



SG announced the outcomes of the Transaction Committee's meeting.

Asset worth 3,729 MB are in the process.

Emphasizing both prevention and suppression for public benefit.

On 15 February 2024, Mr. Theppasu Bavornchotidara, Secretary-General of the Anti-Money Laundering Board together with Mr. Witthaya Neetitham, Director of Legal Division and Spoke Person of AMLO, Mr. Sutthisak Sumon, Senior Specialist in Law, and Mr. Piya Srivika, Director of Litigation Division 2, announced the progress of AMLO's work for February 2024 which over 3,700 MB of assets were seized and frozen, including, the emphasis on the rigorous prevention and suppression measures against the offender and to protect the public. It can be summarized as follows.

1. The Transaction Committee at the 2/2567 meeting on 13 February 2024 endorsed the proceeding on the assets connected with the commission of the offense as follows.1.1 Seizing and Freezing 228 items of assets in 26 cases, valued at 2,635 million baht. Most of which were in the predicate offenses of narcotics, public fraud or fraud with a nature of regular conduct, and customs evasion. The major cases are as follows.

1.1.1 Temporary seizing and freezing of assets connected with the commission of offenses of public fraud and fraud with nature of regular conduct in total value of 2,547 million baht, 24 items.

- The case of Mr. Chanin and associates (The STARK case), this case also involved the embezzlement with a nature of regular conduct where Mr. Chanin, the chairman of Stark Cooperation PCL made false financial statement to gain investors' interest. Previously, AMLO had frozen 16 items of assets worth 354 million baht (Order Yor. 222/2566). Additionally, the Transaction Committee had ordered the temporary seizure and freezing of 34 items of assets (land and bank accounts) in an approximate value of 2,541 million baht (Order Yor. 32/2567). AMLO is currently receiving requests for assets return from the victims (until 26 February 2024).

- The case of Mr. Wutthipong and associates, this case involved public fraud by sending messages alerting the prize winning, with link to collect information from the victims resulting in the money being transferred to the bank accounts of the offenders. The Transaction Committee ordered the freezing of 8 items of assets (bank accounts) in an approximate value of 6 million baht (order no. Yor 45/2567).



1.1.2 The Case of Mrs. Lina and associates, in the human trafficking offense by broadcasting live sex act in Chiang Mai province to people in China through VK application and charging from watchers. The Transaction Committee ordered seizure and freezing of 6 items of assets (cars, land, and bank accounts) with approximately value of 5 million baht (order no. Yor 44/2567).

1.1.3 The case of Mr. Peerapong and associates, in smuggling offense and counterfeiting trademark offense. DSI searched shops in Ban Mo Plaza Shopping Mall, Phra Nakhon district, Bangkok and found more than 5,000 items of counterfeited walkie-talkies and related equipment which Central Intellectual Property and International Trade Court gave verdicts relating to counterfeiting trademark and customs smuggling. The Transaction Committee ordered seizure and freezing of 9 items of assets (bank accounts and claiming right of insurance policy) with approximately value of 26 million baht (order no. Yor 23/2567).

More seizure and freezing orders will be posted on www.amlo.go.th.

1.2 Referring 19 cases to the public prosecutor to file a petition that the assets be vested in the state, with 717 items of assets worth over 1,090 billion baht. Most of the cases were involving predicate offenses of narcotics, public fraud or fraud with nature of regular conduct, customs evasion, and online gambling. The major cases are as follows.

1.2.1 The case of Mr. Prasit or Chanchai or Wei Hsueh Kang and associates, in offense of narcotics by producing, trafficking and laundering money through front businesses. The case was referred to the public prosecutor to file a petition requesting that the 25 items of assets (cash and amulets), in an approximate value of 200,000 baht be vested in the state (order no. Yor 244/2566).

1.2.2 The case of illegal smuggling of pork by Mr. Arnant and associates, in the offense relating customs evasion. The Transaction Committee issued an order to seize and freeze 24 items of assets, in an approximate value of 53 million baht. Additionally, AMLO examined financial trail of this group and found additional assets connected with the commission of the offense. The case was referred to the public prosecutor to file a petition requesting that the 26 items of assets (land, cars and bank accounts), in an approximate value of 43 million baht be vested in the state (order no. Yor 248/2566).



1.2.3 The case of Mr. Prin and associates, in offenses relating to organizing gambling through electronic media and money laundering of the websites <https://www.superslotjet.com>, <https://jokerwallet.game/> and <https://superwallet.game/>. The Transaction Committee issued seizure and freezing orders for over 500 items of assets under order no. Yor 70/2566, issued on 14 March 2023 and order no. Yor 132/2566 issued on 5 July 2023. The case is under the civil court's proceedings. Additionally, AMLO examined and found additional transfers, and conversion of assets connected with the commission of the offense. Thus, the case was referred to the public prosecutor to file a petition requesting that the 335 items of assets (cars, amulets, watches, high-end bags, electronic devices, Bearbrick dolls), with approximately value of 138 million baht be vested in the state (order no. Yor 247/2566).

1.2.4 The case of Mr. Qu Xi or Mr. Xu Qi and associates, in public fraud and money laundering offenses. Where they deceived people to invest in cryptocurrency through fake application named "Cboe Global Markets". Police officers investigated and searched many locations and found large number of assets of the offenders including Miss Jakkrina (Ki Ki Maxim)'s. Further investigation by AMLO found additional assets connected with the commission of the offense. The case was referred to the public prosecutor to file a petition requesting that the 133 items of assets (cash, gold ornaments, luxury items, cars, land with buildings, and bank accounts), in an approximate value of 596 million baht be vested in the state (order no. Yor 240/2566).

