ADB/OECD Anti-Corruption Initiative for Asia and the Pacific
The Secretariat

Fourth Master Training Seminar
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Denying Safe Haven to Corruption and its Assets:
Enhancing Asia-Pacific Cooperation on MLA, Extradition and the Recovery and Return of the Proceeds of Corruption

Draft List of Participants

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Following graduation from the Cleveland-Marshall College of Law in 1970, Charles Caruso joined the US Department of Justice as a federal prosecutor with the Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Section Trial Attorney. In 20 years with the Department, Charles served as an Assistant US Attorney in three separate districts – Vermont, Florida and New York. He also served as the Felony and Special Prosecutions Bureau Chief in the Tampa Florida State Attorney's Office for 2 years. In all of these capacities his primary function was the trial of criminal offenses involving narcotics, organized crime, public corruption and violent crimes. Following his retirement from the Department, Charles took an LLM at the University of Aberdeen in International Law. He then joined the American Bar Association in 2002 as a Criminal Law Liaison in which capacity he worked in the training of public prosecutors in Ukraine and several other countries in Central and Eastern Europe. In 2003 Charles joined the war crimes tribunal at the Special Court for Sierra Leone where he served as a Trial Attorney until 2004 when he re-joined ABA as the Regional Anti-Corruption Advisor for the ABA Asia Law Initiative posted to Bangkok, Thailand.

Sean Mowbray
Sean Mowbray is a Senior Legal Officer in the Mutual Assistance (MA) Unit in the International Crime Cooperation Branch of the Australian Attorney-General’s Department. The MA Unit is Australia’s Central Authority for Mutual Assistance. As a member of the MA Unit, Sean is responsible for preparing outgoing mutual assistance requests on behalf of Australian authorities and facilitating Australian authorities responding to incoming requests from foreign governments. Before joining the MA Unit, Sean worked in the Department’s Funding and Assets of Crime Section on the development of new anti-money laundering and counter terrorist financing legislation, and administration of Australia’s proceeds of crime legislation.

Tanodbayan MA. Merceditas Navarro-Gutierrez
MA. Merceditas N. Gutierrez, a graduate of the Ateneo Law School (1972), started her government service as Legal Officer of the Philippine Aerospace Development Corporation (PADC) before being appointed Presidential Legal Officer, Office of the President and, later, Legal Officer at the National Economic and Development Authority. After having served in the Department of Justice in various positions, she was appointed as Chief Presidential Legal Counsel, Office of the President, in September 2004. In November 2005, she was designated the Acting Executive Secretary.

Ombudsman Gutierrez has a Diploma in International Law and Development at the Institute of Social Studies, The Hague, the Netherlands. She represented the Philippines in various high level international conferences and in the negotiations of bilateral agreements. As Undersecretary of Justice, she was also the Chairperson of numerous committees.

Mrs. Gutierrez’s appointment as Ombudsman of the Republic of the Philippines became effective on 1 December 2005.
Kimberly Prost

After graduating as a gold medalist from the University of Manitoba Law School, Ms. Prost joined the Department of Justice of Canada in 1982, and worked for five years in the Winnipeg Regional office as a federal prosecutor. In 1987, she joined the Department’s newly formed Crimes against Humanity and War Crimes Unit, working on possible prosecutions under the provisions of the Canadian Criminal Code relating to those crimes.

In 1990, she took up a position within the International Assistance Group (IAG), which acts on behalf of the Minister of Justice as Canada’s Central Authority for international criminal cooperation matters (extradition and mutual legal assistance). She was named Director of the IAG in 1994. In addition to management, policy and case work in that capacity, she participated in the negotiation of over 40 bilateral extradition and mutual legal assistance treaties for Canada and was a member of the Canadian delegation for the negotiation of the Rome Statute for the International Criminal Court, the related Elements of Crime and Rules of Procedure and Evidence and the ad hoc committee for the negotiation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.

As of July 2000, Ms. Prost joined the Commonwealth Secretariat as Head of the Criminal Law Section, Deputy Director, Legal and Constitutional Affairs Division. Her work there included assistance programs for member countries relating to, inter alia, capacity building with respect to international cooperation, the elaboration of model laws on computer crime and evidence, adoption of measures to combat corruption and the development of counter terrorism legislation to implement Security Council resolution 1373, as well as capacity building for police and prosecutors in the terrorism field.

In March 2005 she joined the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime as Chief, Legal Advisory Section within the Division of Treaty Affairs, where she continues to work on normative and advisory matters relating to treaty implementation, drug and crime issues, with particular emphasis on international cooperation. In August of 2005, Ms. Prost was elected by the General Assembly to serve as an ad litem judge for the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia.

