years to come with professionalism and in a team-spirit environment.



Mariano Federici

Egmont Group Chair, 2019-2020

The Egmont Group is an organization where FIUs come together around shared values and build trust among each other, which is the basis for true partnerships and effective international cooperation. Beyond being involved in international cooperation, the Egmont Group provides the best setting for FIUs to enhance their knowledge and capabilities, share common interests, address common challenges, and identify common opportunities for achieving their objectives.

While my experience as Chair of the Egmont Group was brief, I spent the entire four years of my mandate as Head of Argentina's FIU exercising leadership in the group; as Vice-Chair of the Egmont Committee and Regional Representative of the Americas Regional Group. Throughout this voyage, I had the opportunity to meet outstanding people all across the world who became true friends. The Egmont Group is an organization defined by its people, and building strong and long-lasting relationships is as fundamentally important to international cooperation as much as it is enriching and gratifying at the personal level.

One of my fondest memories as a leader of the Egmont Group was to host the Heads of FIU and Working Group Meetings in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The meetings not only contributed to advancing some of the most critical issues to our work, such as the cooperation of FIUs in the fight against corruption and the importance of FIU autonomy and operational independence but also gave me a unique opportunity to proudly show to the global FIU community a glimpse of my city and my country's culture. I will be forever grateful to the Egmont Chair, Hennie Verbeek-Kusters, the Egmont Executive Secretary, Jérôme Beaumont, and my amazing team at the FIU Argentina for making such meetings a huge success.

One of the most important lessons that I learned as Chair of the Egmont Group is that we can do only as much in the fight against financial crimes as individual leaders because our true strength in this area comes from strong collective partnerships and cooperation. I also confirmed the importance of working closely with the private sector,

fostering financial inclusion, embracing innovation, and promoting true public-private financial information-sharing partnerships. The closer we come together as a community, working as one in the fight against financial crimes, the greater chances we will have to prevail and to make our world a better place.



Hennie Verbeek-Kusters

Egmont Group Chair, 2017-2019; 2020-2022

Although it may seem a bit odd to share my views as a former Egmont Group Chair while I am currently the Chair, I wanted to contribute to this tribute to the Egmont Group and its 25th anniversary.

In 2017, during the Macau Plenary, I was selected to be the Egmont Group Chair. The process of being selected had been a bit bumpy but meaningful experience. I worked in the Egmont Group for several years, both in Working Groups and in projects like the Charter Review Project. After finalizing the project, I was very much aware of the Heads of FIUs' urge to move back to working on substantial issues, a sentiment I fully shared. The Project was necessary. Now and then, an organization needs to refresh and adapt to new insights, but talking for too long on the organization itself does not help FIUs to become more effective.

There was a lot of energy in the organization to focus on operational work. We started working with themes during our Plenaries to ensure the Working Groups and regions' work would be aligned. The first theme was "money laundering of the proceeds of corruption." One of the theme's significant outcomes was creating a document describing FIU operational independence and autonomy, making the concepts very concrete. It's a document that I still use when I'm talking to journalists or other parties about the importance of FIUs' independence and autonomy. It was also an important project for the ECOFEL. They developed an excellent document and a vital self-assessment tool for FIUs to determine where they stand when it comes to operational independence and autonomy.

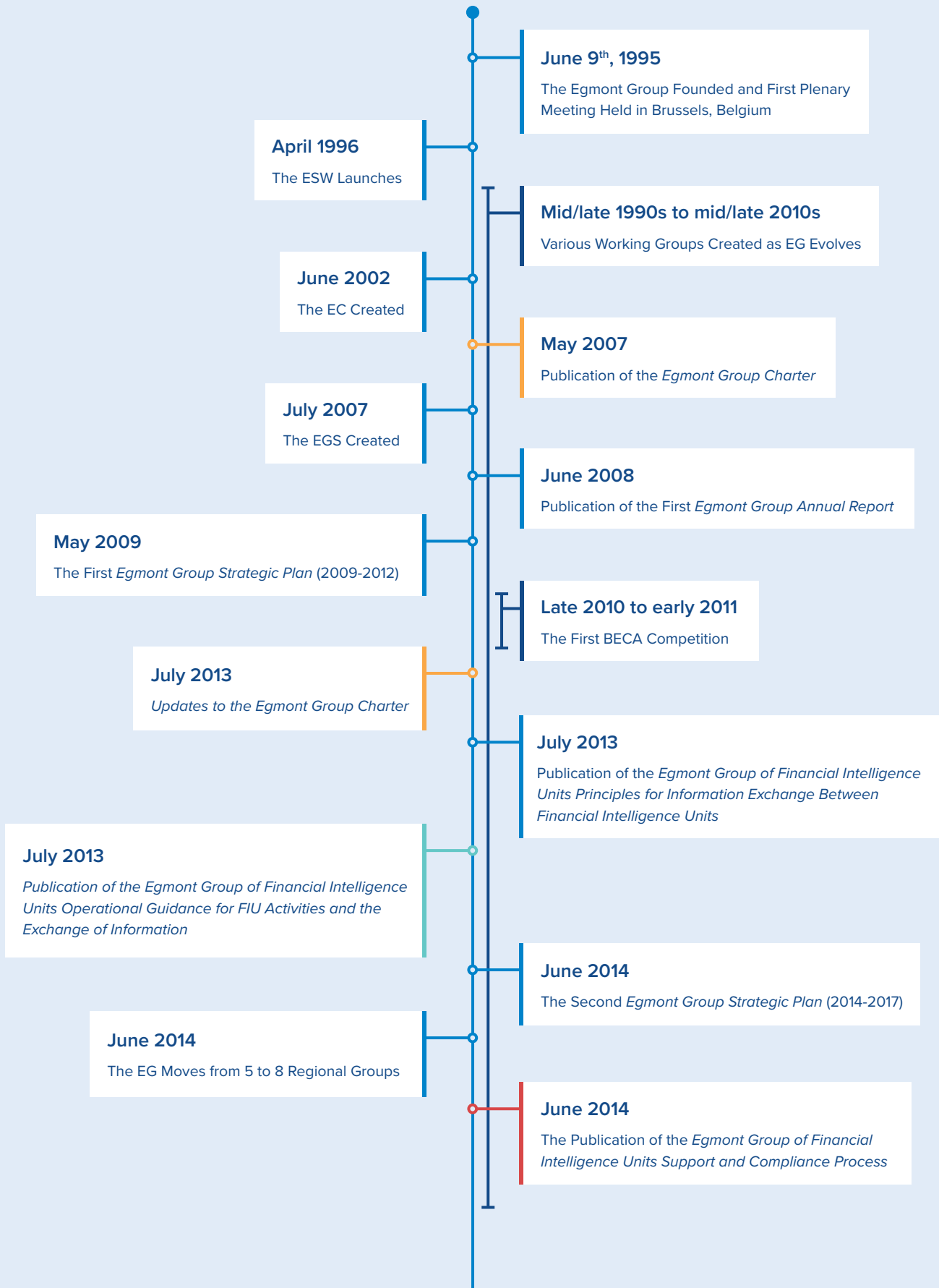
The intersessional Heads of FIU meeting in Argentina where we discussed this item is one of those meetings you'll not easily forget. It allowed the Executive Secretary and me to work closely with the then Vice-Chair of the EC and host Mariano Federici (he also appears in this chapter of the Egmont Group Annual Report as a former Chair). This meeting marked our first experiment with making the Heads of FIU meeting more interactive with moderators on the floor between the Heads. For me, this was a remarkable and wonderful experience. I was delighted that EC members made themselves available to do this. Because of how this interaction worked, I believe it encouraged members to participate and speak up during the meeting. And we managed to come to conclusions in one meeting that significantly sped up our way of working.

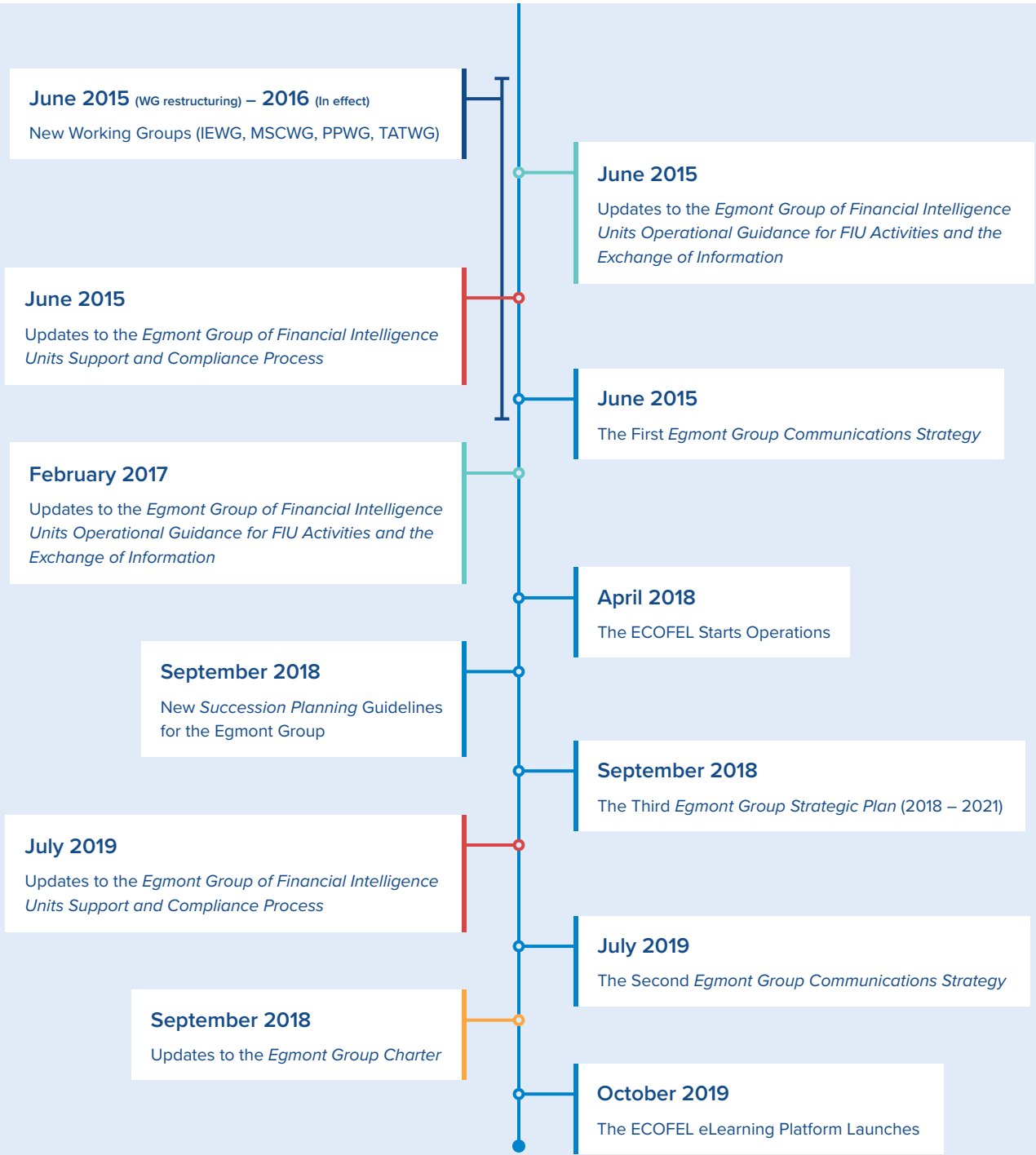
There's a myriad of memories that I cherish, remembering my first tenure: our members' exceptional hospitality when hosting a meeting, the lively discussions that took place, the fun we had, and the friendships that were built. But there's one thing that I often share related to the decision-making process in Egmont. When I started in the Egmont Group, consensus-building was an unknown mechanism to me. Right now, I believe it is a very rich and wise instrument to come to decisions. What I have learned from consensus-building is that it leads to better and more balanced choices. It's not about either-or, but to reach a point where the entire membership believes the best decision can be made. I feel the Egmont Group should be complimented with this decision-making process; it's unique.

Following the Hague Plenary, I said "Good-bye" to the role of EG Chair, not expecting to step into the role once more. But Egmont is full of surprises and here I am in the first year of my second term!

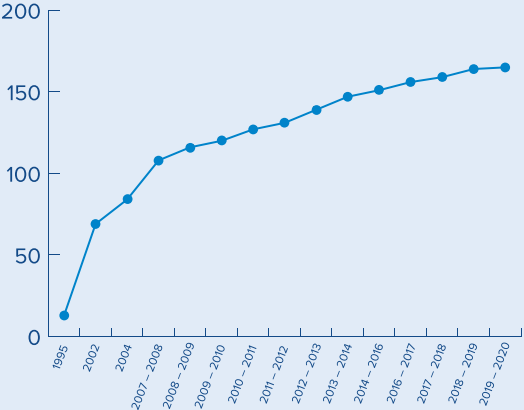
In its current state, the Egmont Group has become a renowned organization, supported by an incredibly hard-working, professional secretariat, with a growing membership and significant developments and projects ahead. It has been and is an honour to serve as Chair of this organization, particularly in the current challenging, pandemic situation where we can only meet virtually. We manage to continue our strong cooperation and build on this incredible network. It's the power of all these members' willingness to cooperate and contribute that constitutes the organization's power. Based on what I have seen and learned over the years, I'm fully confident the Egmont Group will flourish even more.

LOOKING BACK: EGMONT GROUP MILESTONES





MEMBERSHIP INCREASES



1995: 13	2010 – 2011: 127	2017 – 2018: 159
2002: 69	2011 – 2012: 131	2018 – 2019: 164
2004: 84	2012 – 2013: 139	2019 – 2020: 165
2007 – 2008: 108	2013 – 2014: 147	
2008 – 2009: 116	2014 – 2016: 151	
2009 – 2010: 120	2016 – 2017: 156	

LOOKING AHEAD

IEWG:

Following the end of the reporting period, the IEWG will:

- ▶ Take on three new projects that would supplement the ongoing work mentioned in Chapter 1.
- ▶ The first project aims to broaden member FIUs' understanding of risks relating to extreme right-wing terrorism financing, which has proven extremely relevant in the last few years. According to a note published in April 2020 by the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED), research shows that there has been a 320% rise in attacks conducted by individuals affiliated with extreme right-wing movements and ideologies over the past five years. The IEWG, therefore, recognized this threat as highly important for FIUs. The subsequent project aims to provide an overview of how FIUs can best use financial information and intelligence at the domestic level and cooperate with other FIUs on these cases of terrorist financing. Hopefully, the project will provide FIUs with a sense of the state of play and possibly promote concrete actions to enable FIUs to achieve better results in disrupting this specific kind of terrorist financing.
- ▶ The second project involves developing an eCatalogue on regulated VASPs. This eCatalogue is expected to contain the trade names, websites / URL / copy of the commercial register data (if available), address (country) of VASPs registered and/or regulated in the Egmont Group member jurisdictions.
- ▶ Operation TENTACLE – this AML/CFT effort dedicated to fighting bulk currency, gems, and precious metal smuggling is a joint effort between WCO / Egmont Group / INTERPOL. The Operation will first focus on the African region and will have its continuation in Latin America and other parts of the world. The Egmont Group member FIUs that decided to join the operation were encouraged to use, as much as possible, the received Customs information in their operational analysis, and whenever appropriate, to disseminate it to the competent LEAs to proceed with an investigation into sources or intended use of cash.
- ▶ In addition to these three new projects, the IEWG is looking to leverage the synergies associated with their members' operational and strategic activities, enhance cooperation and information exchange among them, and address FIUs' challenges. The IEWG aims to increase the quality and quantity of timely information exchange between FIUs based on operational and strategic analysis.

MSCWG:

Following the end of the reporting period, the MSCWG will:

- ▶ Continue supporting and monitoring candidate FIUs' membership processes, with the sponsor FIUs' support and the MSCWG Pool of Experts.
- ▶ Further work on reviews and provide support based on relevant triggers of the *Support and Compliance Process*.
- ▶ Continue enhancing the current MSCWG Pool of Experts to assist with the Support & Compliance issues.
- ▶ Continue reviewing internal processes to enhance the implementation of the MSCWG mandate, as established by the HoFIU, in consultation with other WGs when needed.

PPWG:

Following the end of the reporting period, the PPWG will:

- ▶ Continue to look into addressing the remaining impediments to free information exchange between member FIUs.
- ▶ Further work on developing a Glossary of *Key Egmont Group Terminology* to enhance international cooperation.
- ▶ Continue to provide advice to various Egmont bodies to promote and facilitate the understanding and application of the revised Egmont standards.
- ▶ Continue to advise other WGs on the revisions to and implementation of the Egmont requirements and supporting documentation as needed.

