

PARTICIPATION OF 33 EXPERTS IN WORKSHOP ON "FINANCIAL INVESTIGATIONS RELATED TO MONEY LAUNDERING CRIMES LINKED TO SMUGGLING"

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The Anti-Money Laundering Permanent Committee (AMLPC) organized a workshop titled "Financial Investigations related to Money Laundering Crimes linked to Smuggling" during the period from 1-5/08/2021 at the headquarters of the Saudi Central Bank (SAMA).

The workshop was attended by (33) participants representing a number of the concerned authorities, namely: the Ministry of Interior (the General Directorate of Public Security and the General Directorate for Narcotics Control), the Presidency of State Security (the General Department of Financial Intelligence "SAFIU"), the Oversight and Anti-Corruption Authority (NAZAHA), the Public Prosecution, the Ministry of Commerce, the Zakat, Tax and Customs Authority, the Saudi Central Bank, and the Permanent Committee for Legal Assistance Requests.

The workshop, which is part of the second phase of the technical assistance program, aimed to assist specialists from the concerned authorities in enhancing and developing their capabilities, and providing them with the necessary skills in conducting financial investigations, prosecutions and asset recovery in money laundering crimes. In addition, the workshop focused on enhancing the capabilities to increase international cooperation through formal legal assistance requests.

On this occasion, the Vice Chairman of the AMPLC, Mr. Adel Al-Qulish, expressed his deep appreciation to the participants from all concerned authorities for their active participation in this program, wishing that the program would achieve the desired goals and asserting that the continuation of such programs will contribute to the development of work processes in the concerned authorities, as well as raise the capabilities of their specialists in combating this crime, which reaffirms the Kingdom's commitment to applying the international standards and requirements in this regard. He further noted that the second phase of the technical assistance program consists of (12) training workshops, divided into (3) groups, each group holds (4) financial investigation training workshops. To date, (4) workshops for (33) participants have been held, and during the coming period, a number of (8) training

workshops will be held, divided into two other groups, with the aim of offering opportunities to the maximum number of participants of the concerned authorities to benefit from this program.

It is worth noting that the National Strategic Objectives and the National Action Plan to combat money laundering and terrorist financing approved by the Councils of Ministers, included in one of its objectives "Strengthening the training programs held for the concerned authorities through holding workshops in the field of developing methods of investigation and prosecutions in money laundering cases".