



GOVERNANCE

BASEL INSTITUTE ON GOVERNANCE

Annual Report 2008

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Basel Institute on Governance:

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The year 2008 was a busy and productive year for the Basel Institute on Governance. It was marked by the process of merging the two branches of the Institute, the International Centre for Asset Recovery (ICAR) and the Centre for Governance and Anti-corruption (GOV), at a time where there were also changes in the management. Activities on the ICAR side increased massively, with the arrival of a variety of new sources of project funding, especially in the area of training. A new Anti-Money Laundering Unit was created within the GOV side of the Institute and it immediately began to attract a good number of mandates and projects. Finally, the Institute was able to secure funding for a major research project from the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNF).

1 Structural and personnel issues

1.1 Structure of the Institute

The year 2008 has seen significant changes in the Basel Institute on Governance. The former Director, Mrs Gretta Fenner-Zinkernagel, resigned from the Institute in July 2008. Mr Daniel Thelesklaf (already employed as Senior Asset Recovery Expert at 40% by the ICAR since January 2008) and Ms Anne Lugon-Moulin, were appointed Co-Executive Directors, each with distinctive responsibilities.

Mr Thelesklaf, who had been heading a consultancy firm on anti-money laundering prior to joining the ICAR, brought his portfolio into the Institute, thereby creating the new Anti Money Laundering (AML) Unit mentioned above. Ms Anne Lugon-Moulin was previously employed by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, where she managed the anti-corruption and asset recovery portfolio.

On the occasion of this change in management structure, the two branches of the Institute (namely the International Centre for Asset Recovery and the Centre for Governance and Anti-corruption) also underwent a process of physical and administrative consolidation. This was done first by moving into new premises at Steinenring 60 in June 2008, and second by the creation of a shared administrative team, the "Resource and Operational Support Unit", which provides logistical support to both centres. The two entities remain, however, independent from each other in terms of funding and accounting. The ICAR division now consists of the following sub-units: Policy, Training, Legal & Advisory Services and IT Business Development. The GOV division consists of: Anti-money Laundering/Counter-terrorist Financing (AML/CFT); Public Accountability, Business Ethics and Standard Setting. Each Executive Director has primary responsibility for the activities of one of the two divisions. In addition, the Executive Directors have split up the Institute's overall managerial responsibilities as follows: One of the Directors is responsible for the Institute's

finances, donor relations and communication; the other for the management of the Institute's human resources, general administration, and IT support.

1.2 Team

The Institute team has witnessed some changes, in line with the new structures, as explained above:

- A new senior staff member was recruited for the position of Head of the AML/CFT unit: Ms Kristel Poh
- One new PhD student has joined the ICAR: Mr Ignacio Jimu
- Mr Fabio Paolini, a lawyer, did an internship at the ICAR for a total of 3 months
- Ms Denise Berger, a long-serving staff member of the Resource and Operational Support Unit, left the Institute as per end-2008
- Ms Zhanna Kozhamberdiyeva, PhD student, left the Institute in February 2008
- The Institute is fortunate to be able to benefit from the presence of a Fulbright Scholar, Mr Gregory Cooper, for a period of 9 months (until July 2009)

The Institute continues to periodically rely on external experts, especially in the areas of Business Ethics, AML/CFT and in the ICAR projects. In the latter case, the ICAR has an extensive network of peers and practitioners worldwide.

2 The Centre for Governance and Anti-corruption (GOV)

In 2008, the Centre for Governance and Anti-corruption (GOV) placed special emphasis on various mandates focusing on the prevention of corruption. Its specific expertise in the UN Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) allowed it to conduct the third review for GTZ. A new research project on Governance and Health received the green light from the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNF). Throughout the year, the Business Ethics Unit was working closely with three big enterprises. The newly created AML Unit conducted a large number of projects, with a special focus on Central Asia and Eastern Europe.

2.1 Public Accountability

2.1.1 UNCAC Compliance Reviews

The compliance review for Bangladesh, initiated in 2007 under the auspices of GTZ and UNDP, was continued in January this year. The Institute served to assist BRAC University and the various working groups in finalising the compliance review. This involved the assessment and enhancement of the overall comprehensiveness of the report as well as the review and completion of the compliance matrix, based on an overall understanding of the requirements of the UNCAC. A final consultation workshop, held on 15 January 2008, served to present the final report, as

amended to review the major gaps identified, and to discuss some of the ensuing recommendations for reform.

The Basel Institute on Governance was asked by GTZ and the Kenya Anti-Corruption Commission to assist the Kenyan government in drafting a compliance review of the Kenyan legal anti-corruption framework against the provisions of the UNCAC. In a second step, the Institute assisted the Kenyan Government in the elaboration of an implementation plan, in relation to the recommendations which had been elaborated in the review process. An ICAR expert was part of the team to provide specific guidance for Chapter V of the Convention.