TATWG:

Following the end of the reporting period, the TATWG will:

- ▶ Publish the second edition of the Best Egmont Case Award book.
- ▶ Work with the ECOFEL to convert more training packages to eLearning courses, such as the *Strategic Analysis Course (SAC)*.
- ▶ Introduce and develop international webinar programs on ML/TF typologies in coordination with different Regional Groups and related Working Groups.
- ▶ Continue to engage with the observers and other international partners for potential training and technical support to benefit FIUs.

The Egmont Centre of FIU Excellence and Leadership (ECOFEL):

Following the end of the reporting period, the ECOFEL will:

- ▶ Continue developing new online courses and converting the current EG training courses into eLearning courses.
- ▶ Organize virtual workshops and webinars dedicated to various AML/CFT related topics, such as domestic cooperation between FIUs and law enforcement agencies, etc.
- ▶ Publish:
 - › *COVID-19 Best Practices* paper
 - › Financial Investigations (Financial Flows) in Wildlife and Forestry Crime project report
- ▶ Produce the FIU media toolkit.
- ▶ Deliver *CorFin* and SAC courses in an online format.
- ▶ Produce awareness-raising videos.
- ▶ Establish the ECOFEL secondments program.
- ▶ Continue targeted capacity-building activities through its Task Forces.
- ▶ Continue the delivery of the Mentorship Program.
- ▶ Roll out the Support and Assistance Mechanism (SAM) for HoFIUs.

Chapter 5 | Working Group Developments

INFORMATION EXCHANGE WORKING GROUP

The Egmont Group's Information Exchange Working Group (IEWG) builds opportunities for FIUs to share operational intelligence, develop technical solutions to enable effective information exchange, and work collaboratively to address emerging ML/TF risks and vulnerabilities.

In January 2020, the IEWG members met for a highly valuable meeting hosted by FIU-MU, Mauritius and progressed:

- ▶ Work on the projects as outlined in the *IEWG Business Plan 2019-2020*
- ▶ The discussion of IEWG's IT Business needs
- ▶ The identification of trends and project ideas with regards to the new Business Plan
- ▶ The IEWG's approaches to assist Egmont's work on FinTech, specifically on virtual assets
- ▶ The selection of the new IEWG leadership

The IEWG will continue to explore how to deliver work that meets its members' needs and encourage them to use and share the Group's products proactively.

The IEWG's in-person meeting envisaged for July 2020 was postponed due to the COVID-19 outbreak. Instead, the Group successfully conducted its first virtual meeting on July 6th, 2020, covering the following items:

- ▶ Updates on all ongoing initiatives/projects
- ▶ Consideration and approval of finalized projects
- ▶ Discussion and approval of the new *IEWG Business Plan 2020-2021*.

The IEWG was able to finalize and approve the following projects: (see *EG Publications in Chapter 3* for descriptions of the projects)

- ▶ *Conclusions from large scale cross-border Money Laundering schemes – The Case Book (Project Work Stream III)*
- ▶ *Combatting online child sexual abuse and exploitation: analysis and application of financial intelligence*
- ▶ *Money laundering of serious tax crimes: enhancing Financial Intelligence Units' detection capacities and fostering information exchange*
- ▶ *White Paper on The Role of FIUs in Combatting Illicit Finance Associated with Human Trafficking*

While the IEWG continues its work on promising projects such as conclusions from large scale ML schemes, Asset Recovery, FIU-FinTech Cooperation, and the joint EG-IMF CTF Handbook, some interesting new projects were taken on as well:

- ▶ CFT research with a potential focus on FIUs capabilities and involvement in the fight against the financing of extreme right-wing terrorism
- ▶ Development of an eCatalogue of regulated virtual asset service providers
- ▶ A joint AML/CFT effort with the World Customs Organization – Operation TENTACLE

The IEWG leadership is currently formed by Mr. Marko STOLLE – Chair (FIU Germany), Ms. Alexandra BOBYLKOVA – Vice-Chair (Rosfinmonitoring, Russian Federation), Ms. Heather MOYE – Vice-Chair (FINCEN, USA), Mr. Alistair SANDS – Vice-Chair (AUSTRAC, Australia), Mr. Kenneth O'BRIEN – Vice-Chair (FINCEN, USA), and Mr. Elad WIEDER – Vice-Chair (IMPA, Israel).

MEMBERSHIP, SUPPORT AND COMPLIANCE WORKING GROUP

Under the *Membership Process*, and with the crucial support of sponsors and legal experts, the MSCWG concluded the review and recommended the membership of FID-Bhutan to the HoFIU. The MSCWG also started the review of the different *Membership Process* documents to enhance this procedure to be more efficient in expanding the Egmont community to include new FIUs that are fully compliant with the Egmont membership criteria.

Under the *Support and Compliance Process*, the MSCWG continued the closer reviews of FIUs referred by the Egmont Committee under Procedural Trigger 3, based on weak ratings from the *FATF Mutual Evaluation Reports* (Recommendations 29 and 40). The MSCWG has also been monitoring the action plans developed by two FIUs to address their identified non-compliance issues. The MSCWG is also developing new action plans for two other FIUs to help them to overcome the non-compliance issues identified in the reviews established by Procedural Trigger 3. With these initiatives, the MSCWG monitors and helps all member FIUs to meet the Egmont criteria and enhance their cooperation.

Throughout the reporting period, the Membership Support and Compliance Working Group (MSCWG) was led by Mrs. Silvina RIVAROLA of UIF-AR, Argentina (from July 2019 until January 2020), and Mr. Abdelsattar ELNAJAR of EMLCU, Egypt, as interim Chair. The MSCWG's Vice-Chairs for the reporting period included Mr. Abdelsattar ELNAJAR (EMLCU, Egypt), Mr. Ahmed ELBASHARI (FINCEN, USA), and Mr. Fuad ALIYEV (FMS-AZ, Azerbaijan).

POLICY AND PROCEDURES WORKING GROUP

The Policy and Procedures Working Group continued to provide a forum where Egmont Group member FIUs can identify important operational policy and strategic issues affecting the Egmont Group and respond to the issues by coordinating a response across the organization and, in some instances, with partner organizations.

In pursuance of its mandate, the PPWG:

- ▶ Explored potential solutions to multiple issues that impede the free exchange of information between FIUs;
- ▶ Promoted the understanding of the Egmont Group standards and facilitated their common interpretation and uniform application;
- ▶ Developed a *Glossary of Key Egmont Group Terminology*;
- ▶ Provided assistance to other Egmont bodies on legal issues and policy interpretations; and
- ▶ Followed legal or regulatory works of interest conducted in other international fora.

From July 2, 2019, to January 29, 2020, the PPWG met on two occasions. First, in July 2019, during the Egmont Group Plenary Meeting in the Hague, the Netherlands. And secondly, in January 2020, during the Egmont Group Working Group Meeting in Balaclava, Mauritius.

As the custodian of core Egmont Group documents, the PPWG ensured that they remain consistent with the organization’s strategic plan and continue to be relevant to the global anti-money laundering / counter-terrorist financing environment.

During the period from July 2, 2019, to July 31, 2020, the PPWG:

- ▶ Extended the previous 2018-2019 business plan, which was deemed to be aligned with the 2018-2021 *Egmont Group Strategic Plan* (adopted in September 2018), for one year. One new project was added to the PPWG’s business plan involving the EG’s languages of communication. In total, seven projects were considered by the PPWG as supporting the organization in achieving its strategic objectives. Three of the projects are high-priority topics for immediate implementation.

Strategic Objective	Project	Priority 2018-2019
Facilitate Bilateral and Multilateral Exchanges of Financial Information	Address impediments to bilateral and multilateral information sharing between FIUs, which have been identified by previous operational work	HIGH PRIORITY
	Develop a <i>Glossary of Key Egmont Group Terminology</i>	HIGH PRIORITY
	Communication language(s) within the Egmont Group	MEDIUM PRIORITY
Strengthen FIUs’ Capabilities	Revision of the <i>Support and Compliance Process - Procedural Trigger 4 (Limited Statistical Review)</i>	HIGH PRIORITY
	Ensure consistency between EG expectations for candidate FIUs and members	MEDIUM PRIORITY
	Understand the role of FIU in countering financing of proliferation	LOW PRIORITY
Develop New Partnerships	Understand better the FIU Boards – context, opportunities, challenges	LOW PRIORITY

- ▶ Developed a report outlining potential solutions to information exchange impediments between FIUs identified in the project's previous stage. The report was distributed among the PPWG for consultation and amended to reflect the comments and feedback received. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the report's finalization was postponed for completion in the following interval.
- ▶ Developed a *Glossary of Key Egmont Group Terminology*, which deconflicts terms with differing interpretations among Egmont Group members, as identified in the project's previous mapping exercises. The Glossary contains terms and concepts frequently used in the Egmont Group. Due to delays caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the project is expected to be completed at the beginning of the next interval.
- ▶ Clarified and further developed the review mechanism under the *Support and Compliance Process – Procedural Trigger 4: Limited Statistical Review* to better reflect the quantity and quality of data when reviewing FIUs' performances when exchanging information.
- ▶ Considered the request for advice from the Membership, Support and Compliance Working Group on the compliance of the MSCWG Procedure for Reviewing Significant Changes affecting Member FIUs with the Egmont Group documents approved by the Heads of FIU.
- ▶ Considered the request for advice from the Membership, Support and Compliance Working Group on applying the *Support and Compliance Process – Procedural Trigger 3*.
- ▶ Considered the request for advice from the Information Exchange Working Group regarding making the form developed in the IEWG's project *Flexible consistent information exchange standards* mandatory for Egmont Group members.

The PPWG continues to ensure, through its policy development and projects, that FIUs exchange intelligence and expertise in ways that address the challenges stemming from the evolving money laundering and terrorist financing threats.

The PPWG is chaired by Mrs. Anne Mette WADMAN (EFE, Norway). The PPWG's Vice-Chairs include Mrs. Elvira KROSS (MOT, Aruba), Mr. Lucas KNEP-PELHOUT (FIU-Netherlands) until January 2020, and Mrs. Anne Marie KEMNA (FIU-Curaçao) starting January 2020.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING WORKING GROUP

The TATWG developed a business plan consistent with the *Egmont Group Strategic Plan* in 2019-2021 to continue developing technical assistance and training through multiple channels for both Egmont Group member and non-member FIUs.

During the reporting period, the Working Group continued to develop and implement training courses through various mechanisms.

- ▶ The TATWG completed French and Spanish translations for the *CORFIN* training materials and made all training materials available on the ESW. All FIU members and observers were encouraged to make the best use of them for specific training courses. A *Strategic Analysis Course* was organized by the SFIS, Kyrgyzstan, in Bishkek in November 2019.
- ▶ eLearning: While the ECOFEL was TATWG's operational arm between April 2018 to January 2020, the ECOFEL eLearning Platform launched in October 2019. The e-CORFIN was developed as the first Egmont Group eLearning course. In cooperation with International Center for Asset Recovery (ICAR), the EG has developed the *Operational Analysis Course (OAC)* in multiple languages for FIUs and interested subscribers. The course has also been available in the ECOFEL eLearning Platform since July 2020. The course is available at <http://learn.baselgovernance.org> and <https://learn.ecofel.org>. The development of an eLearning course on Terrorism Financing, in cooperation with the ICAR, progressed and will be available by the end of 2020 on both organizations' eLearning Platforms. The TATWG also provided FIU experts with the opportunity to review the eLearning course on Trade-Based Money Laundering developed by the UNODC during this reporting period.
- ▶ Operational Training Sessions (OTS) for the Plenary: The TATWG identified OTS topics in January 2020. It was unfortunate that the in-person Plenary Meetings could not occur as scheduled in July 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite this, with the support of the ECOFEL, the OTS were realized and organized on the ECOFEL eLearning Platform on July 7th- 9th, 2020. Topics covered include; *The Role of the FIUs in National ML/TF Risk Assessments: Lessons Learned*, *COVID-19 Best Practices for FIUs*, and *Illegal Wildlife Trade as a Financial Crime*.

Best Egmont Case Award (BECA): The BECA competition has been one of the highlights at the Egmont Group Plenary since 2011. However, following the launch of the 2020 BECA competition, the COVID-19 pandemic erupted. Despite this, the TATWG continued the competition and received 24 cases from 19 FIUs that presented FIU operations' best practices and showcased a diversity of ML/TF typologies. The winner, UPK, Brunei Darussalam, was selected through virtual voting by the Egmont Group members. The BECA competition continued its cooperation with the World Bank's Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative (StAR). The corruption case from PPATK, Indonesia, was selected as the winner of StAR in 2020.

These accomplishments highlight the continuous devotion of the TATWG and the ECOFEL during the challenging times stemming from COVID-19.

The TATWG was chaired by Mr. Amr S. RASHED (EMLCU, Egypt), with Mr. Phil HUNKIN (CIFIU, Cook Islands) as Vice-Chair from July 2019 to January 2020. From February 2020 to July 2020, the TATWG was chaired by Mr. Bernardo MOTA (COAF, Brazil) with Vice-Chairs Mr. Amr S. RASHED (EMLCU, Egypt), Mr. Leopoldo QUIRÓS (UAFE-Ecuador, BECA Champion) and Mr. Stephen JOHN (FINTRAC, Canada) following the selection of new Working Group leadership during the Egmont Group Working Groups and Regional Groups Meetings in Mauritius.

The ECOFEL eLearning platform and eLearning course development

In October 2019, the ECOFEL eLearning platform (www.learn.ecofel.org) became operational. Public sector professionals who work for FIUs, law enforcement agencies, supervisory authorities, and academia are eligible to register in the platform. Currently, over 2000 users have signed up to the ECOFEL's eLearning platform. Concurrently with the eLearning platform's launch, the ECOFEL presented its first online course, the *Corporate Vehicles and Financial Products Course (e-CorFin)*, which built upon the classroom course developed by the TATWG.

The ECOFEL continued adding new eLearning course to its eLearning platform during the reporting period. The LinkedIn Learning eLearning course catalogue was acquired and made available only to FIUs. The LinkedIn Learning eLearning course catalogue includes more than 16,000 online courses covering skills and topics such as leadership building, data analytics, communications, project management, mentoring, etc. In March 2020, the ECOFEL launched the online *FIU Operational Independence and Autonomy Course*. This online course incorporates foundational knowledge on various factors that impact FIU operational independence and autonomy, interactive exercises based on case studies, knowledge assessment, etc.

The development of ECOFEL eLearning courses was further accelerated in response to the COVID-19 outbreak, as the majority of FIUs moved towards working remotely. In April 2020, the ECOFEL launched the COVID-19 *Emerging Risks* eLearning course. Since the beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak, FIUs and law enforcement agencies have reported that criminals exploit the crisis by adapting their modes of operation and developing new criminal activities such as various fraud and scam schemes and other crimes. This new online course provides FIUs and other partner organizations with up-to-date information about COVID-19 related crimes and emerging risks, highlights various challenges and provides FIUs with recommendations.

In addition, the ECOFEL put together two learning plans to assist FIUs with adapting to their new work environments and developing a mentoring culture within member FIUs from the Heads of FIUs to their teams.

Virtual Roundtables on COVID-19 for FIUs

To strengthen FIU capabilities during this emerging crisis, the ECOFEL organized a series of virtual roundtables on COVID-19 to:

- ▶ Identify some of the key challenges affecting FIUs around the world, including internal challenges (e.g., how the pandemic may affect FIU operations) and external challenges (e.g., how to tackle new types and patterns of criminal activity).
- ▶ Enable FIUs to share their views with other FIUs in locations where the pandemic is still unfolding.
- ▶ Explore, in a preliminary manner, the challenges and new environment that will emerge once the pandemic is over.

Additionally, to enable FIUs to face the current challenges in the best possible way, the ECOFEL conducted a broad review of the existing financial trends and associated guidance published by other organizations. A best practices paper has been prepared on this subject.

Advanced Strategic Analysis Course

During the reporting period, the ECOFEL successfully delivered the *Advanced Strategic Analysis Course (A-SAC)*. Spanish-speaking FIUs from the Americas Region benefited from the A-SAC's key features, including hands-on exercises involving data collected by attending FIUs and a mentoring component due to the seasoned experts conducting the course. This delivery was conducted in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, in November 2019.

Financial Investigations in Wildlife and Forestry Crime Workshops

Within the frame of the Financial Investigation (Financial Flows) in Wildlife and Forestry Crime (FIWFC) project, during the Egmont Committee and Working Groups Meeting in Mauritius (January 2020), the ECOFEL organized the *Identification of IWT Financial Flows* workshop attended by FIUs, EG observers, and international partners.