1.2.5 The case of One Box Home Co., Ltd. and associates, in offense relating to embezzlement by failing to comply with the terms in the contract relating to digital media box production and distribution. The case was referred to the public prosecutor to file a petition requesting that the 23 items of assets (land, funds, and bank accounts), with approximately value of 186 million baht be vested in the state (order no. Yor 252/2566).

In other public fraud cases, AMLO is gathering facts for victims protection where they can file a request with evidence of damages with the competent officials at AMLO within 90 days from the date published in the government gazette. Information will be posted on www.amlo.go.th.

The assets proceedings under the Anti-Money Laundering Act B.E. 2542 (1999) is civil measures, as opposed to criminal penalty. The necessary information is disclosed under the purview of the said law for public benefit with the purpose of informing the general public and for the owner or stakeholders of the assets who was affected by the seizure or freezing order to object and revoke the order as well as to prevent a bona fide third party from violation of the law by interacting in any way with the seized or frozen assets.



2. Emergency Decree on Measures for the Prevention and Suppression of Technology Crimes, B.E. 2566 (2023)

AMLO largely participated in the actions under the emergency decree, both in the passing and implementing the law. The Secretary-General was appointed as a member of the Prevention and Suppression of Technology Crimes Committee. A MOU was signed between 5 agencies i.e., Ministry of Digital Economy and Society, Royal Thai Police, Department of Special Investigation, Anti-Money Laundering Office and Bank of Thailand on information exchange. Joint operation, the Anti Online Scam Operation Center (AOC) was created and serves as a One Stop Service center for the public and be used for monitoring, commanding, and integrating the work on prevention and suppression of online threats in a timely manner. It also provides advice and solutions about online threats for the public. Prior to the enforcement of the emergency decree, AMLO has taken preventive measures by issuing AMLO Notification for designating high-risk persons who should be closely monitored under Ministerial Regulation on Customer Due Diligence B.E. 2563 (2020) issued on 13 December 2022. The list includes persons involved in the commission of a predicate offense or being the owner of bank accounts used in the commission of a predicate offense which was input in the database called AMLO Person Screening System (APS) to enable banks to effectively implement preventive measures against money laundering or financing of terrorism and proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. The measures include limiting the use of electronic transaction of such persons which can prevent criminals to conduct online transaction.

Currently, the lists and number of mule accounts are as follows: HR-03-1 list has 5,583 names, where 52,059 bank accounts were detected and reported back with total remaining value of 198,130,551.03 baht and HR-03-2 list has 24,640 names, where 233,289 bank accounts were detected and reported back with total remaining value of 625,364,530.86 baht (as at 14 February 2025). Additionally, the Prevention and Suppression of Technology Crimes Committee had the resolution to prescribe "the list of account owners who have been reported to use or be used or conduct transaction related to technology crime" as high-risk persons under Anti-Money Laundering Office Notification which banks are required to examine to track destinations from the mule accounts and report immediately for AMLO to take further actions.



Any person who opens a mule accounts could violate Section 9 of the Emergency Decree and subjected to imprisonment up to 3 years or a fine up to 300,000 baht or both and any person who is engaged in procuring or advertising for mule account trading could violate Section 10 of the Emergency Decree and subjected to imprisonment up to 5 years or a fine up to 500,000 baht or both, as well as offense under Section 5 of the AMLA which could be subjected to imprisonment up to 10 years and a fine up to 200,000 baht or both. If AMLO examined and found such commission of the offenses, the persons shall be prosecuted.

Mr. Theppasu Bavornchotidara, the Secretary-General, stated that AMLO will enhance the enforcement under the Emergency Decree to prevent damage by strictly applying the supervisory measures to the reporting entities under the AMLA. Any violation will be heavily sanctioned, especially in the case of negligence and allowing for the opening and the use of mule accounts. If such a financial institution or business or profession found a suspicion that an account, was used or may be used in relation to technology crime or predicate crime or money laundering, not only it has to suspend the transaction under Section 6 of the Emergency Decree, it will also have to report a suspicious transaction to AMLO to conduct the asset examination and return to the damaged person.

3. Right protection for damaged persons in a predicate offense and stakeholders of seized or frozen assets

3.1 Right protection for damaged persons in a predicate offense.

In 2022, AMLO amended Section 49 paragraph six of Anti-Money Laundering Act B.E. 2542 (1999) by adding Section 49/1 to protect the right of damaged persons of any type. The Ministerial Regulation was also recently issued by the cabinet on 6 February 2024 to set out clear procedures, especially in 2 issues, 1) allowing for compensation to other damages such as physical and psychological damages as oppose to the previous version of Section 49 in paragraph 6 that only allowed for property damages 2) setting a clear rules, procedures, and conditions, including a timeline for competent officials to effectively gather information, damage value, and managing the assets seized or frozen in order to return to the damaged persons.

As a result of the amendments, a damaged person in a predicate offense can file a request to AMLO for any damages caused by a commission of a predicate offense. Current cases include the cases of MORE and STARK.



3.2 Right protection for stakeholders of assets connected with the commission of an offense.

Section 50 of the Anti-Money Laundering Act B.E. 2542 (1999) was amended in 2022 to allow a "stakeholder" of a seized or frozen assets to file a claim for damages before the giving the order to devolve the assets on the state, in addition to only a bona fide transferee or mortgagee in the previous version of Section 50. For example, a **bona fide person who made a "to buy" contract for an asset connected with a commission of an offense and had paid a deposit to the seller such as in the case of Keetha Property Co., Ltd.**

In addition, a person affected in the case of Keetha Properties Co., Ltd., which occurred before this amendment in 2022, not only a person under the "to buy" contract, but also a contractor of the project will be able to file for a claim which AMLO will publish in the Government Gazette to notify all the remaining of affected persons and contractors to file for claims and AMLO will be able to compensate such stakeholders.