



# Counter-Terrorism Financing Summit

— Bangkok, November 2018 —



Australian Government  
AUSTRAC

4th Regional  
**COUNTER-TERRORISM  
FINANCING SUMMIT**

The Bangkok Communiqué

## 4<sup>th</sup> REGIONAL COUNTER-TERRORISM FINANCING SUMMIT 2018

### THE BANGKOK COMMUNIQUÉ

The 4<sup>th</sup> CTF Summit was hosted by the Anti-Money Laundering Office (AMLO), Thailand in partnership with co-founding financial intelligence units (FIU), the Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (AUSTRAC) and Pusat Pelaporan Dan Analisis Transaksi Keuangan (PPATK)/Indonesian Financial Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (INTRAC).

The Summit's initiatives detailed in this communiqué are aligned with, and support announcements from, other recent international fora including the Ministerial Sub-Regional Meeting on Counter Terrorism held in Jakarta Indonesia in October 2018, the ASEAN-Australia Special Summit 2018 held in Sydney, Australia in March 2018 and the Egmont Plenary of Financial Intelligence Units (FIUs) held in Sydney in September 2018.

The Summit was opened by Thailand's Deputy Prime Minister, Dr Wissanu Krea-ngam, Australia's Minister for Home Affairs, the Honourable Peter Dutton MP and the Indonesian Coordinating Minister for Political, Legal, and Security Affairs, General (ret.) Wiranto. Police Major General Preecha Jaroensahayanon, Acting Secretary-General of AMLO welcomed the participants.

The Ministers reflected on the continued success of the Summit and its important role in developing and maturing the relationships between the region's FIUs. They congratulated the Summit on its innovation, and its ability to energise and harness the collective capability of the region's FIUs to develop actionable strategies to combat terrorism financing and serious crime. They encouraged FIUs to embrace new and emerging technology to keep pace with the ever changing criminal methodologies, and to work collectively to detect and disrupt terrorist activity before it occurs, including by developing partnerships with the private sector.

The CTF Summit was attended by over 350 representatives from 31 countries, including officials and international experts from FIUs, senior representatives from the policy, regulatory, law enforcement and national security agencies, the financial industry, the financial and regulatory technology (FinTech/RegTech) industries, international organisations, think tanks and academia from in and outside of the region.

This year's CTF Summit theme was "**Regional Synergies for Regional Solutions**". "Regional Synergies" epitomises the role of the Summit in bringing together relevant parties to deepen understanding and identify and address gaps in our collaboration. This will create sustainable regional alliances that drive the rapid exchange of intelligence to more effectively combat

transnational crime in the region and beyond. The Summit also highlighted the value of private public partnerships and the current practices and opportunities across the region.

Participants reflected on the growth and the substantial achievements of the CTF Summit and its working groups since its establishment in 2015. This includes the evolution of the Financial Intelligence Consultative Group (FICG) to improve the understanding of key regional CTF risks and progressively strengthen operational collaboration on mutually agreed transnational crime priorities.

Based on the outcomes from the Plenary meetings, participants agreed to:

**Support** disruption activities through regional operational collaboration based on the outcomes and recommendations of the South East Asia Counter Terrorism Financing Working Group (SEA CTFWG) reports, which highlighted threats from terrorists, how the funds are raised, moved, and used, and their networks in the region.

**Acknowledge** challenges in combating the financing of terrorism and continue efforts to develop solutions using the power of FinTech and other artificial intelligence tools for identifying patterns of activity and terrorist financial flows.

**Agree** to strengthen information sharing between regional FIUs, domestically and internationally, to disrupt transnational crime by piloting a secure online regional information sharing platform in 2019.

**Support** the findings of the Non-Profit Organisations (NPO) Red Flags Indicators Report and efforts to prevent the NPO sector from being abused for terrorism financing.

**Agree** to continue and expand existing initiatives including the Multilateral Analyst Exchanges, Analyst Hubbing and the regional Financial Intelligence Analysis Course, which are all designed to increase the capacity, understanding, analysis and sharing of intelligence held by each financial intelligence unit.

**Agree** to create a new working stream to address regional high risk money laundering threats, particularly corruption and human trafficking.

**Address** the risks of virtual currencies whilst embracing their opportunities by promoting financial inclusion and seeking to prevent 'de-risking' occurring in the private and NGO sectors. A particular focus will be on understanding the differences and gaps in the region's

regulatory frameworks that govern virtual currencies, and working with regional regulators to reduce this regulatory arbitrage.

**Support** ongoing global efforts to combat money laundering and terrorism financing, including through the Financial Action Task Force, the Asia Pacific Group and the Egmont Group.

**Agree** that as the work and complexity of the CTF Summit and its working groups continue to expand, a more formalised Secretariat function is required, with the initial step of creating a Virtual Secretariat.

**Continue** to hold the CTF Summit annually where all actions contained in this Communiqué will be reported on and where future work will be conducted in response to threats and risks facing the region.

**Thank** the Philippines for hosting the 5<sup>th</sup> CTF Summit in 2019.