In March 2020, with the support of the AMLO, Thailand, the *Financial Investigations in Wildlife and Forestry Crime Workshop* was held in Bangkok, Thailand. This event was attended by FIUs from the Asia and Pacific region and international organizations such as CITES, Interpol, UNODC, regional NGOs, and customs and environmental agencies. The workshop raised awareness on several crucial topics, such as efficient coordination, institutional frameworks that favour cooperation in fighting illegal wildlife trade (IWT), the importance of predicate offences and practical alternatives for tackling IWT, and different options for linking IWT with financial crimes. Due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and challenges organizing in-person events as planned, the ECOFEL organized the first *Financial Investigation in Wildlife and Forestry Crime eWorkshop Series* on June 2-5, 2020, which benefitted FIUs globally.

Mentorship Program

The Mentorship Program's goal is to establish a network of mentors to strengthen the leadership competencies of HoFIU mentees and reinforce skills (e.g., communication, decision-making, problem-solving) while establishing expertise networks that will support the exchange of best practices and lessons learned.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the ECOFEL had to change its initial implementation plan for the Mentorship Program. However, the ECOFEL managed to hold its first mentor training session online in May 2020, which an external consultant conducted. A second mentor online training session will be held in August 2020. The ECOFEL assigned each HoFIU mentee to a trained mentor. Each mentor works with their mentee on the goals they set together as the focus of their mentoring relationship. The first online meetings between mentors and mentees started in May 2020, following the first mentor training session's completion. Currently, the program includes six mentees and six mentors. The ECOFEL expects that more mentees and mentors will register for the program during the next reporting period.

“International Financial Intelligence Task Forces”

The ECOFEL developed the “International Financial Intelligence Task Forces” concept as an enhanced framework for facilitating international cooperation. The ECOFEL's objective is to facilitate this framework by enhancing FIUs' capabilities to benefit from international cooperation. Task forces are intended to be a means through which FIUs can cooperate on specific topics (such as an ML/TF case/scandal affecting multiple jurisdictions: a reporting entity, a criminal organization, and others). Two Task Forces have been established and are active:

- ▶ *Task Force 1: facilitating cross-border cooperation involving a reporting entity in the Baltics.*
- ▶ *Task Force 2: facilitating international cooperation on Terrorism Financing around the Lake Chad region (West/Central Africa).*

FIU Operational Independence and Autonomy Related Events

Following the adoption of the *Understanding FIU Operational Independence and Autonomy* paper and Executive Training during the EG Sydney Plenary in September 2018, the ECOFEL decided to conduct regional FIU Operational Independence and Autonomy-related events or discussions within FSRB Plenary meetings. In July 2019, the ECOFEL organized an “FIU Leadership Understanding FIU Operational Independence and Autonomy discussion” within the MONEYVAL Plenary. The Heads of FIUs from Latvia, Liechtenstein, and San Marino served as panellists for this discussion and shared their experiences and knowledge on this topic. In November 2019, the “FIU Operational Independence and Autonomy – Practical Cases discussion,” delivered by the EMLCU, Egypt, and the ECOFEL team, was held within the margins of the MENAFATF Plenary meeting in Cairo, Egypt. Additionally, in November 2019, a special session on “FIU Operational Independence and Autonomy – Self-Assessment tool” was also facilitated within the margins of the GIABA Plenary meeting in Dakar, Senegal, for the FIUs of the West Africa region.

Targeted Assistance for FIUs

The ECOFEL continues to receive requests for targeted assistance from member and candidate FIUs to help develop/enhance the operational capabilities of FIUs in need. During the reporting period, the ECOFEL received several FIU requests for assistance relating to capacity building on operational and strategic analysis, development of standard operating procedures, legislative review, and overall FIU development. The ECOFEL was subsequently able to provide relevant assistance.

Support and Assistance Mechanism for HoFIUs

The HoFIU requested a mechanism to provide effective support when faced with non-ordinary circumstances. Supporting FIUs in these circumstances is one of the ECOFEL's key mandates. To address the various needs raised by the HoFIU, the ECOFEL developed the Support and Assistance Mechanism framework. The mechanism will be rolled-out once feedback is obtained from the HoFIU.

Operational Training Sessions

Within the EG's July 2020 HoFIU Webinars, the ECOFEL organized three online, operational training sessions:

- ▶ *The Role of the FIUs in National ML/TF Risk Assessments: Lessons Learned*
- ▶ *COVID-19 Best Practices for FIUs*
- ▶ *Illegal Wildlife Trade as a Financial Crime: The Role of the FIUs in Fighting Wildlife Crime*

Over 1000 employees from EG member FIUs and observer and partner organizations attended these operational training sessions.

Overview of tools and support available to FIUs



FIU Requests for Assistance

Since last year, the ECOFEL started addressing the requests from FIUs. During the reporting period, the ECOFEL received several FIU Requests for Assistance relating to FIU capacity building and delivered assistance where possible. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the ECOFEL had to postpone assistance to several individual FIUs where such assistance would require visits by experts to the requesting FIUs.

Online FIU Operational Independence and Autonomy Self-Assessment Tool

This online tool was launched in April 2019, and it helps FIUs identify areas where FIU operational independence and autonomy can be strengthened.

The tool is available to all FIUs around the globe: <https://www.research.net/r/oia-checklist>



Awareness-raising video production

The ECOFEL is producing public awareness-raising videos to bolster awareness about the EG and FIUs. So far, the ECOFEL has produced the *What is an FIU?* video. This video has been translated into Spanish, Arabic, and Latvian and is available on the ECOFEL eLearning Platform.

The *What is the Egmont Group?* video is currently under development.

Chapter 7

Regional Group Developments

AMERICAS REGIONAL GROUP

The Americas Regional Group is comprised of FIUs from North America, South America, Central America, and the Caribbean. The Americas Region FIUs are members of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), the Caribbean Financial Action Task Force (CFATF), and the Financial Action Task Force of Latin America (GAFILAT). During the reporting period, 39 FIUs were members of the Americas Regional Group.

Throughout this reporting period, the Americas Regional Group was led by Mrs. Anne-Marie KEMNA (FIU-Curaçao) and Mr. Sergio ESPINOSA (UIF-Peru).

REGIONAL GROUP HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE REPORTING PERIOD:

- ▶ CFATF HoFIU meetings (November 2019 and July 2020) where Egmont Group updates were presented and discussed.
- ▶ GAFILAT meeting (December 2019) where Egmont Group updates were presented and discussed.

- ▶ EG HoFIU of the Americas Region held a meeting in Lima (March 3-4, 2020), where public-public cooperation in the region, as well as virtual assets/fintech and the role of Americas FIUs, was extensively discussed.
- ▶ During the reporting period, the main regional development included increasing awareness of VAs and VASPs, which were then incorporated into the national framework.



ASIA AND PACIFIC REGIONAL GROUP

The Asia and Pacific Regional Group is comprised of FIUs from member jurisdictions of the Asia and Pacific Group on Money Laundering (APG). The Asia and Pacific Regional Group membership now stands at 29 FIUs, with FID-Bhutan joining the Group in July 2020.

The Asia and Pacific Regional Group was led by Mr. Dian Ediana RAE (PPATK, Indonesia) and Mr. D M RUPASINGHE¹ (FIU-Sri Lanka) during the reporting period.

REGIONAL GROUP HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE REPORTING PERIOD:

- ▶ AMLC, the Philippines, AUSTRAC, Australia, and PPATK, Indonesia co-hosted the 5th CTF Summit (November 12-14, 2019) in Manila, Philippines.
- ▶ Actively participated in AML/CTF training and webinars conducted by the FATF, the ECOFEL, ILEA, UNODC, USDOJ-OPDAT, and other donors.
- ▶ More than 16 MoUs were signed.
- ▶ The FIUs from Brunei Darussalam, Fiji, Korea, Indonesia, and Taiwan contributed 10 out of 24 cases to the 2020 BECA Competition. The FIUs from Australia and Bangladesh contributed two volunteer judges to the BECA Competition. UPK, Brunei Darussalam was voted the BECA Champion, and the World Bank recognized PPATK, Indonesia as the winner of the STAR Initiative.
- ▶ PPATK, Indonesia and AUSTRAC, Australia chaired the Financial Intelligence Consultative Group (FICG), a standing consultative group of ASEAN, Australian, and NZ FIUs. It continued to be an example of multilateral cooperation in the region being used to respond to terrorism financing and transnational crime threats.
- ▶ PPATK, Indonesia and AUSTRAC, Australia continued their Partnership Program in Indonesia. This AML/CTF partnership and capacity-building program seeks to strengthen the skills and governance frameworks of PPATK, Indonesia, and other stakeholders.
- ▶ AUSTRAC, Australia, established a team to work with FIUs in the South Pacific region to increase operational collaboration and access to technical assistance and training (April 2020). AUSTRAC, Australia, and FIUs in the region will work within this partnership to upgrade systems, refine financial intelligence tradecraft skills, deliver mutual evaluation support, and foster increased financial intelligence exchange levels.



¹ Mr. D M RUPASINGHE retired from FIU-Sri Lanka in June 2020 and is, therefore, no longer a Regional Representative for the Asia and Pacific Region.

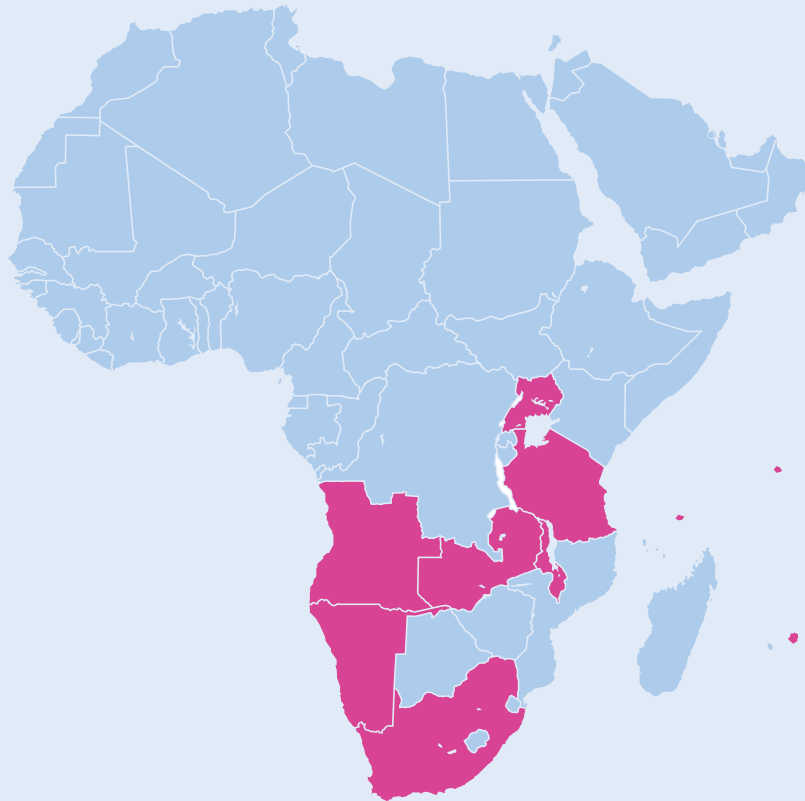
EAST AND SOUTHERN AFRICA REGIONAL GROUP

The East and Southern Africa (ESA) Regional Group comprises FIUs from the Eastern and Southern Africa Anti-Money Laundering Group (ESAAMLG) member jurisdictions. The Regional Group membership stands at 10 FIUs.

During the reporting period, Ms. Sandra HALL (Seychelles-FIU) was the Regional Representative.

REGIONAL GROUP HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE REPORTING PERIOD:

- ▶ The Regional Representative was invited to represent the Egmont Group at the Parliamentary Intelligence - Security Forum from October 7 to 8, 2019, in Nairobi, Kenya. The Regional Representative gave a presentation that highlighted FIUs' role in the domestic and global fight against illicit funds, the EG's work and CTF activities.
- ▶ FIU-MU, Mauritius hosted the Egmont Working Group and Regional Group Meetings from January 27 to 30, 2020. More than 280 delegates from 102 member FIUs, one candidate FIU, observers, and International Partners attended. The meetings were successful and fruitful.
- ▶ FIUs from South Africa, Zambia and Nigeria, participated in a virtual workshop on illegal wildlife trade through the ECOFEL eLearning platform on June 2, 2020. The main findings indicated that:
 - ▶ In cash-dominant source countries, FIUs should conduct currency analysis and investigate cash purchases of luxury goods, pre-paid cards, and casino transactions.
 - ▶ Higher on the supply chain, there is a greater reliance on banking and online transactions.
- ▶ To enhance the effectiveness of information exchange among FIUs in the region, the ESA Regional Group, while in The Hague Plenary, resolved to establish a regional forum for FIU Heads of Analysis. FIC, South Africa, hosted an inaugural meeting from September 9 to 10, 2019 and a follow-up meeting to discuss an IT platform for that matter.
- ▶ The FIUs from Namibia and South Africa contributed to a joint case for the 2020 BECA competition related to crypto-assets being used to hide and launder crime proceeds.
- ▶ In September 2019, the ESAAMLG signed an MoU with the Africa Alliance Partnership of the Attorney Generals Alliance (AAP- AGA) to combat money laundering through implementing the FATF standards.



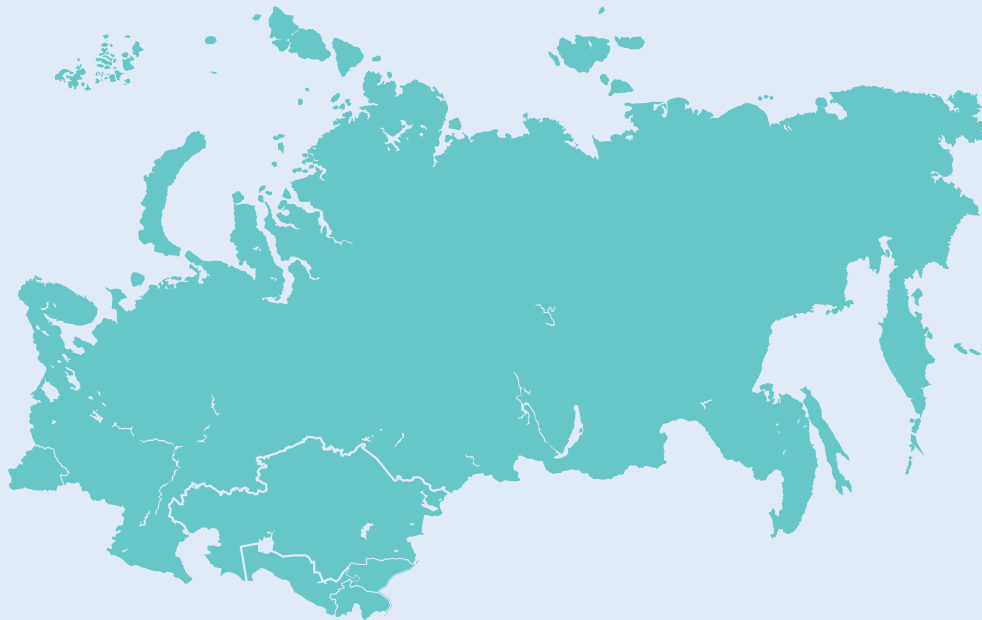
EURASIA REGIONAL GROUP

The Eurasia Regional Group comprises 7 FIUs from member jurisdictions from the Eurasian Group for Combating Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism (EAG) and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS).

During this reporting period, Mr. Yury KOROTKYI (FFMS, Russian Federation) served as Regional Representative.

REGIONAL GROUP HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE REPORTING PERIOD:

- ▶ After the Hague Plenary, Heads of Eurasia Region Member FIUs met in person at the 14th CIS HoFIU Meeting held in November 2019 in Ashgabad (Turkmenistan), taking this opportunity to exchange views on certain Egmont-related topics in addition to some operational issues, as follows:
 - ▶ Detection of individuals involved in international terrorist organizations (the so-called “Barrier” operation).
 - ▶ Updates from the “Milky Way” project aimed at monitoring and listing professional ML facilitators.
 - ▶ The concept of establishing an International ML/TF Risks Assessment Center, conceived as the core of a unified, secure information environment, enables an increase in the effectiveness of an individual FIU’s operation and the overall effectiveness of AML/CFT measures within the CIS area.
- ▶ In July 2020, the 15th CIS HoFIU Meeting was arranged via video-conference, focusing on the COVID-19 crisis impact on regional FIUs’ activities and domestic and international cooperation.
- ▶ The regional Heads of FIU were updated on the outcomes of the “Barrier” operation and the Russia-led project on revealing the use of advanced payment instruments for conducting cross-border payments for illegal narcotics business and laundering its proceeds.
- ▶ The Heads approved the conclusions from the FIU-Uzbekistan and ITMCFM jointly accomplished an analytical review of the cryptocurrencies turnover within the CIS area. FFMS, Russian Federation presented the Russian scientists developed methodology of monitoring criminal activities within the cryptocurrency environment.
- ▶ The reported period was marked with launching the regional information exchange platform designed to support the aforementioned multilateral operations and projects and anticipated supranational risk assessments.
- ▶ The FIU staff attended several training events in the region either in person or via the FFMS, Russian Federation/ITMCFM-provided videoconference channel. In January-February and July 2020, simultaneous translation from English into Russian was provided by FFMS (ITMCFM) for certain Egmont Group meetings and training delivered by the EG (webinars on FinTech), FATF and other international stakeholders.

