



# The Egmont Group International Bulletin

November 2006



## Editorial

The Warsaw meeting was yet again a very productive and successful meeting and we would like to express our sincere thanks to our host, the team at General Inspector of Financial Intelligence (GIIF) for their wonderful hospitality.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank CTIF-CFI, the Belgium Financial Intelligence Unit for providing the Permanent Administrative Support (PAS) to the Egmont Group over the past 3 years. The PAS not only assists in the organisation of the Egmont meetings but also provides support for each of the working groups and liaises with Regional Representatives through the Egmont Committee.

We now welcome the Serious Organised Crime Agency (SOCA-UK FIU) who will be assuming the role until the Permanent Secretariat is formed in Toronto in 2007.

As the year draws quickly to a close, I wish you all the compliments of the season and look forward to working with you in the new year.

Chair, Training Working Group

## IT WORKING GROUP

The IT Working Group (ITWG) and IMF collaborated on two conference initiatives this year, designed to enhance IT capacity with Financial Intelligence Units (FIUs) in Eastern Europe.

Both the IMF and the ITWG agreed, 'that a collaborative approach is very beneficial, as we have the common objective to assist countries develop their anti money laundering (AML) and counter terrorism (CT) capacities. With Egmont's FIUs subject knowledge and the IMF's organizational and funding capacity, we can work well together'.

Future initiatives will be planned and additional presentation material will be developed on analysis using IT solutions, this coming year.

## EGMONT COMMITTEE

The Egmont Committee meets at each meeting to discuss issues that relate to the future work of the Egmont Group and ways to facilitate the cooperative working relationships of its members.

The Committee discussed topics for training/breakout sessions at the 2007 Egmont Plenary meeting. It was decided that an additional training session will be held earlier in the week of the meetings, at a time that will allow the Heads of FIUs to attend. The Training Working Group (TWG) will develop these topics and contact speakers for each of the sessions.

The World Bank also proposed a project involving FIU governance and has asked for Egmont collaboration. A small subcommittee was formed to coordinate with the World Bank on this project.

## IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE SUBGROUPS

The Egmont Committee has formed two Implementation Committee Subgroups to work on issues related to the future organisational arrangements of the Egmont Group.

The Charter Subgroup is currently finalizing the draft Egmont Charter document, based on direction given by Heads of FIU at the Cyprus Plenary meeting.

The Secretariat Subgroup met to finalize documents related to the establishment of the Egmont Secretariat, including an overview of the functions of the Secretariat and its staff.

## OPERATIONAL WORKING GROUP

The Operational Working Group (OpWG) continued to work on current projects during the Warsaw meeting. These projects focus on the topics of corruption, E-money laundering and non profit organisations.

The OpWG received a briefing on the development of the trends and indicators database. This database has been developed to ensure that typologies are more concrete and operationally focused, and to develop useful indicators for FIUs.

During the OpWG meeting, the Belgian FIU and Federal Police gave a presentation on an active Belgian case. The case highlighted the substantial contribution that an administrative Financial Intelligence Unit had made during a major law enforcement investigation with international dimensions.

## TRAINING WORKING GROUP

### Training Needs Assessment

The Training Working Group (TWG) has been working consistently on the Training Needs Assessment (TNA). The final results were discussed in Warsaw and the TWG considered a number of ways forward to meet the common training needs of most FIUs.

The results showed that when designing training programs for Egmont members, it was important to ensure that the sessions were interactive and targeted at small groups.

The TWG organised a training workshop on the second day of the meeting which focused on the development of training programs based on the TNA results. It was proposed to develop two workshops, one on tactical analysis, and another on new financial products. A draft plan for the program and methodology of these sessions was developed during the workshop.

### Preparing PowerPoint Presentations

To assist in the improvement of PowerPoint presentations, the TWG will develop guidelines with suggested 'do's' and 'don'ts'. Once approval has been given, the guidelines will be made available to all Egmont members.

## International Organisations

### International Monetary Fund (IMF)

In the TWG meeting, the IMF discussed their survey on the strengths and weaknesses of FIUs, which draws on the comments in FSAPs and the FATF Mutual Evaluations. An IMF working group has been established to analyse these results, which will be presented to the Egmont Group at the Bermuda Plenary. Early in 2007, Egmont representatives and members of the IMF working group will meet to discuss the initial results of the IMF's cross analysis, to identify matters of specific interest to Egmont members and to ensure an effective and relevant presentation.

### World Bank

The World Bank will continue working on the development of an FIU handbook. It is envisaged that the handbook will be designed to be both practical and in a format that allows continual updating using IT technology. The handbook will include articles contributed by Egmont members. This will be coordinated through the TWG.

## OUTREACH WORKING GROUP

The Outreach Working Group (OWG) addressed a range of issues, primarily relating to the status of candidate jurisdictions.

The OWG also discussed issues relating to procedures for recognising new Egmont Financial Intelligence Units (FIUs) as well as future enhanced cooperation between OWG and International Financial Institutions.

Representatives of the World Bank and IMF presented their views on ways to enhance cooperation with the OWG. Following the presentation and some discussion, the OWG Chair indicated that the OWG would consider enhanced cooperation and mechanisms for information exchange between the OWG and the World Bank and IMF.

## LEGAL WORKING GROUP

The Legal Working Group (LWG) reviewed a number of candidate Financial Intelligence Units (FIUs) for Egmont membership. The LWG is unable to recommend FIUs that lack sufficient anti-terrorism financing legislation, consequently evaluation of some of the candidates was not able to be progressed.

The LWG also discussed a proposal for streamlining the vetting procedures for potential Egmont members. This revised proposal is designed to enable a more collaborative process which would be in the best interest of both the working groups and the candidate FIUs.

Members of the LWG's Terrorist Financing Subgroup provided an update of their work in reviewing the terrorist financing mandate of all Egmont members.

### FIU-IN-A-BOX STEERING COMMITTEE

The FIU-in-a-Box Steering Committee held their first meeting to examine the implications of the Egmont Group providing FIU-in-a-Box to Egmont member FIUs.

During the Warsaw meeting the Steering Committee looked at issues relating to governance, funding, legal implications, training, installation, support and maintenance. These issues were presented to the Committee and will be subject to further consideration by the Steering Committee.

### New contact details for the Permanent Administrative Support

Email: [egmont.secretariat@soca.x.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:egmont.secretariat@soca.x.gsi.gov.uk)

## Sanitised Cases

Following the success of the Egmont publication of 100 sanitised cases, the Training Working Group decided to repeat this exercise on an ongoing basis.

In addition, a database has been created to manage the sanitised cases and to facilitate individual searches. It is anticipated that the database will be made available at a future date.

In excess of 80 cases have now been received by the TWG and to date 35 have been sanitised and published via the Egmont Secure Web. Most of these cases will be available on the public web site in the near future.

