



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 holds a regional training programmes for investigators on AML / CFT in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso**

From 19 to 23 July 2010, the Intergovernmental Action Group against Money Laundering in West Africa (GIABA) will hold a regional training programme money laundering and other financial crimes investigation, in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso.

The overall objective of the workshop is to equip participants with investigative techniques to track and detect money laundering activities in order to seize criminal assets and to get criminals successfully prosecuted. In terms of specific objectives, the training aims to increase participants' ability to identify perpetrators of money laundering; provide these participants with tools and techniques of money laundering investigation; strengthen their capacities through the acquisition of appropriate techniques to collect, organise, analyse and present financial information; and create a networking platform for sharing information between those involved in investigating money laundering in the region.

The workshop is designed for senior and middle cadre officers from the police, anti-drug agencies, customs, anti-financial crime investigation institutions, Financial Intelligence Units, state security, agencies combating organized crime involved in the investigation and prosecution of money laundering and other financial crimes, etc.

During the 5-day training, participants will familiarise, among other things, with the FATF 40+9 Recommendations; infiltration and search operations in financial investigations; tools and analysis techniques of financial intelligence; interview and interrogation techniques, post-survey report drafting, etc

The ingenuity of criminals goes beyond national borders and the financial system remains the most vulnerable sector to the activities of money launderers and other organised criminals. Criminals exploit the opportunities offered by the shortcomings of the legislative, regulatory, enforcement and financial institutions to perpetuate their crimes. In particular, financial institutions are the first level of the positioning phase of illicit proceeds of money laundering and terrorist financing. Criminals try and legitimise the illicit proceeds of their illegal activities by channelling them to financial institutions and end up injecting these illegal funds into legitimate financial transactions. In the process, use and subsequent movements of proceeds of crime undermines the fight AML / CFT.

The denial of use of these funds is fundamental to the fight against the activities of criminals. Thus, in accordance with FATF Recommendations 27 and 28 for the effective implementation of AML/ CFT legislation, countries are encouraged to support and develop, wherever it is possible, special appropriate investigative techniques in the fight against money laundering, such as controlled delivery, undercover operations and other relevant techniques. To this end, countries are expected to have technical staff with specialised expertise in money laundering investigation.