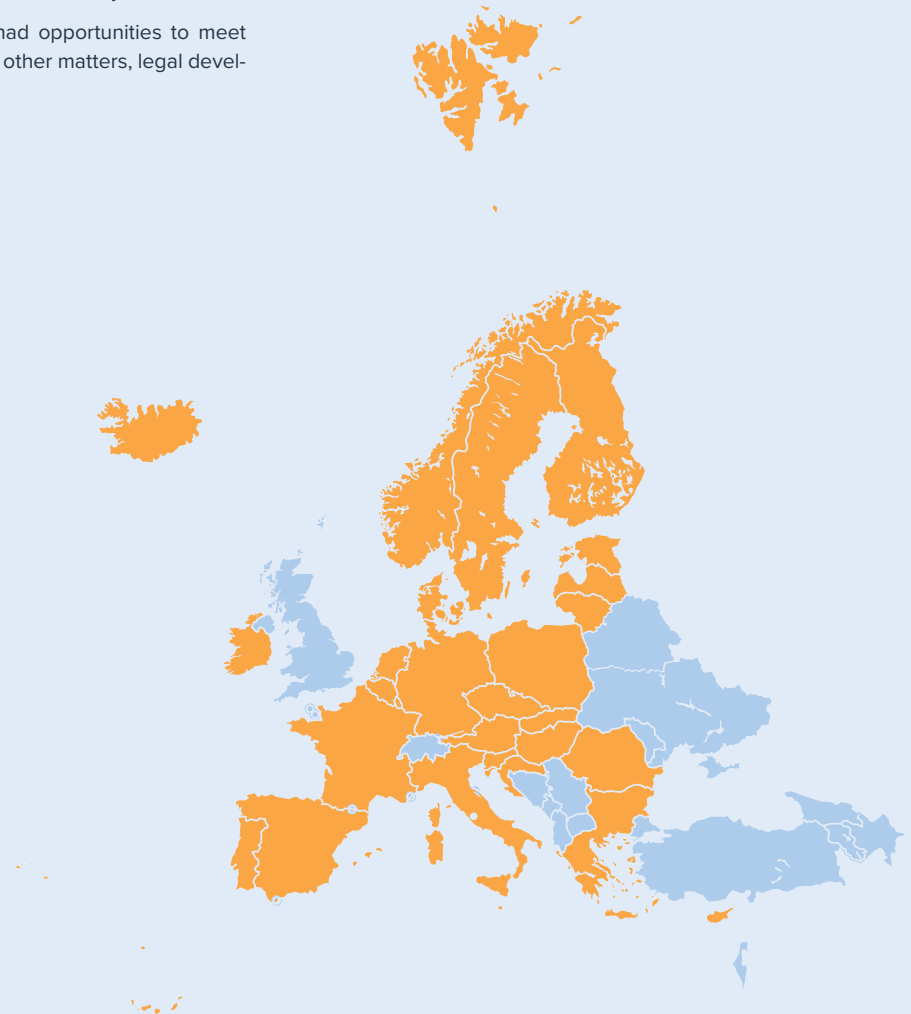


The Egmont Europe I Region comprises 29 FIUs from member jurisdictions of the FATF and/or the Council of Europe Committee of Experts on the Evaluation of Anti-Money Laundering Measures and the Financing of Terrorism (MONEYVAL). All FIUs in the Egmont Europe I Region are FIUs of either the EU member states or the EEA countries.

Throughout this reporting period, the Regional Representatives of Europe I included Mrs. Hennie VERBEEK-KUSTERS (FIU-Netherlands) and Ms. Lucie CASTETS (TRACFIN, France). Mrs. Verbeek-Kusters and Ms. Castets were subsequently succeeded by Mr. François MAGNAUD (TRACFIN, France) and Mr. Paolo Costanzo (UIF-Italy), who will serve until 2022.

REGIONAL GROUP HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE REPORTING PERIOD:

- ▶ Participation in the 27th Egmont Plenary (virtual) in July 2020 and organization of half a day of regional exchanges to discuss operational cooperation matters. Before this meeting, regional members exchanged views on virtual assets' challenges and opportunities from an FIU's perspective and shared experiences and best practices. This helped them prepare for the Plenary discussions on ML/TF risks associated with new financial technologies.
- ▶ Regional Members also met in the Egmont Group Working Group and Egmont Committee Meetings' margins in January 2020.
- ▶ Members of the Europe I region also had opportunities to meet throughout the year and discuss, among other matters, legal developments affecting the region.
- ▶ Regional Group members deepened consultation and coordination on various legislative proposals to pursue FIUs' engagement at the EU level and feed-in FIU's expertise.
- ▶ Members were delighted about the designation of Mrs. Hennie VERBEEK-KUSTERS, hitherto the Regional Representative for the Europe I Region, as Chair of the Egmont Group (July 2020).
- ▶ Members also welcomed the European Commission's presentation of a comprehensive AML/CFT action plan in May 2020 and stood ready to support specific FIU-related matters through consultation.



EUROPE II REGIONAL GROUP

The Europe II Regional Group comprises 23 FIUs from jurisdictions belonging to the Council of Europe Committee of Experts on the Evaluation of Anti-Money Laundering Measures and the Financing of Terrorism (MONEYVAL) and the FATF.

As a result of the abolishment of FIU Montenegro and the creation of a new FIU within the local police in 2019, the previous FIU ceased to be an Egmont Group member. The new FIU Montenegro submitted its official application for EG membership. The Europe II Regional Group is assisting the FIU's admission process to the best possible extent allowed by the Egmont Group procedures.

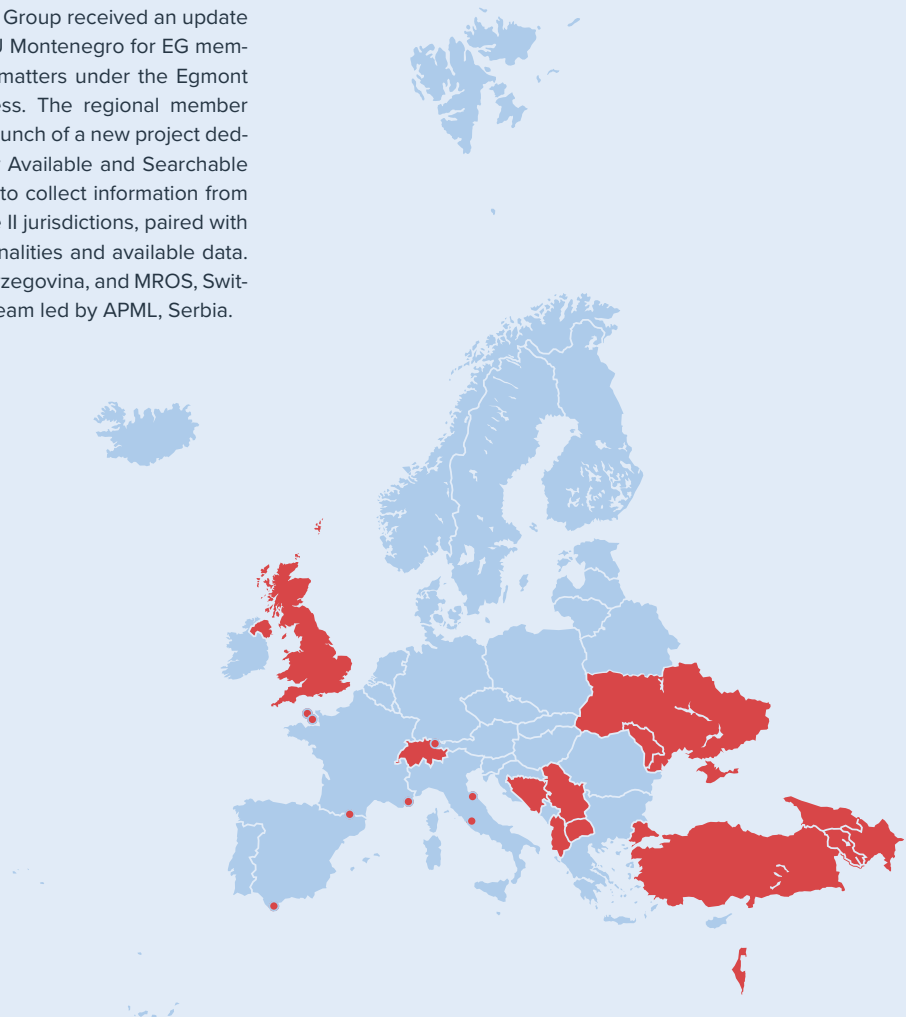
On January 31st, 2020, the Brexit process was officially finalized, and the United Kingdom left the European Union. After January 31st, 2020, the UKFIU, United Kingdom, joined the Europe II Regional Group as its 23rd member based on the Global Footprint requirements.

At the beginning of the reporting period, the Europe II Regional Group was represented by Mr. Philippe BOISBOUVIER (SICCFIN, Monaco) and Mr. Daniel THELESKLAFF (MROS, Switzerland). Following Mr. BOISBOUVIER's departure from SICCFIN, Ms. Oxana GISCA of SPCSB, Moldova, stepped in as Regional Representative.

REGIONAL GROUP HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE REPORTING PERIOD:

- ▶ In December 2019, a Regional Group Meeting was held in Strasbourg, France, as a separate event during the MONEYVAL Plenary week. Among other topics, the Regional Group received an update related to the application of the new FIU Montenegro for EG membership and an update about relevant matters under the Egmont Group Support and Compliance Process. The regional member FIUs also discussed and approved the launch of a new project dedicated to creating a register for Publicly Available and Searchable Electronic Databases. The project aims to collect information from all open source databases in the Europe II jurisdictions, paired with a brief explanation of their main functionalities and available data. FMS-AZ, Azerbaijan, FID, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and MROS, Switzerland volunteered to join the project team led by APML, Serbia.

- ▶ On August 19th, Mr. Philippe BOISBOUVIER, Deputy Head of SICCFIN, Monaco and Regional Representative for Europe II resigned from his position in SICCFIN, and therefore, was not eligible to continue his mandate as Regional Representative. A new regional representative Ms. Oxana GISCA, Head of Division in SPCSB, Moldova, was selected during the Regional Meeting in December 2019. Her mandate will end in July 2021.
- ▶ Subsequently, in June 2020, Mr. Daniel THELESKLAFF, Head of MROS, Switzerland and Regional Representative for Europe II, resigned from his position in MROS and was not eligible to continue his mandate as Regional Representative. Due to the COVID-19 outbreak and the postponement of the July 2020 Egmont Group Plenary meeting, the selection of a new regional representative will be conducted through an out-of-session procedure per the requirements of the Egmont Group internal documents.



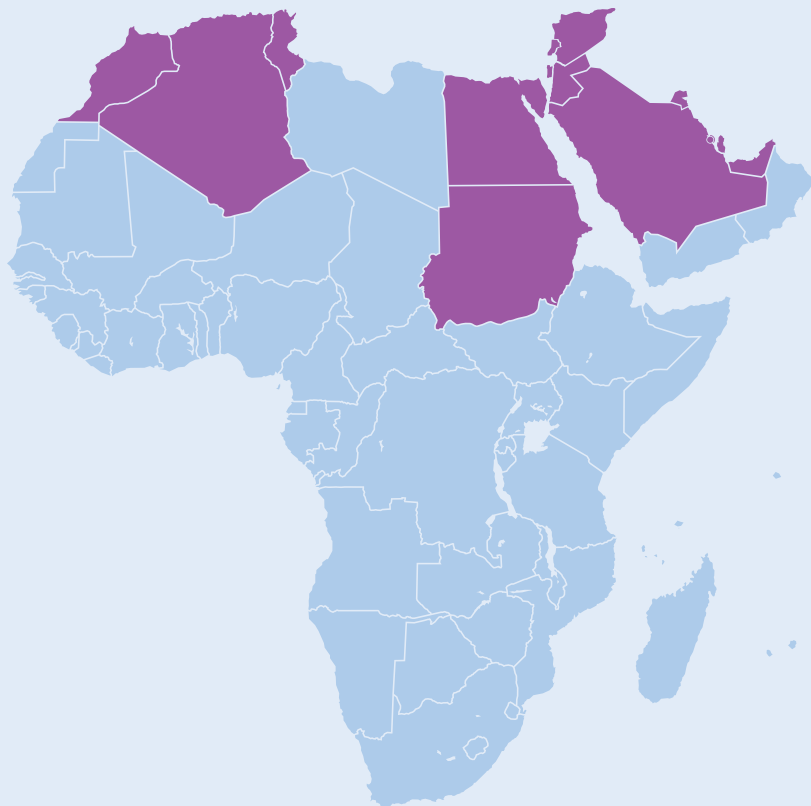
MIDDLE EAST AND NORTHERN AFRICA REGIONAL GROUP

The Middle East and Northern Africa Regional Group is comprised of FIUs from member jurisdictions of the Middle East and Northern Africa Financial Action Task Force (MENAFATF). During the reporting period, 14 FIUs were members of the Middle East and Northern Africa Regional Group. The latest admission to the Regional Group was FFU, Palestine, which was admitted to the Egmont Group during the 26th Egmont Group Plenary in the Hague, Netherlands.

Following the Hague Plenary meeting, the Middle East and Northern Africa Regional Group has been represented by Mr. Ghazi AL ABDULJALIL (KwFIU, Kuwait).

REGIONAL GROUP HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE REPORTING PERIOD:

- ▶ A regional HoFIU meeting was held within the margins of the MENAFATF meeting in Egypt. The following topics were discussed:
 - Increasing the regions' contribution to EG;
 - The translation of the *Business Email Compromise Fraud Bulletin*; and
 - The *What is an FIU?* video.
 - ▶ Some FIUs are advancing in the membership process. QFIU, Qatar and FINCEN, USA planned the onsite visit to Oman this year; however, it was delayed due to Oman's new legislation. The onsite visit arranged by SIC, Lebanon and EMLCU, Egypt to Iraq was suspended because of Iraq's situation at the time.
- ▶ QFIU, Qatar translated the *Business Email Compromise Fraud Bulletin* and SIC, Lebanon has validated and formatted the translation to be consistent with the original bulletin format.
 - ▶ Mr. Amr S. RASHED (EMLCU, Egypt) was selected as Vice-Chair of TATWG. Mr. Abdelsattar ELNAJAR (EMLCU, Egypt) was selected as Vice-Chair of MSCWG and stepped in as an interim Chair for the MSCWG until a new chair is selected.
 - ▶ An expert was nominated for the pool of experts to conduct the Trigger 3 Reviews.



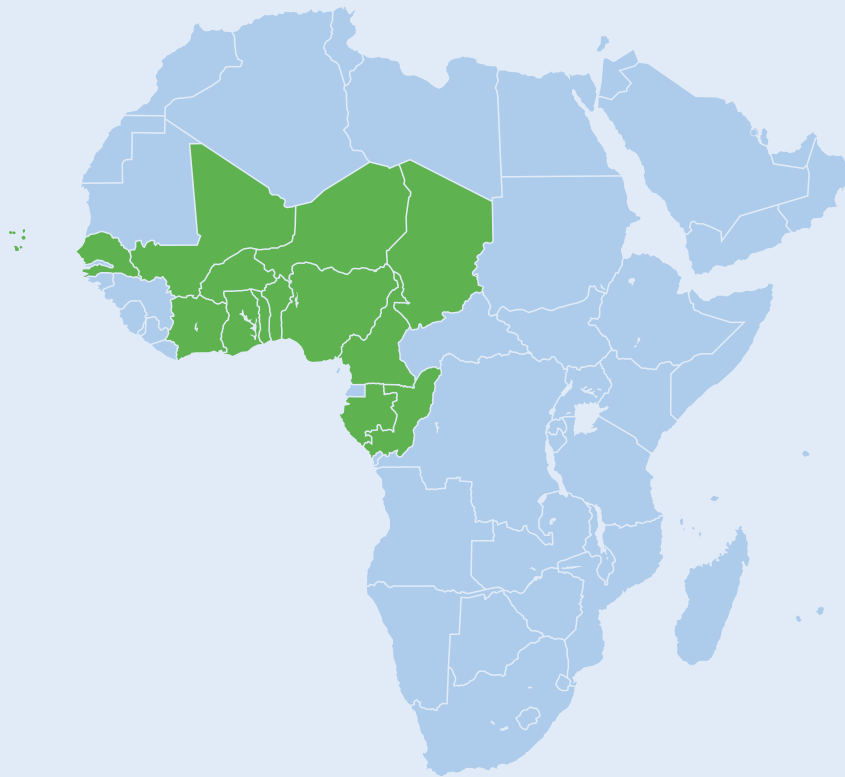
WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA REGIONAL GROUP

The West and Central Africa region comprises 14 FIUs from member jurisdictions that are part of either the Inter-Governmental Action Group against Money Laundering in West Africa (GIABA) or the Task Force on Money Laundering in Central Africa (GABAC).

