



Inter-Governmental Action Group against Money Laundering in West Africa  
Groupe Intergouvernemental d'Action contre le Blanchiment d'Argent en Afrique de l'Ouest  
Grupo Inter Governamental de Acção contra o Branqueamento de Dinheiro em África Ocidental

## GIABA Strategic Plan 2007-2009 The Validation Workshop of the Evaluation Report is Opened

A three day workshop to validate the evaluation report of the GIABA 2007-2009 Strategic Plan was kicked off on Monday, 16 August 2010 in the Teranga hall of Palm Beach Hotel in Saly, Senegal under the chairmanship of Mr. Babatunde Nurudeen, Director of ECOWAS National Unit, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Nigeria and attendance of Dr. Abdullahi Shehu, Director General of GIABA. Participants included representatives of the Financial Intelligence Units (FIUs) of Member States and development partners.

In his opening remarks, Dr. Shehu said that GIABA is as a forum where member states discuss issues relating to the fight against money laundering and terrorist financing, developing of AML / CFT strategies, cooperation among Member States, provision of technical assistance ...

After noting GIABA assists member states in the adoption and implementation of internationally AML / CFT acceptable standards, including the 40 +9 Recommendations of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), Dr. Shehu recalled the objectives and results of the first strategic plan 2004-2006.

In addition, he also revealed that, in order to assess GIABA efforts in promoting the adoption of acceptable AML / CFT measures, a consultant was commissioned to undertake an independent evaluation the report of which is submitted to the attention of participants.

*"The evaluation of the implementation of the Strategic Plan 2007-2009 is very important for GIABA and development partners to the extent that it will help us determine our goals in our desire to put in place AML / CFT measures in line with international standards."* stressed the Director General of GIABA; hence the findings and recommendations of the report will form the basis of the Strategic Plan 2011-2013.

He concluded his opening address by inviting participants to objectively review the report, to take ownership of the next Strategic Plan and effectively implement it for the benefit of the Community.

The Deputy Director General of GIABA, Dr. N. Elisabeth Diaw and Mr. Babatunde Nurudeen, Representating the Chairman of the Technical Committee, respectively presented also a welcome address and a keynote address to participants.