2.1.2 Research

The interdisciplinary research project “The Governance of Health Systems”, submitted jointly by the Basel Institute on Governance and the Swiss Tropical Institute (STI), was approved by the Swiss National Science Foundation in September. Representatives of the Swiss Tropical Institute and the Basel Institute on Governance jointly coordinate this project. The main goal is to elaborate, apply and test an interdisciplinary framework to assess the governance of health systems by means of detailed case-studies in Tanzania and Tajikistan. Ultimately, the aim is to contribute to a better understanding of critical governance factors in health systems in general and to the improvement of health care policies, health care delivery and access to health care in particular. The research will be undertaken from 2009 to 2011, by a post-doctoral researcher and two PhD students who were recruited towards the end of the year and will formally start the project early in 2009.

The edited volume of the international conference on “Non-state actors as standard-setters: beyond the divide”, organised by the Basel Institute on Governance in 2007, has taken up a large proportion of the Institute’s resources, involving both staff and Board members. In 19 contributions, this volume explores theoretical and empirical evidence on standard-setting by non-state actors, ranging from multi-national enterprises to illicit organisations. In the introductory and concluding chapters, the editors consolidate the insights in a profoundly interdisciplinary framework. This volume is currently being edited at Cambridge University Press and will be published in 2009.

2.1.3 Consultancies

A new partner, the Council of Europe, has commissioned the Institute to undertake micro-systems studies about corruption risks in the health, education and tax sectors of Azerbaijan. The objective of this study is to gain a detailed overview, as well as a qualitative analysis, of the types and extent of corruption in the three sectors, and develop measures against it. The second part of the mission is scheduled for February 2009. Three sector reports will be the main output of this endeavour.

The Council of Europe has also commissioned the Institute to support Ukrainian research partners in doing surveys on corruption in Ukraine, by means of both on-desk work and on-site visits, throughout 2009.

Representatives of the Institute acted as governance experts at an international workshop on "Forests, landscape and governance – the roles and responsibilities of bilateral and multilateral cooperation", organised by Intercooperation, SDC and seco in Switzerland. Practitioners and decision-makers in development aid and in forest policy, as well as researchers and students, gathered to discuss issues of governance around forestry.

The Basel Institute was commissioned by U4 to provide input and comments on a paper on the protection of whistleblowers. It was furthermore mandated by the "Ombudsstelle" of the Canton of Basel-Stadt to elaborate a paper on the situation of whistleblowers in Switzerland and, as the case may be, possible steps for the canton itself in that regard.

2.1.4 Publications

Peters, Anne/ Förster, Till/ Koechlin, Lucy/ Fenner, Gretta (eds.) (forthcoming), Non-state actors as standard setters. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

Koechlin, L. and R. Calland (forthcoming). Standard-setting at the cutting edge – an evidence-based typology for multistakeholder initiatives, in: Peters, A. et al. (eds.) (forthcoming), Non-state actors as standard setters. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

Koechlin, Lucy and Sepulveda, Magdalena (forthcoming), Human rights and corruption: exploring the connections, in: Rotberg, Robert (ed.) Corruption and World Order. Brookings.

2.2 Business Ethics

The Basel Institute on Governance provided technical support and advice to the CEO and to the compliance department of a Swiss enterprise in order to elaborate and implement an effective anti-corruption compliance system.

A major mandate was acquired for a foreign bank. It consisted in analysing the status of the bank's compliance provisions with respect to anti-corruption and anti-money laundering. Those were measured against best practices. A risk assessment, both in relation to anti-corruption and to anti-money laundering, was undertaken, followed by the elaboration of a code of conduct and several anti-corruption policies as well as the completion of anti-money laundering policies. Specific recommendations, on how to best organise and structure a compliance system, were given. This mandate will be carried on throughout 2009.

The Institute drafted a code of conduct for a major holding company based in Switzerland. It also continued its effort to mobilise the forces of Russian entrepreneurs around the issue of anti-corruption, an initiative which will be pursued further in the next year.

2.3 Industry Standards

As Board member of the WEF Partnering against Corruption Initiative, the Institute supports the work of the PACI team and facilitates PACI meetings, be it during the annual Davos meeting or at the bi-annual task force meetings. PACI is in the process of strengthening its implementation mechanisms, procedures and acceptance criteria, and is now seen as a major forum for private companies to share concerns and experiences in the field.