During this reporting period, West and Central Africa was represented by Mrs. Ramatoulaye GADIO AGNE (CENTIF, Senegal).

REGIONAL GROUP HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE REPORTING PERIOD:

- ▶ July 3, 2020: Virtual meeting during which an update on the regional action plan's implementation was made.
- ▶ July 8-9, 2020: Participation in Heads of FIU webinar. The Regional Representative / Head of CENTIF, Senegal, contributed to the sub-theme of mobile payment services' vulnerabilities as they relate to money laundering and terrorist financing.
- ▶ BECA 2020: Participation of the FIUs of Senegal, Chad and Côte d'Ivoire.
- ▶ June 2-5, 2020: Workshop on illegal wildlife trade: Participation of FIUs from the West and Central Africa Regional Group with the FIUs' contribution from Côte d'Ivoire, Nigeria, and Senegal.
- ▶ June 18, 2020: The ECOFEL virtual roundtable on COVID-19: FIUs of Senegal, Cape Verde, and Congo participated.
- ▶ July 3, 2020: Adoption of the regional action plan and internal regulation drafted during the WCA Regional Group meeting held in Mauritius in January 2020 (subject to modifications within the 30 following days).
- ▶ Designation of ANIF-Congo as the second sponsor for FIU of Liberia's application for EG membership, following the withdrawal of FIC-Ghana due to non-regular member status within the MSCWG.



Chapter 8

Best Egmont Case Award

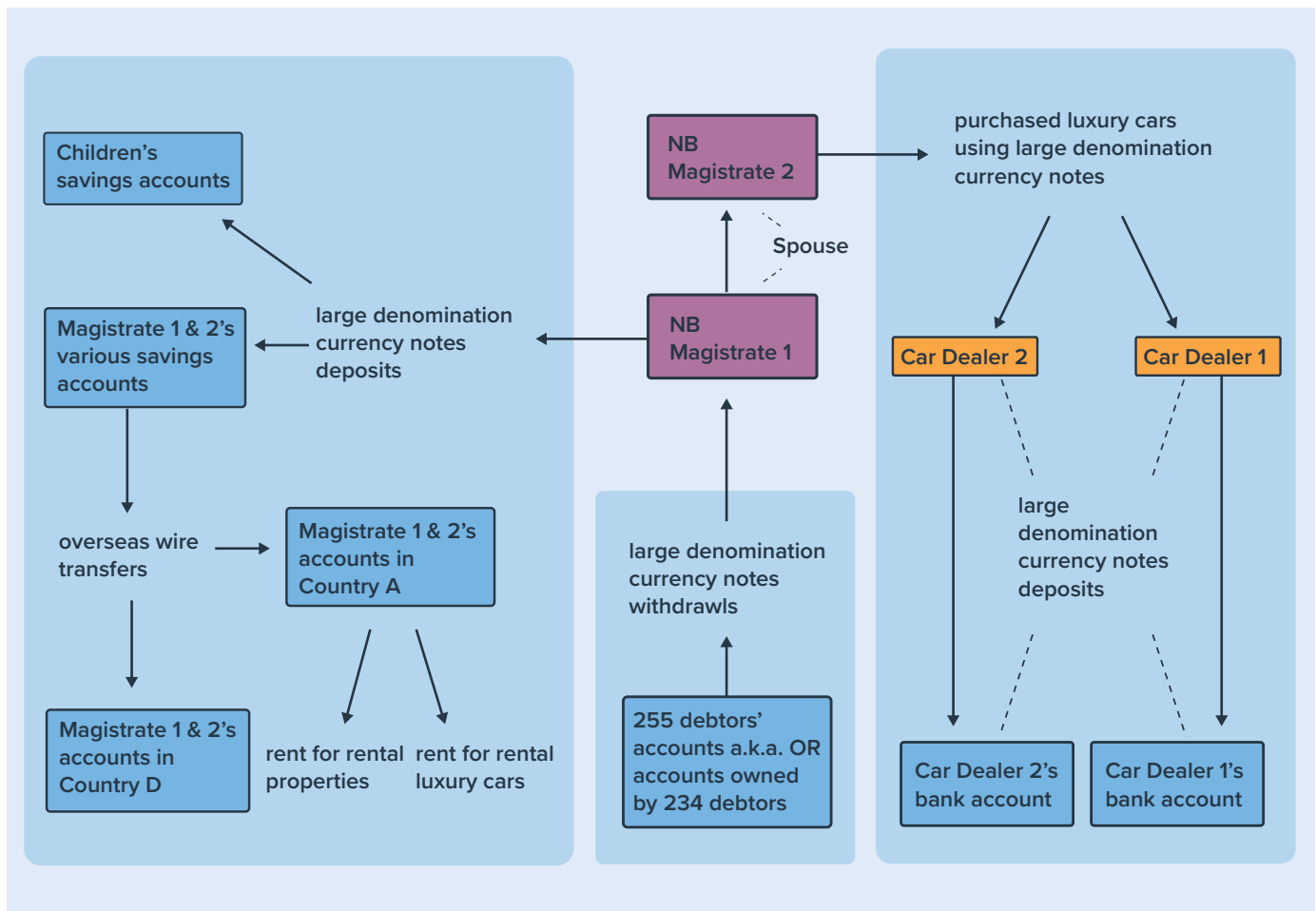
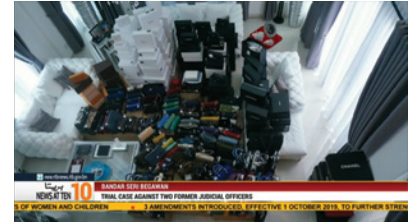
CASE BY BECA WINNER – UPK, BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

This case includes two corrupt magistrates, RR and her husband NB, who abused the power of their positions in the State Judiciary Department to embezzle debtors' funds from Official Receiver (OR) accounts.

Additionally, this case involves 255 OR accounts owned by 234 victims, and more than BND15.7 million (equivalent to USD11.1 million) in embezzled funds between 2004 to 2017. These funds were expended to obtain premium services and luxuries that include purchases of at least 19 luxury cars and at least 456 high-value assets such as watches, designer handbags, accessories, and shoes.

The Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) of Brunei Darussalam approached the FIU on 31 December 2017 to share information relating to complaints made against the 2 magistrates and, at the same time, to place request for financial information pertaining to the two magistrates to determine how they were obtaining funds to support their lifestyle.

There were two key types of information that became useful to assist in developing the investigation: information found on the two suspects' overseas wire transfer activity, and cash transaction reports filed on them.



Overseas Wire Transfer activity:

- ▶ Between 2011 and 2017, RR and NB transferred an equivalent of BND1,374,212 to their accounts in Country A. These were usually followed by RR and NB travelling to that country.
- ▶ Open-source information indicated that RR and NB had a significant presence in Country A. Their social media platforms indicated that they were living at their own residence in Country A and drove their own vehicles. Early feedback from the Country A's FIU helped indicate that the properties thought to be owned by them were all rental properties.
- ▶ The FIU also sought the cooperation of Countries B, C and D in order to obtain facts and refute to claims made by the suspects that their source of wealth were legitimate, and to assist in funds tracing.

Cash Transaction Reports:

- ▶ Brunei Darussalam implements 2 types of cash transaction reporting (CTR) requirements. The first is a threshold-based report which is also required from car dealers.
- ▶ The second type of CTR is a currency notes transaction report wherein banks are required to file reports on all transactions involving BND10,000 (equivalent to USD7,000) or SGD10,000 currency notes that record the transactor's details, and the serial number of the note. This requirement was implemented as a means to mitigate the risk of use of this large denomination note.
- ▶ Based on these records, the FIU found at least several occasions spread over several years where large amounts of funds were withdrawn from debtors' accounts at one bank. A significant portion of these funds were subsequently traced to deposits to RR and NB's joint personal savings account at another bank. It appeared, based on further funds tracing, that RR was able to withdraw large amounts of cash from banks, using her status and position of authority to release funds from debtors' accounts without arousing suspicion.
- ▶ In addition, further funds tracing revealed that a portion of the serial numbers of currency notes withdrawn from the OR accounts had the same serial numbers as those currency notes deposited by car dealers to their corporate accounts. CTRs received from car dealers on the car purchases and CTRs filed on car dealers from banks were successfully linked.

Analysis of the flow of funds using serial number tracing enabled the investigators to secure concrete evidence that the two magistrates were illicitly obtaining funds from debtors' accounts, transferred it to their personal accounts and used them for their personal gain.

The FIU collaborated with the ACB and banks very closely throughout intelligence gathering and investigation process. This was enabled by the early appointment of designated focal persons at each agency who were preauthorised to exchange information without delay whenever possible. This close contact between the FIU and ACB officers helped reinforce the trust in each agency and also for the relevant authorities to act as fast as possible to ensure that embezzled funds were not further dissipated or hidden.

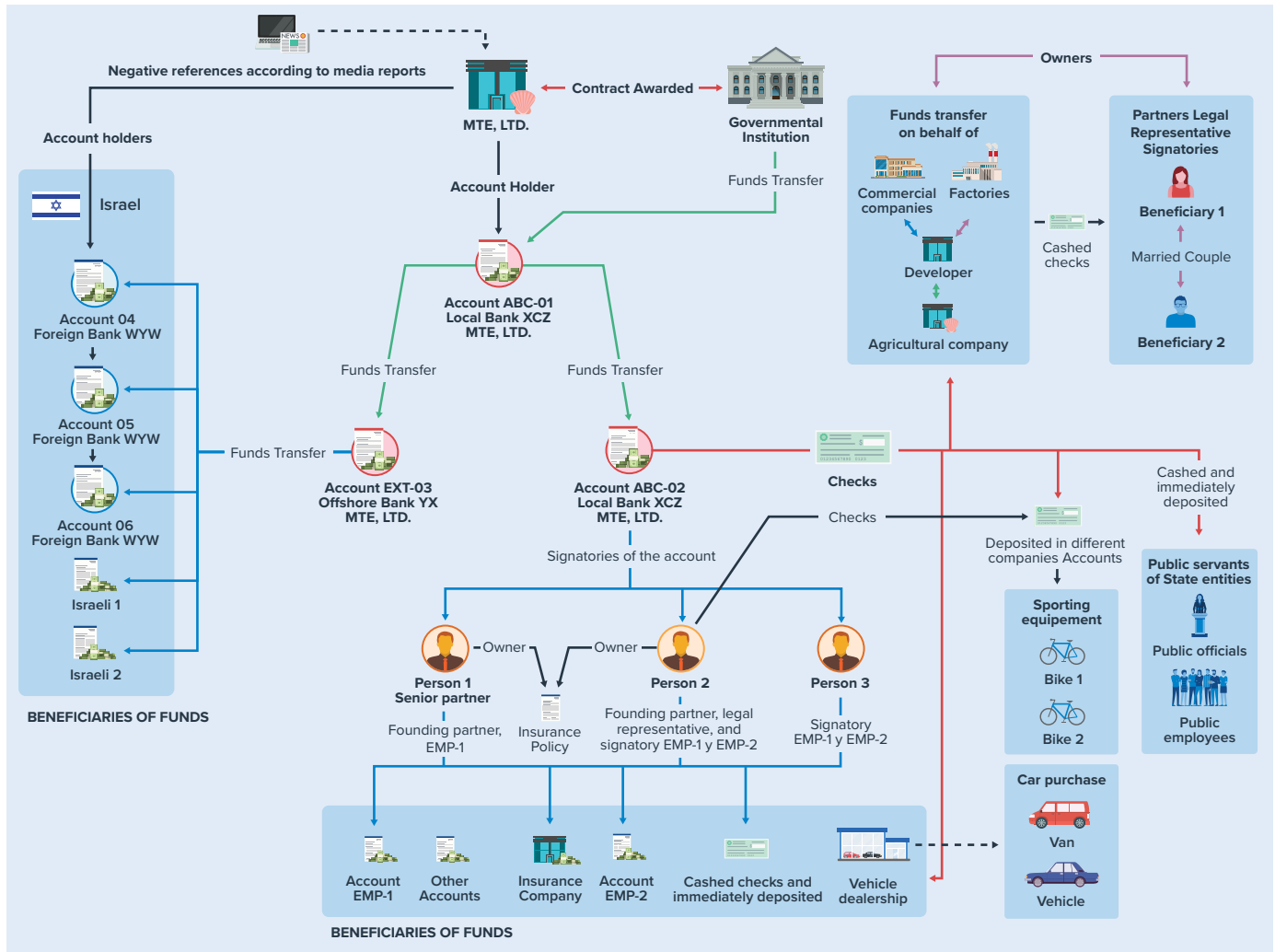
The couple were charged for Criminal Breach of Trust by a Public Servant, Money Laundering, and for Possession of Unexplained Property.

On 15 January 2020, RR and NB were finally convicted. RR was found guilty on all charges of Criminal Breach of Trust by a Public Servant and Money Laundering while her husband, who was facing 8 charges of Money Laundering, was convicted of 6 counts and acquitted of 2 due to insufficient evidence. RR and NB face a further charges of Possession of Unexplained Property, but proceedings for these charges were stayed in October 2019 pending the outcome of the initial trial.

Embezzlement of public resources through a branch owned by a company in the Middle East

In May 2015, the FIU of Guatemala (hereinafter – IVE) analyzed suspicious transaction reports (STRs) regarding deposits of (GTQ 20,792,234) **USD 2,599,029** in MTE Ltd.'s account – a branch owned by a company in the Middle East, that was awarded a public contract from a governmental institution of Guatemala **“for the acquisition of non-microbiological organic product in a liquid state that increases the water quality index.”** This company allegedly lacked expertise in the environmental field.

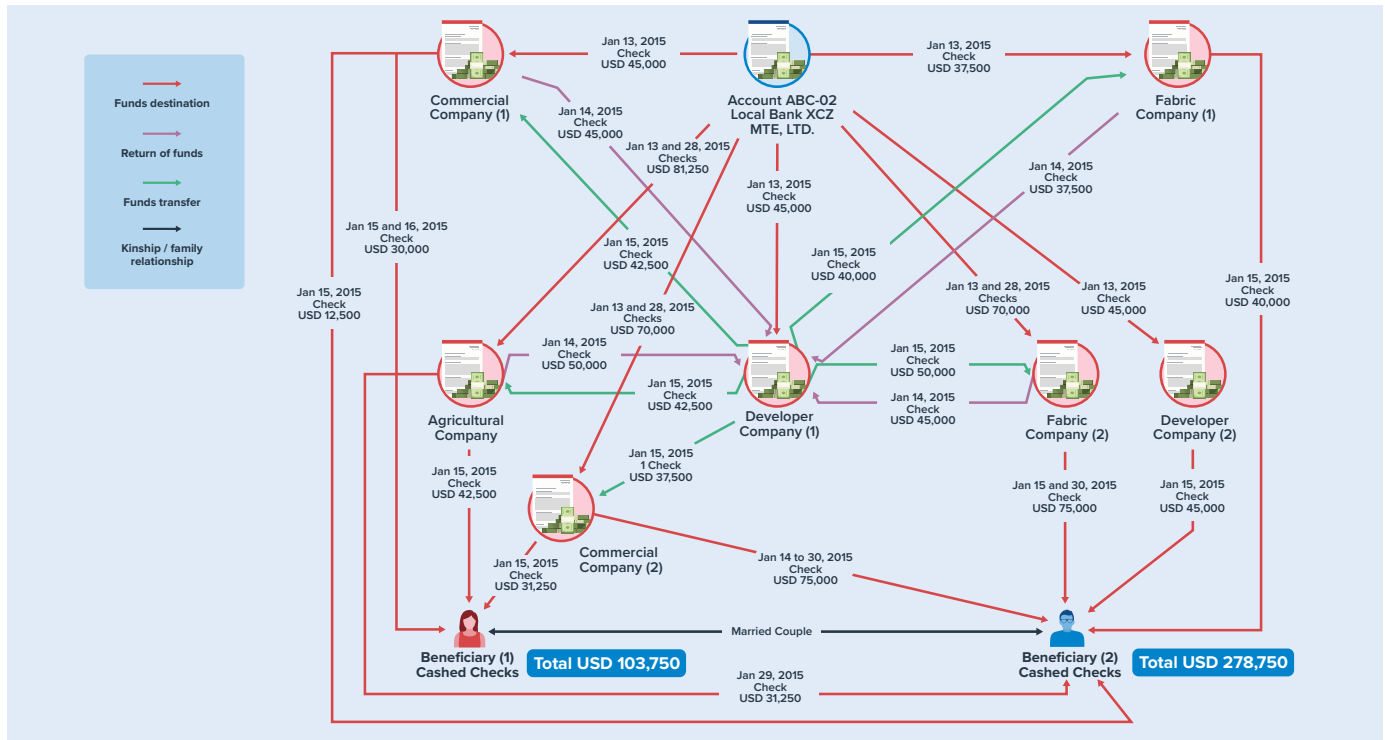
Financial transactions analysis led to identifying four money laundering schemes, which were legally reported by IVE to the AML/CFT Prosecutor’s Office:



