

INTERNATIONAL LEGAL COOPERATION NETWORKS IN THE FIGHT AGAINST ORGANIZED CRIME

Ancillary meeting to the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

Salvador, Brazil, 13 April 2010

Recommendations

Taking into account the UNODC Expert Group Meeting on the Establishment of a Global Cooperation Network, held in Vienna in November 2009;

Considering other informal meetings and discussions encouraging full use of regional networks; and

Based on contributions submitted by several networks and on the participation of representatives of the European Judicial Network (EJN), the Hemispheric Information Exchange Network for Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters and Extradition of the Organization of the American States (OAS), the Red Iberoamericana de Cooperación Jurídica Internacional (IberRed), and the Réseau marocain de coopération juridique internationale (RMCJI).

The Ancillary Meeting “International Legal Cooperation Networks in the Fight against Organized Crime”, following fruitful and constructive debates and discussions, recommends as follows:

1. There is a real need to foster the effectiveness of international legal cooperation among members of different existing networks in order to adequately combat serious crimes worldwide.
2. Existing legal cooperation networks should enhance cooperation in criminal matters among themselves. This enhanced cooperation would be more effective than the creation of a global legal cooperation network.
3. The interaction should preserve fundamental principles, the traditions and the specificities of each of the regional networks and take into account the differences of legal systems and legal cultures.
4. The existing regional networks, where appropriate, should facilitate the development, in other regions, of similar networks, including by providing training.
5. The participants in this Ancillary Meeting recommend the Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime to consider inviting the regional operational networks to participate in its 5th Conference of the Parties, for the purpose of enhancing cooperation between the regional networks, the UNODC and the parties to the Convention.

Salvador, April 13th 2010