



CENTRAL BANK OF SRI LANKA

**Communications Department
30, Janadhipathi Mawatha, Colombo 1.**

Tel : 2477424, 2477311, 2477420 Fax : 2346257, 2477739
E-mail: dcommunications@cbsl.lk; communications@cbsl.lk

PRESS RELEASE

Date: 22.01.2007

Issued By: Financial Intelligence Unit



**COMMONWEALTH
SECRETARIAT**

**ENHANCING SKILLS IN FINANCIAL INVESTIGATIONS
TO COMBAT MONEY LAUNDERING**

Workshop on Financial Investigations

**Colombo, Sri Lanka
22-26 January 2007**

A Commonwealth workshop on financial investigations to combat money laundering and terrorist financing will be held in Colombo, Sri Lanka, from 22 to 26 January 2007. It is a collaboration between the Commonwealth Secretariat, the Global Programme against Money Laundering of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and the Office of Technical Assistance, United States Treasury Department.

This workshop, which is funded by the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Co-operation (CFTC) and hosted by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka, has attracted some 30 participants from Bangladesh, India, Malaysia, Maldives, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. They are officials from financial intelligence units and investigators from law enforcement agencies in Commonwealth Asian countries. They include representatives of the police, anti-narcotics, customs and anti-corruption agencies involved in investigating money laundering cases.

“Participants can learn about the intricacies involved in financial analysis and financial investigative techniques, as well as domestic and internal co-operation in relation to investigations,”

MARLBOROUGH HOUSE PALE MALL LONDON SW1Y 5HX

TEL: Switchboard +44 (0)20 7747 6500 FAX: +44 (0)20 7910 0027
www.thecommonwealth.org



COMMONWEALTH
SECRETARIAT

said Richard Gold, Interim Director of the Governance and Institutional Development Division (GIDD) of the Secretariat, which is overseeing this CFTC workshop.

As countries have anti-money laundering laws or are in the process of amending existing anti-money laundering laws, their law enforcement agencies have to grapple with the intricacies involved in investigating money laundering and other financial crimes.

Cecilia Marian, Adviser (Money Laundering) in GIDD, said the workshop is timely as there is a great need for countries in the Asia region to successfully investigate and prosecute money laundering and other crimes. She stated the workshop will help build the capacity of investigators through the transfer of expertise from the instructors and the sharing of experiences with their counterparts in Commonwealth Asia.

“As money laundering and organised crime are not only regional but global issues, this workshop will strengthen the partnership of member countries in combating these types of crimes,” said Ms Marian.

“Financial crime rarely respects international borders and therefore efforts to fight it should take place both on a domestic as well as on an international level.”