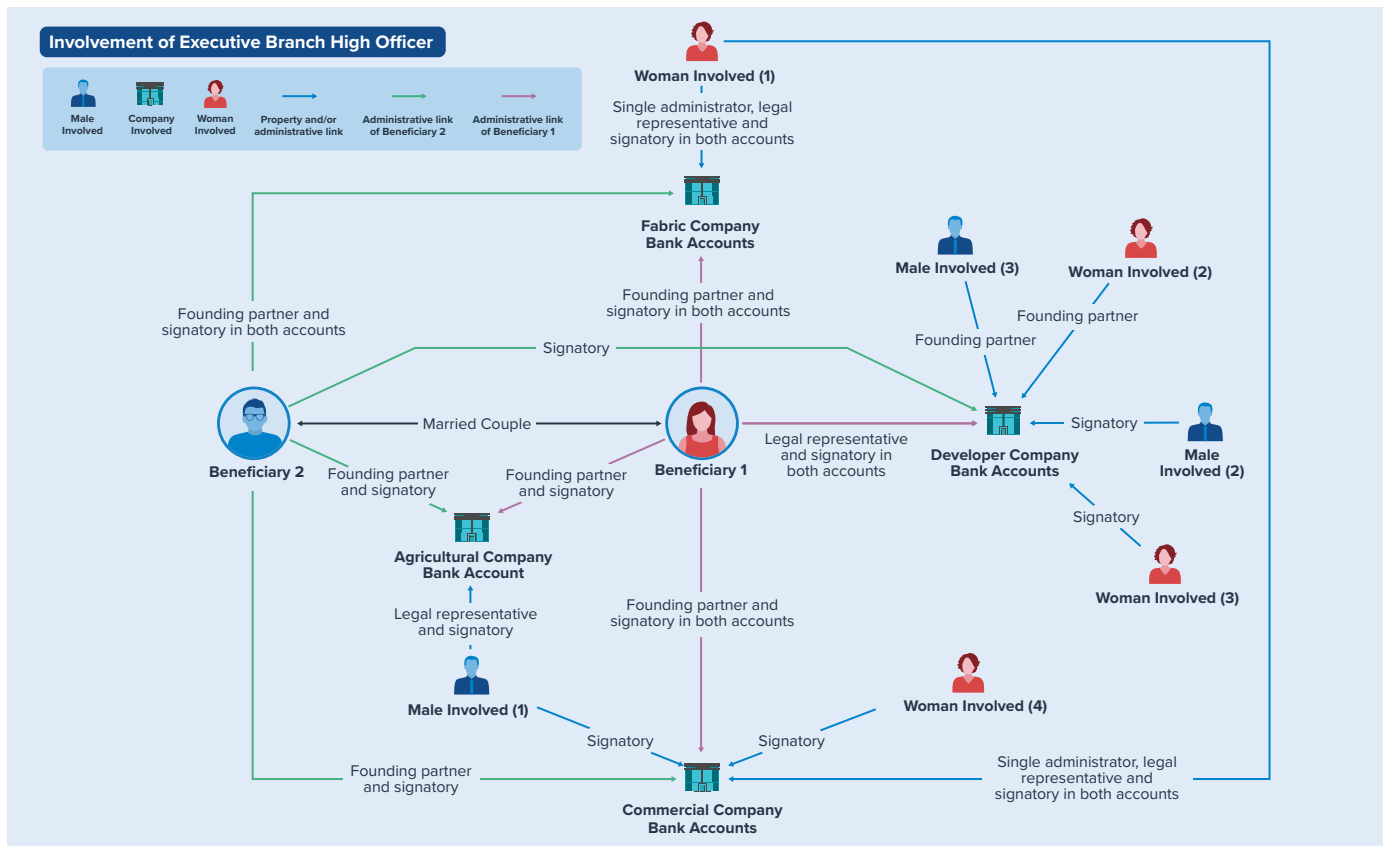
Four ML Schemes identified

Scheme 1. Involvement of Executive Branch High Officer:

Checks were issued from MTE, Ltd.'s account, totalling GTQ 3,150,000 (USD 393,750), in favour of companies that do not show consistency with the corporate purpose of MTE, Ltd.; these companies subsequently transferred funds among them (stratification), and, issued checks that were cashed out for the amount of GTQ 3,060,000 (USD 382,500). The checks' beneficiaries were listed as founding partners, legal representatives, and signatories in these companies' accounts.



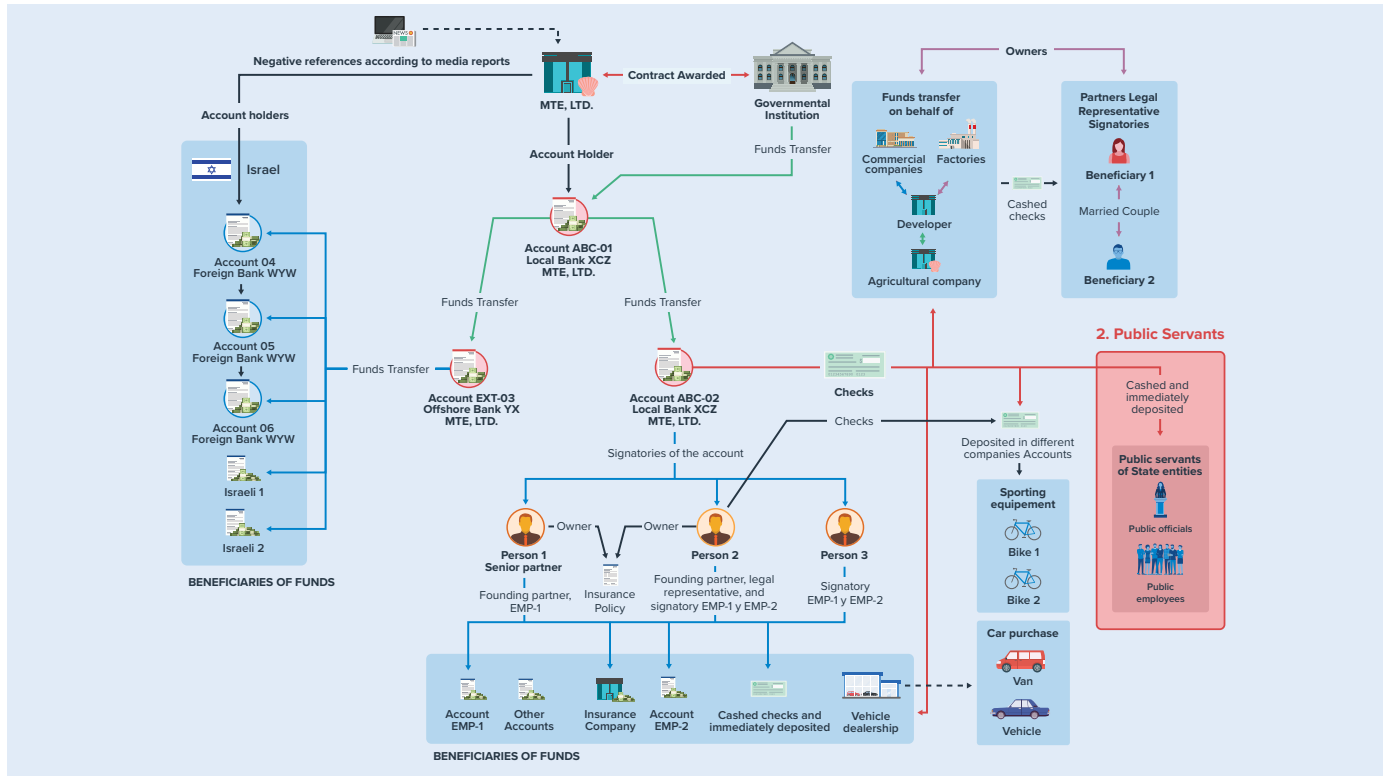
Scheme 1.1: ML involving Executive Branch Officer



Scheme 1.2 Relationship with High Officer from Executive Branch

Scheme 2. Receipt of funds by public servants:

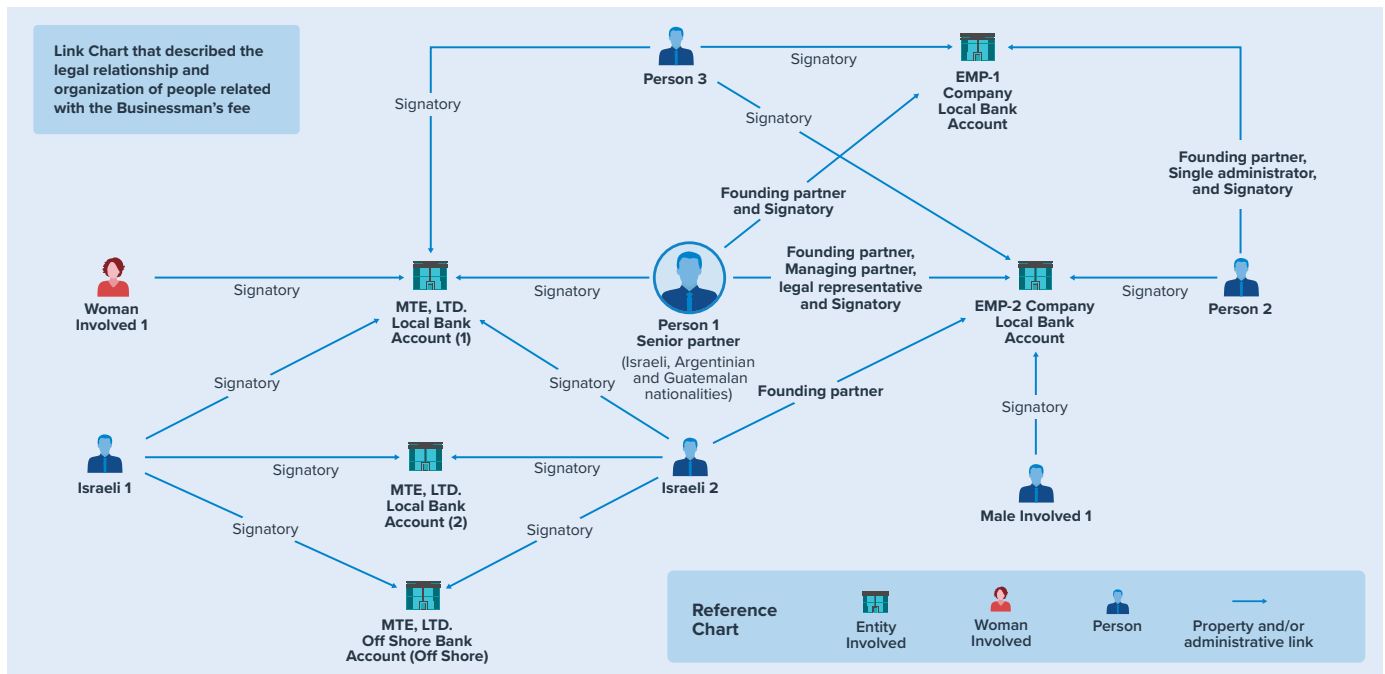
Checks were issued from MTE, Ltd.'s account totalling GTQ 951,000 (USD118,875), in favour of public servants that worked in the State institution that authorizes licenses to execute Public contracts. Some checks were collected in cash, and some were immediately deposited in bank accounts. Some checks were also issued to acquire vehicles from the latter.



Scheme 2. Public servants

Scheme 3. Businessman's fee:

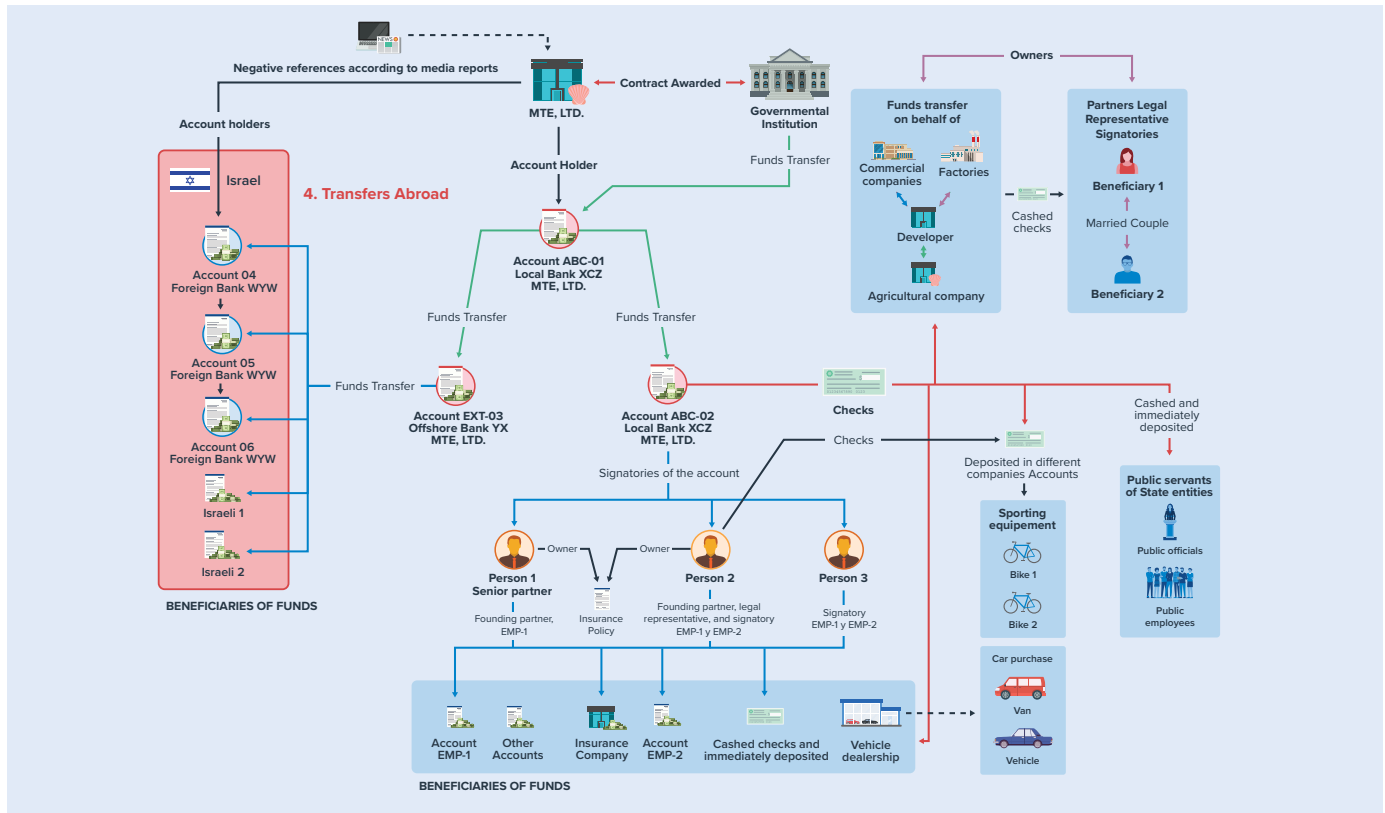
Checks totalling GTQ 2,544,000 (USD 318,000) were issued to companies owned by a person who was born in Israel, who also holds Argentine and Guatemalan nationalities, and is presumed to have been the contact of MTE Ltd.'s partners in Israel, with the Government of Guatemala, for developing the environmental project for which the State funds were disbursed. Beneficiaries (founding partners, legal representatives, and signatories of the accounts) were relatives and had ownership and management ties to the MTE Ltd. branch in Guatemala.