Bernard Rabatel

Bernard Rabatel is a French magistrat who, since January 2002, has served as a “Liaison Magistrate” between France and the United Kingdom. He works with the French Embassy in London as an adviser for judicial affairs, and with the Home Office, Judicial Cooperation Unit.

In these capacities, he is responsible for facilitating legal cooperation between the United Kingdom and France in such areas as international judicial assistance, extradition procedures, comparative law, the application of the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Parental Abduction…

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From November 1996 until December 2001, he created the first position of “Liaison Magistrate” in the United States, in Washington, D.C., at the U.S. Department of Justice, Criminal Division, Office of International Affairs. At this time, he was also an adviser for legal affairs at the French Embassy in the United States.

Between 1979 and 1996, Mr. Rabatel served as a “magistrat” in Draguignan, Lyon, and Paris. He is a graduate of a French Law School and France’s National Judicial Training College, the Ecole Nationale de la Magistrature, in Bordeaux, France.

He has been a member of French delegations at numerous conferences on international criminal law issues, and he has participated in several missions for the United Nations and the Council of Europe.
Jean-Bernard Schmid
Jean-Bernard Schmid is active as Investigating Magistrate in Geneva, Switzerland, since 2004; he is attached to a specialized section, responsible for criminal investigations in complex financial cases, usually involving international legal assistance.


He holds a law degree from the University of Geneva (1978), and a lawyer’s license to practice from the canton of Geneva (1980).

Police Col. Seehanat Prayoonrat
Police Col. Seehanat Prayoonrat, a Thai national, graduated with Bachelor of Public Administration (Police Cadet Academy, 1978), Bachelor of Law (Ramkhamhaeng University, 1979), Master of Political Science (Long Island University, USA, 1981), Master of Law, (Chulalongkorn University, 1991); Master of Science in Information Technology (Rangsit University, 2005); PhD. Candidate in Law, (Chulalongkorn University, 2005). He was awarded various certificates in – Hostage Negotiation Seminars for Commanders (FBI Academy, USA, 1985); Development Programme of Official Inquiry, (Bangkok Metropolitan Police Bureau, 1991); Conspiracy, Asset Forfeiture and Financial Investigations, (Drug Enforcement Administration, US Department of Justice, 1992); Anti-Drug Profiteering International Observer Attachment Programme (Royal Canadian Mounted Police, 1992); ASEAN Proceeds of Crime Seminar (Royal Canadian Mounted Police, 1992); Financial Investigation and Forfeiture of Assets (ONCB, Thailand, ASEAN Narcotics Law Enforcement Training Centre, 1992); Counter Terrorism Legislation Seminar (U.S. Dept. of State and U.S. Dept. of Justice, 2002); awarded as Outstanding Police Enquiry Official (Royal Thai Police, 1991) and Best Police Official (Prosecution and Financial Investigation Division, Police Narcotics Suppression Bureau, 1992); and represented Thai government at numerous international conferences on narcotics drugs, money laundering and anti-corruption. Mr. Seehanat Prayoonrat delivered lectures on money laundering, anti-corruption and information technology relating to law enforcement and investigation training courses at numerous government agencies. He has also been appointed as member of Drafting Committee on Anti-Money Laundering Law and served in various capacities with Parliamentary and Governmental bodies. The Asia Pacific Group on Money Laundering (APGML) appointed him as Honorary Advisor for Thailand. He also served as Chief Information Officer (CIO), Anti-Money Laundering Office (AMLO), and Director, AMLO Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU), Thailand. At present, Mr. Seehanat Prayoonrat is a Senior Specialist, AMLO, Thailand and Acting Deputy Secretary-General, Office of the National Counter Corruption Commission, Thailand.

Frederic A. Wehrle
From 1994 to 1996, Mr. Wehrle served as Special Adviser on Post-Conflict Situation to the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) High Commissioner and as Legal Adviser on institutional reforms in the transition countries of Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union at the OECD in Paris from 1996 to 1998. Prior to assuming these functions, Mr. Wehrle has held several counselling positions within the Government of France (Prime Minister’s Office, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Defence).

Since 1999 he has been responsible for co-ordination of the ADB/OECD Anti-Corruption Initiative for Asia and the Pacific in the Anti-Corruption Division, Directorate for Financial and Enterprise Affairs,
Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), and has been heavily involved in the monitoring of the implementation of the OECD Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions by governments and businesses.

Frederic Wehrle, a graduate at Harvard University (Government Department), holds a law degree, a Master’s degree in international relations and a PhD. in comparative politics from the University of Paris.