Scheme 3. Businessman's fee

Scheme 4. Transfer of funds to Israel:

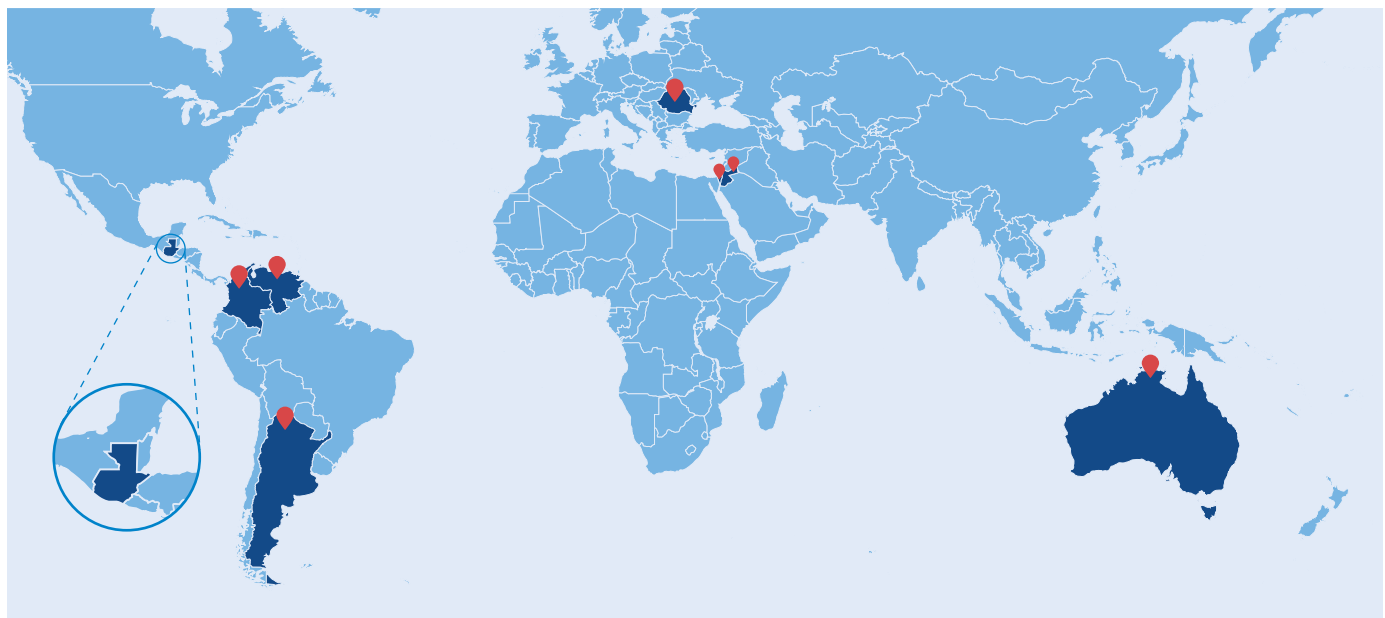
Funds transferred to accounts in Israel: USD 510,000 in the name of MTE, Ltd. parent Company, and USD 570,000 transferred to other accounts in the name of individuals and/or legal entities. Therefore, USD 1,080,000 were transferred abroad, approximately 41.55% from the public contract awarded.



Scheme 4. Transfers abroad

International Cooperation:

IVE requested information from counterpart FIUs through Egmont’s secure web. **Seven FIUs** found coincidences (Argentina, Australia, Colombia, Israel, Jordan, Romania, and Venezuela). They authorized dissemination to the AML / CTF Prosecutor’s Office of the General Prosecutor’s Office to be used as intelligence.



International Cooperation

Domestic cooperation:

Information and documents were gathered from the Ministry of Public Finance, the Mercantile Registry, the National Registry of Persons, which were vital for analyzing the case.

Legal report:

On July 23, 2015, IVE filed the legal report along with documents supporting the information contained therein, detailing the financial movements, explaining origin and destination of these, when it was possible to determine them, and including Diagrams of relations and cash flow of funds.

Due to the complexity of the case, IVE assisted the General Prosecutor's Office in charge of investigating by providing advice regarding financial transactions.

Verdict:

On October 9, 2017, a verdict was reached, declaring that the Guatemalan State was defrauded for GTQ 22,830,000 (USD 2,853,750), and Court C of Higher Risk issued a condemnatory sentence. According to a Press Release from the General Prosecutor's Office, the Court stated that the high-level officer (Executive Branch) led a criminal structure that operated within key environmental institutions, as well as in companies created with the purpose of irregularly obtaining the project concession; thus achieving an economic benefit.

In this case, ten individuals, whose sentences range from 3 to 15.5 years, were convicted for the following predicate offenses:

Offense	Convicted	Condemnatory Sentences
Illicit association	9	From 6 to 8 years
Fraud	9	For 5 years
Influence peddling	4	From 2 to 2.5 years
Dereliction of duty	1	For 3 years
ML offense	Court ordered to continue ML investigation.	

Civil Forfeiture:

On June 4 and July 27, 2015, IVE filed two reports directly to the Civil Forfeiture Unit of the AML/CFT Prosecutor's Office of the General Prosecutor's Office. IVE's legal report estimated assets of GTQ 1,492,693 (USD 186,586); hence, the General Prosecutor's Office requested that the Civil Forfeiture Court review and issue an order to recover those assets by civil forfeiture.

On October 12, 2017, the non-appealable Civil Forfeiture of Assets verdict was declared in favour of the State of Guatemala.

Further actions:

On December 21, 2015, IVE instructed reporting entities to strengthen their CDD AML/CFT programs, policies, procedures, and controls to identify **State contractors or suppliers**.

In 2019's ML/TF National Risk Assessment update, Guatemala identified fraud, corruption-related crimes, environmental offenses, among others, as internal and external threats. In addition, a glossary of terms related to offenses listed in the NRA was fed to the automated system that assesses, prioritizes, and classifies Suspicious Transactions Reported to IVE.

Chapter 9 | Acknowledgements

HOST FIUS:

2019

JULY 2019

FIU-NETHERLANDS, THE HAGUE

The 26th Egmont Group Plenary

NOVEMBER 2019

UAF-DOMREP, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Advanced Strategic
Analysis Course

NOVEMBER 2019

FIU LATVIA, RIGA, LATVIA

Capacity building session on Profes-
sional Money Laundering

2020

JANUARY 2020

FIU-MU, MAURITIUS

Working Group and Egmont
Committee Meetings 2020

MARCH 2020

AMLO, THAILAND

Financial Investigations into Wildlife
Crime Workshop

DONORS AND CONTRIBUTORS:

FINCEN, USA:

Hosting, maintaining, and improving the ESW

FINTRAC, Canada:

Contribution as host jurisdiction for the EGS since 2007 and constant support since then

US State Department and AMLD, Taiwan:

Funding training courses

FFMS, Russian Federation:

Seconding a Senior Officer from December 2017 to December 2021

AMLD, Taiwan:

Seconding a Senior Officer to the EGS from September 2015 – September 2019

Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), formerly known as DFID, UK:

Funding the ECOFEL Program

State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO), Switzerland:

Funding the ECOFEL Program

SAFIU, Saudi Arabia:

Annual donation for ten years

For Their Assistance During the Egmont Group's HoFIU Webinars:

Moderators from:

- ▶ IMPA, Israel
- ▶ FIU Germany
- ▶ FINCEN, USA
- ▶ FIC, South Africa

Presenters from:

- ▶ FIC, South Africa
- ▶ FIU-PY, Paraguay
- ▶ CENTIF, Senegal
- ▶ EMLCU, Egypt
- ▶ Kenya (candidate FIU)

Presenters from:

- ▶ The FATF Secretariat
- ▶ La Trobe Law School (Australia)
- ▶ Digital Currency Counsel (USDOJ)
- ▶ National Crime Agency (UK)
- ▶ U.S. IRS-CI

THE TATWG'S CONTRIBUTOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

SICCFIN, Monaco:

French translation for *Corporate Vehicles and Financial Products (CORFIN)*

DGIOF, Cuba and UAFE, Ecuador:

Spanish translation for *Corporate Vehicles and Financial Products (CORFIN) training package*

FIUs Dominican Republic, Australia, Bangladesh, Poland, Switzerland, Nigeria:

BECA Judges

FIUs Egypt, Nigeria, Taiwan:

Provided FIU experts to review an eLearning course related to TBML

International Organizations:

International Centre for Asset Recovery (ICAR) of Basel Institute of Governance

THE ECOFEL'S CONTRIBUTOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

- ▶ UAF-DomRep, Dominican Republic: supported the Spanish translation and dubbing of the *What is an FIU?* video.
- ▶ Facilitating experts for training and mentoring during the A-SAC:
 - › COAF, Brazil
 - › UAF-CL, Chile
 - › IVE, Guatemala
 - › Department against Transnational Organized Crime (DTCO) of the Organization of American States
 - › General Council of Notaries, Spain
- ▶ Facilitating experts for presenting in the *Financial Investigations in Wildlife and Forestry Crime Workshops* (in-person and online):
 - › **Financial Intelligence Units:** Bangladesh (BFIU), Brazil (COAF), Cambodia (CAFIU), Indonesia (PPATK), Côte d'Ivoire (CENTIF-CI), Madagascar Financial Intelligence Service (SAMIFIN), Malaysia (UPWBNM), Mexico (FIU-Mexico), Mongolia (FIU-Mongolia), Nigeria (FIU-NG), Senegal (CENTIF-Senegal), South Africa (FIC), Thailand (AMLO), Vietnam (Anti Money Laundering Department).
 - › **Law Enforcement Authorities:** Directorate for Priority Crime Investigation (HAWKS) (South Africa), Direction de la Faune et des Ressources Cynégétiques (Cote d'Ivoire), National Council of Protected Areas of Guatemala, Direction de la Faune, de la Chasse, des Parcs et Reserves (Niger), Spain Service for the Protection of Nature (SEPRONA), Thailand Customs, United Kingdom National Wildlife Crime Unit.
 - › **International Organizations:** CITES Secretariat, INTERPOL, UNODC, FATF.
 - › **NGOs:** Freeland, USAID, Wildlife Asia, WWF.
- ▶ EFFI, Liechtenstein, FIA, San Marino, FID, Latvia, and EMLCU, Egypt for providing experts for FIU Operational Independence and Autonomy discussions at the MONEYVAL and MENAFATF Plenary meetings.
- ▶ Sergio ESPINOSA, Susan FRANÇOIS, Lindsey BIRMINGHAM, Mariano FEDERICI, and Klaudijo STROLIGO for acting as mentors within the ECOFEL's Mentorship Program.

Mauritius Communiqué Working Group and Egmont Committee Meetings 2020



Mauritius – The Egmont Working Groups and Committee Meetings 2020 took place from January 27th to 31st, 2020 in Mauritius. Over 300 participants, comprised of Egmont Group members, international partners and observers, attended this event hosted by FIU-Mauritius.

Through its Working Groups, the Egmont Group aims to realize its goal of development, cooperation and the sharing of expertise. These meetings provide the Working Groups with the opportunity to collaborate on projects and strategic initiatives.

During the meetings in Mauritius, the Information Exchange Working Group (IEWG) advanced its work on several important operational projects which aim to:

- ▶ Effectively address the laundering of the proceeds of serious tax crimes.
- ▶ Identify funds associated with online sexual exploitation and abuse of children.
- ▶ Establish and proactively tackle large scale cross-border ML schemes.

The IEWG membership also discussed the status of other ongoing projects and identified new areas of interest in order to effectively support FIU needs. The work includes determining ML/TF risks which are related to the abuse of virtual assets and are interconnected with FinTech business models. Looking towards the future, IEWG started new work to identify Cyber-enabled crime typologies and risks in order to enhance FIU-FinTech cooperation and the role of FIUs for more effective asset recovery of criminal proceeds.

The Membership, Support and Compliance Working Group (MSCWG) reviewed Egmont Group candidate-FIUs' membership application from operational and legal perspectives.

The Policy and Procedures Working Group (PPWG) established and discussed recommendations to address existing impediments to information exchange between Egmont FIUs. Moreover, PPWG identified and defined terminology which have conflicting interpretations when used by Egmont Group FIUs during information exchanges.

The Technical Assistance and Training Working Group (TATWG) determined and prioritized the topic of "Cryptocurrencies regulation and tracking for FIUs" for the training needs of Egmont Group members. TATWG will organize an operation training session on the topic of "Cybercrime and FinTech" during the Mexico Plenary meeting.

Throughout the week, the Egmont Centre of FIU Excellence and Leadership (ECOFEL) hosted several workshops. Topics included Illegal Wildlife Trade and an introduction to ECOFEL's new eLearning platform.

All members of the Egmont Group of Financial Intelligence Units are grateful to FIU-Mauritius for hosting the 2020 Working Group Meetings. The Egmont Group acknowledges and appreciates the dedication of our host, FIU-Mauritius, led by its Head of FIU, Mr. Guillaume Ollivry.

Update on Mr. Mariano Federici

As of January 26th, 2020, Mr. Mariano Federici's mandate as Chair of Egmont Group ended as his term as Head of FIU Argentina was not renewed by the new government of Argentina that took office on December 10th, 2019.

The Egmont Group takes this opportunity to thank Mr. Federici for his leadership, dedication and achievements during his tenure as Regional Representative for the Americas Region, Egmont Committee Vice-Chair and finally, as Egmont Group Chair.

The Heads of FIU have appointed the Vice-Chair of the Egmont Committee, Mrs. Hennie Verbeek-Kusters (Head of FIU The Netherlands), to act as Interim Chair until the end of the Egmont Group Plenary meeting in Mexico (July 2020).

Background

The Egmont Group is comprised of 164 Financial Intelligence Units (FIUs). It provides a platform for the secure exchange of expertise and financial intelligence on combating money laundering and terrorist financing. FIUs are uniquely positioned to cooperate and support national and international efforts to counter terrorist financing and are the trusted gateway for sharing financial information domestically and internationally in accordance with global AML/CTF standards.

For more information about the Egmont Group's Working Groups: <https://egmontgroup.org/en/content/working-groups-and-programs>

For more information about Egmont Group, consult: www.egmontgroup.org

ANNEX B: LIST OF MEMBERS

1. **FinTRACA**, Afghanistan
2. **GDPLML**, Albania
3. **CTRF**, Algeria
4. **UIFAND**, Andorra
5. **UIF-ANGOLA**, Angola
6. **MLRA**, Anguilla
7. **ONDCP**, Antigua and Barbuda
8. **UIF-AR**, Argentina
9. **FMC**, Armenia
10. **MOT**, Aruba
11. **AUSTRAC**, Australia
12. **A-FIU**, Austria
13. **FMS-AZ**, Azerbaijan
14. **FIU-BS**, Bahamas
15. **FID**, Bahrain
16. **BFIU**, Bangladesh
17. **AMLA**, Barbados
18. **DFM**, Belarus
19. **CTIF-CFI**, Belgium
20. **FIU-BZ**, Belize
21. **CENTIF-BENIN**, Benin
22. **FIABDA**, Bermuda
23. **FID-Bhutan**, Bhutan
24. **UIF-BOLIVIA**, Bolivia
25. **FID**, Bosnia and Herzegovina
26. **COAF**, Brazil
27. **FIA-VG**, British Virgin Islands
28. **UPK**, Brunei Darussalam
29. **FID-SANS**, Bulgaria
30. **CENTIF-BF**, Burkina Faso
31. **CAFIU**, Cambodia
32. **NAFI**, Cameroon
33. **FINTRAC**, Canada
34. **UIF-Cape-Verde**, Cape Verde
35. **FRA**, Cayman Islands
36. **ANIF-TCHAD**, Chad
37. **UAF-CL**, Chile
38. **UIAF**, Colombia
39. **ANIF-Congo**, Congo Brazzaville
40. **CIFIU**, Cook Islands
41. **ICD**, Costa Rica
42. **CENTIF-CI**, Côte d'Ivoire
43. **FIU Croatia**, Croatia
44. **DGIOF**, Cuba
45. **FIU Curaçao**, Curaçao
46. **MOKAS**, Cyprus
47. **FAU**, Czech Republic
48. **HVIDVASK**, Denmark
49. **FIU-DM**, Dominica
50. **UAF-DomRep**, Dominican Republic
51. **UAFE-Ecuador**, Ecuador
52. **EMLCU**, Egypt
53. **UIF**, El Salvador
54. **Estonian FIU**, Estonia
55. **EFIC**, Ethiopia
56. **FIJI-FIU**, Fiji
57. **RAP**, Finland
58. **TRACFIN**, France
59. **NAFI-GABON**, Gabon
60. **FMS**, Georgia
61. **FIU**, Germany
62. **FIC-Ghana**, Ghana
63. **GFIU**, Gibraltar
64. **Hellenic FIU**, Greece
65. **FIU-GD**, Grenada
66. **IVE**, Guatemala
67. **FIS**, Guernsey
68. **AIF**, HOLY SEE (Vatican City State)
69. **UIF-HN**, Honduras
70. **JFIU**, Hong Kong
71. **HFIU**, Hungary
72. **HERSAK**, Iceland
73. **FIU-IND**, India
74. **INTRAC/PPATK**, Indonesia
75. **FIU**, Ireland
76. **FIU-IOM**, Isle of Man
77. **IMPA**, Israel
78. **UIF**, Italy
79. **FID-Jamaica**, Jamaica
80. **JAFIC**, Japan
81. **JFCU**, Jersey
82. **AMLCTFU**, Jordan
83. **CFM**, Kazakhstan
84. **KoFIU**, South Korea
85. **NJIF-K**, Kosovo
86. **KwFIU**, Kuwait
87. **SFIS**, Kyrgyzstan
88. **FID**, Latvia
89. **SIC**, Lebanon
90. **EFFI**, Liechtenstein
91. **FCIS**, Lithuania
92. **CRF**, Luxembourg
93. **GIF**, Macao
94. **FIO**, Macedonia
95. **FIU-MALAWI**, Malawi
96. **UPWBNM**, Malaysia
97. **CENTIF-MALI**, Mali
98. **FIAU**, Malta
99. **RMI-FIU**, Marshall Islands
100. **FIU-MU**, Mauritius
101. **FIU-MEXICO**, Mexico
102. **SPCSB**, Moldova
103. **SICCFIN**, Monaco
104. **FIU-MONGOLIA**, Mongolia
105. **UTRF**, Morocco
106. **FIC-Namibia**, Namibia
107. **FIU-Nepal**, Nepal
108. **FIU-Netherlands**, Netherlands
109. **FIU-NZ**, New Zealand
110. **CENTIF-NIGER**, Niger
111. **FIU-NG**, Nigeria
112. **FIU-NU**, Niue
113. **EFE**, Norway
114. **FFU**, Palestine
115. **UAF-PA**, Panama
116. **FASU**, Papua New Guinea
117. **FIU-PY**, Paraguay
118. **UIF-PERU**, Peru
119. **AMLC**, Philippines
120. **GIFI**, Poland
121. **UIF-PORTUGAL**, Portugal
122. **QFIU**, Qatar
123. **ONPCSB**, Romania
124. **FFMS/Rosfinmonitoring**, Russian Federation
125. **FIU-KN**, Saint Kitts and Nevis
126. **FIA**, Saint Lucia
127. **FIU-VC**, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
128. **SFIU**, Samoa
129. **FIA**, San Marino
130. **SAFIU**, Saudi Arabia
131. **CENTIF**, Senegal
132. **APML**, Serbia
133. **Seychelles-FIU**, Seychelles
134. **STRO**, Singapore
135. **MOT-SM**, Sint Maarten
136. **FSJ NAKA P PZ**, Slovakia
137. **OMLP**, Slovenia
138. **SIFIU**, Solomon Islands
139. **FIC**, South Africa
140. **SEPBLAC**, Spain
141. **FIU-Sri Lanka**, Sri Lanka
142. **FIUSU**, Sudan
143. **FIU**, Sweden
144. **MROS**, Switzerland
145. **CMLC**, Syria
146. **AMLD**, Taiwan
147. **FMD**, Tajikistan
148. **TFIU**, Tanzania
149. **AMLO-TH**, Thailand
150. **CENTIF-TOGO**, Togo
151. **FIUTT**, Trinidad and Tobago
152. **CTAF**, Tunisia
153. **MASAK**, Turkey
154. **FMS-Turkmenistan**, Turkmenistan
155. **FIA-TCI**, Turks and Caicos
156. **Uganda-FIA**, Uganda
157. **SFMS**, Ukraine
158. **UAE FIU**, United Arab Emirates
159. **UKFIU**, United Kingdom
160. **FINCEN**, United States of America
161. **UIAF**, Uruguay
162. **FIU-UZBEKISTAN**, Uzbekistan
163. **FIU-VU**, Vanuatu
164. **UNIF**, Venezuela
165. **FIC-Zambia**, Zambia

ANNEX C: EGMONT COMMITTEE COMPOSITION

Following The Hague Plenary

NAME	POSITION	FIU
Mr. Mariano FEDERICI ²	Chair, Egmont Group of Financial Intelligence Units	UIF-AR, Argentina
Mrs. Ramatoulaye GADIO AGNE	Vice-Chair, Egmont Group and Regional Representative, West and Central Africa Regional Group	CENTIF, Senegal
Mr. Daniel THELESKLAFF	Vice-Chair, Egmont Group and Regional Representative, Europe II Regional Group	MROS, Switzerland
Mr. Jérôme BEAUMONT	Executive Secretary, Egmont Group of Financial Intelligence Units	
Ms. Bess Johnson MICHAEL	ESW Representative	FINCEN, USA
Mr. Marko STOLLE	Chair, Information Exchange Working Group (IEWG)	FIU, Germany
Mrs. Silvana RIVAROLA	Chair, Membership, Support and Compliance Working Group (MSCWG)	UIF-AR, Argentina
Ms. Anne Mette WADMAN	Chair, Policy and Procedures Working Group (PPWG)	EFE, Norway
Mr. Amr S. RASHED	Chair, Technical Assistance and Training Working Group (TATWG)	EMLCU, Egypt
Mrs. Anne-Marie KEMNA	Regional Representative, Americas Regional Group	FIU-Curaçao
Mr. Sergio ESPINOSA	Regional Representative, Americas Regional Group	UIF-Peru
Mr. Dian Ediana RAE	Regional Representative, Asia and Pacific Regional Group	PPATK, Indonesia
Mr. D M RUPASINGHE	Regional Representative, Asia and Pacific Regional Group	FIU-Sri Lanka
Ms. Sandra HALL	Regional Representative, East and Southern Africa Regional Group	Seychelles-FIU
Mr. Yury KOROTKYI	Regional Representative, Eurasia Regional Group	FFMS, Russian Federation
Ms. Hennie VERBEEK-KUSTERS	Regional Representative, Europe I Regional Group <i>(Interim Chair of the Egmont Group as of January 26th, 2020)</i>	FIU-Netherlands
Ms. Lucie CASTETS	Regional Representative, Europe I Regional Group	TRACFIN, France
Mr. Philippe BOISBOUVIER ³	Regional Representative, Europe II Regional Group	SICCFIN, Monaco
Mr. Ghazi AL ABDULJALIL	Regional Representative, Middle East and Northern Africa Regional Group	KwFIU, Kuwait

² Until January 26th, 2020 wherein Mrs. Hennie Verbeek-Kusters assumed the role of Interim Chair of the Egmont Group.

³ Shortly after the conclusion of the last reporting period, Ms. Oxana GISCA (SPCSB, Moldova) stepped in as Regional Representative for the Europe II region.

Following the End of the Reporting Period (end of July 2020)

NAME	POSITION	FIU
Mrs. Hennie Verbeek-Kusters	Chair, Egmont Group of Financial Intelligence Units	FIU-Netherlands
Mr. Marko STOLLE	Vice-Chair, Egmont Group of Financial Intelligence Units and Chair, Information Exchange Working Group (IEWG)	FIU, Germany
Mrs. Xolisile KHANYILE	Vice-Chair, Egmont Group of Financial Intelligence Units	FIC, South Africa
Mr. Jérôme BEAUMONT	Executive Secretary, Egmont Group of Financial Intelligence Units	
Ms. Bess Johnson MICHAEL	ESW Representative	FINCEN, USA
Mr. Abdelsattar ELNAJAR	Interim Chair, Membership, Support and Compliance Working Group (MSCWG)	EMLCU, Egypt
Ms. Anne Mette WADMAN	Chair, Policy and Procedures Working Group (PPWG)	EFE, Norway
Mr. Bernardo MOTA	Chair, Technical Assistance and Training Working Group (TATWG)	COAF, Brazil
Mrs. Anne-Marie KEMNA	Regional Representative, Americas Regional Group	FIU- Curaçao
Mr. Sergio ESPINOSA	Regional Representative, Americas Regional Group	UIF-Peru
Mr. Dian Ediana RAE	Regional Representative, Asia and Pacific Regional Group	PPATK, Indonesia
VACANT	Regional Representative, Asia and Pacific Regional Group	
Ms. Sandra HALL	Regional Representative, East and Southern Africa Regional Group	Seychelles-FIU
Mr. Yury KOROTKYI	Regional Representative, Eurasia Regional Group	FFMS, Russian Federation
Ms. Lucie CASTETS	Regional Representative, Europe I Regional Group	TRACFIN, France
Ms. Oxana GISCA	Regional Representative, Europe II Regional Group	SPCSB, Moldova
VACANT	Regional Representative, Europe II Regional Group	
Mr. Ghazi AL ABDULJALIL	Regional Representative, Middle East and Northern Africa Regional Group	KwFIU, Kuwait
Mrs. Ramatoulaye GADIO AGNE	Regional Representative, West and Central Africa Regional Group	CENTIF, Senegal

ANNEX D: GLOSSARY OF TERMS

- ▶ **AAP-AGA** – Africa Alliance Partnership – Attorney Generals Alliance
- ▶ **ACB** – Anti-Corruption Bureau
- ▶ **AML** – Anti-Money Laundering
- ▶ **APG** – Asia Pacific Group on Money Laundering
- ▶ **ARO** – Asset Recovery Offices
- ▶ **A-SAC** – Advanced Strategic Analysis Course
- ▶ **ASEAN** – Association of Southeast Asian Nations
- ▶ **BEC** – Business Email Compromise
- ▶ **BECA** – Best Egmont Case Award
- ▶ **CDD** – Customer Due Diligence
- ▶ **CFATF** – Caribbean Financial Action Task Force
- ▶ **CFT** – Combatting the Financing of Terrorism
- ▶ **CIS** – Commonwealth of Independent States
- ▶ **CITES** – Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora Secretariat
- ▶ **CORFIN** – Corporate Vehicles and Financial Products
- ▶ **CSAE** – Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation
- ▶ **CT** – Counter-Terrorism
- ▶ **CTED** – Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate
- ▶ **CTF** – Counter-Terrorism Financing
- ▶ **CTR** – Cash Transaction Reporting
- ▶ **DFID** – Department for International Development (United Kingdom)
- ▶ **EAG** – Eurasian Group on Combatting Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism
- ▶ **EBC** – Egmont Biennial Census
- ▶ **EC** – Egmont Committee
- ▶ **ECOFEL** – Egmont Centre of FIU Excellence and Leadership
- ▶ **EG** – Egmont Group
- ▶ **EGAR** – Egmont Group Annual Report
- ▶ **EGS** – Egmont Group Secretariat
- ▶ **ESA** – East and Southern Africa
- ▶ **ESAAMLG** – Eastern and Southern Africa Anti-Money Laundering Group
- ▶ **ESW** – Egmont Secure Web
- ▶ **EU** – European Union
- ▶ **FATF** – Financial Action Task Force
- ▶ **FCDO** – Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, formerly known as DFID
- ▶ **FIC** – Financial Intelligence Consultant
- ▶ **FICG** – Financial Intelligence Consultative Group
- ▶ **FID** – Financial Intelligence Department
- ▶ **FIU** – Financial Intelligence Unit
- ▶ **FIWFC** – ECOFEL and UNODC’s Financial Investigations (Financial Flows) in Wildlife and Forestry Crime project
- ▶ **FSRB** – FATF-Style Regional Bodies
- ▶ **GABAC** – Task Force on Money Laundering in Central Africa
- ▶ **GAFILAT** – Financial Action Task of Latin America
- ▶ **GIABA** – Inter-Governmental Action Group against Money Laundering in West Africa
- ▶ **HoFIU** – Heads of Financial Intelligence Units
- ▶ **ICAR** – International Center for Asset Recovery
- ▶ **IEWG** – Information Exchange Working Group
- ▶ **ILEA** – International Law Enforcement Academy (Bangkok, Thailand)
- ▶ **IMF** – International Monetary Fund
- ▶ **IRS-CI** – Internal Revenue Service, Criminal Investigations (United States)
- ▶ **IT** – Information Technology
- ▶ **ITMCFM** – International Training and Methodology Center for Financial Monitoring
- ▶ **IWT** – Illegal Wildlife Trade
- ▶ **ME** – Mutual Evaluation
- ▶ **MENA** – Middle East and Northern Africa
- ▶ **MENFAFT** – Middle East and Northern Africa Financial Action Task Force
- ▶ **MER** – Mutual Evaluation Reports
- ▶ **ML** – Money Laundering
- ▶ **MONEYVAL** – Council of Europe Committee of Experts on the Evaluations of Anti-Money Laundering Measures and the Financing of Terrorism
- ▶ **MoU** – Memorandum of Understanding
- ▶ **MSCWG** – Membership, Support and Compliance Working Group
- ▶ **NGO** – Non-Governmental Organization
- ▶ **NRA** – National Risk Assessments
- ▶ **OAC** – Operational Analysis Course
- ▶ **OR** – Official Receiver
- ▶ **OTS** – Operational Training Sessions
- ▶ **PPWG** – Policy and Procedures Working Group
- ▶ **RG(s)** – Regional Group(s)
- ▶ **SAC** – Strategic Analysis Course
- ▶ **SAM** – Support and Assistance Mechanism
- ▶ **SEPRONA** – Spain Service For The Protection Of Nature
- ▶ **StAR** – World Bank’s Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative
- ▶ **STR** – Suspicious Transaction Report
- ▶ **TATWG** – Technical Assistance and Training Working Group
- ▶ **TBML** – Trade-Based Money Laundering
- ▶ **TF** – Terrorist Financing
- ▶ **UAR** – Unusual Activity Report
- ▶ **UNODC** – United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
- ▶ **USAID** – United States Agency for International Development
- ▶ **USDOJ** – United States Department of Justice
- ▶ **USDOJ-OPDAT** – United States Department of Justice - Office of Overseas Prosecutorial Development, Assistance and Training
- ▶ **VA** – Virtual Asset
- ▶ **VASPs** – Virtual Asset Service Provider(s)
- ▶ **WCO** – World Customs Organization
- ▶ **WG(s)** – Working Group(s)
- ▶ **WWF** – World Wildlife Fund

ANNEX E: OBSERVER AND INTERNATIONAL PARTNER ASSOCIATED WEBSITES

OBSERVER	WEBSITE
Asia/Pacific Group on Money Laundering	www.apgml.org
Caribbean Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering (CFATF)	www.cfatf-gafic.org
Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)	www.comesa.int
Cooperation Council for The Arab States Of The Gulf (GCC)	www.gcc-sg.org
Council of Europe Select Committee of Experts on the Evaluation of Anti-Money Laundering Measures (MONEYVAL)	www.coe.int/en/web/moneyval/home
Eurasian Group on Combating Money Laundering and Financing Terrorism (EAG)	www.eurasiangroup.org
Eastern and Southern Africa Anti-Money Laundering Group (ESAAMLG)	www.esaamlg.org
European Commission	www.ec.europa.eu
Europol	www.europol.europa.eu
Financial Action Task Force of Latin America (GAFILAT)	www.gafilat.org
Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering (FATF)	www.fatf-gafi.org
Groupe d'Action Contre Le Blanchiment En Afrique Centrale (GABAC)	www.spgabac.org
Groupe Intergouvernemental d'Action Contre Le Blanchiment En Afrique (GIABA)	www.giaba.org
Group of International Financial Centre Supervisors (GIFCS)	www.gifcs.org
Global Organization of Parliamentarians Against Corruption (GOPAC)	www.gopacnetwork.org
International Monetary Fund (IMF)	www.imf.org
International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol)	www.interpol.int
Middle East and North Africa Financial Action Task Force (MENAFATF)	www.menafatf.org
Organization for Security and Co-Operation in Europe (OSCE)	www.osce.org
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)	www.unodc.org
World Bank	www.worldbank.org
World Customs Organization (WCO)	www.wcoomd.org
INTERNATIONAL PARTNER	WEBSITE
Basel Committee on Banking Supervision	www.bis.org
Basel Institute on Governance - International Centre for Asset Recovery (ICAR)	www.baselgovernance.org/icar
Camden Asset Recovery Interagency Network (CARIN)	www.carin.network
Comisión Interamericana para el Control del Abuso de Drogas (CICAD-OAS)	www.cicad.oas.org
Commonwealth Secretariat	www.thecommonwealth.org
Council of Europe	www.coe.int
European Union	www.europa.eu
International Association of Insurance Supervisors (IAIS)	www.iaisweb.org
International Bar Association	www.anti-moneylaundering.org
International Criminal Court (ICC)	www.icc-cpi.int
International Money Laundering Information Network (IMoLIN)	www.imolin.org
International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO)	www.iosco.org
International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (INTOSAI)	www.intosai.org
Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)	www.oecd.org
UN 1267 Committee	*Webpage not found
United Nations Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED)	www.un.org/securitycouncil/ctc/content/about-us-0
United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNODC)	www.unodc.org
Wolfsberg Group	www.wolfsberg-principles.com