Another major novelty is that the Basel Institute on Governance initiated a gathering of major Transport & Logistics (L & T) industry players, in order to address specific problems encountered by this sector with regard to corruption. The Institute facilitated two meetings where the issue of facilitation payments was identified as a major impediment for the L&T sector. It is expected that industry standards will be developed around this topic.

The Basel Institute participated in the Paris and London meetings of the Wolfsberg Group, as well as at the traditional Wolfsberg Forum in Switzerland. The Basel Institute on Governance joined a panel on “Public corruption and governance issues: What banks can and cannot do” together with TI and the EBRD, and co-chaired a workshop (“Revised Wolfsberg PEP FAQs and related issues”).

Activities of the Wolfsberg Group in 2008 focused on issuing the revised “PEP Frequently Asked Questions”, recommendations for trade finance monitoring against AML, guidelines for credit cards and other card businesses, transparency in international payments through revised global payment message types and a continued debate with FATF and other interested parties to develop a typology to identify corruption payments (corruption indicators). The fight against terrorism remained a constant topic, in particular with respect to an improvement in public/private co-operation.

Upon recommendation by the Basel Institute on Governance to UNODC, the Wolfsberg Group was invited to present its anti-corruption activities at the UNCAC Conference of State Parties in Bali, Indonesia. The Institute represented the Group and gave its view on the banks’ role in the fight against corruption.

2.4 Anti-Money Laundering/Counter-Terrorist Financing (AML/CFT)

During two missions held in 2008 the Basel Institute on Governance worked with FIU and banking supervision officials of an African country on the implementation of FATF requirements. The supervision of financial institutions and the cooperation between the various AML/CFT stakeholders, formed the core topics of a series of workshops. The Basel Institute on Governance experts evaluated compliance of this country against a number of FATF recommendations and in turn drafted recommendations on how to address the current shortcomings.

In Tanzania, the ICAR and the AML/CFT Unit joined forces with Deloitte South Africa to deliver training for members of the Tanzanian FIU, bankers from the private sector and law enforcement personnel involved in anti-money laundering and anti-corruption investigations.

The Basel Institute on Governance (through Daniel Thelesklaf) was appointed by the Liechtenstein Government to draft the new Liechtenstein AML/CFT law that transposes the 3rd AML EU Directive into national law. The new law was adopted in Parliament in December 2008 and will come into effect on 1 March 2009.

The AML/CFT Unit delivered a two-day seminar on anti-money laundering and counter-terrorist financing, organised under the auspices of EBRD at the Mongolian Banks Association Conference Centre in Mongolia. The key objectives of the seminar were to enable participants to keep abreast of the latest and emerging issues on AML/CFT matters, exchange views with experts and fellow participants on international and regional practices and assess the AML/CFT risks facing their banks and the Mongolian financial sector.

As a follow up of the Conference on Combating the Financing of Terrorism in Davos in October 2008, the Institute will publish a book (“Countering Terrorist Financing: the practitioner’s point of view”) in May 2009.

2.5 Trainings and Lectures

In Vilnius in January 2008, a two-day seminar “Struggle against corruption in Switzerland and new challenges in the stage of globalisation” was conducted for the Economic Study Centre, the participants consisted of approximately 30 senior public officials (Prosecutor’s Office, Public Procurement, Military etc.).

A course on anti-corruption in developing countries, with a module on public procurement, was taught at the ETHZ in October 2008, as part of the Post-Graduate Course on Development (Nadel).

The Basel Institute on Governance, together with the OECD, conducted a training seminar for OECD/ACN Istanbul Action Plan evaluators on 15 -17 Dec 2008 in Basel. The seminar was aimed at training national experts from the Istanbul Action Plan countries to carry out mutual evaluation and to use the adopted methodology, including the process and the monitoring questionnaire. A total of 19 national experts from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Ukraine attended this training. Topics which were examined and debated in depth during the seminar included modules on specialised anti-corruption bodies, responsibility of legal persons for corruption, access to information, public financial control, reducing corruption in public procurement, reducing discretion in public administration, merit-based recruitment, anti-money laundering and corruption in judiciary and private sector.

3 The International Centre for Asset Recovery

The International Centre for Asset Recovery, jointly supported by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, the Principality of Liechtenstein and the DFID (UK) looks back on an intensive year. The training programmes, launched in 2007, were run in many countries at national but also at regional levels. The IT Business Development Unit successfully launched the Knowledge

Center, a free-of-charge web accessible database, containing detailed information on the jurisdiction of major financial centres.

3.1 Trainings

The ICAR developed and delivered eight asset recovery programmes in five locations throughout the world, to audiences representing twelve countries, by a team composed of a prosecutor and an investigator plus additional experts, if needed:

World Bank / UNODC Stolen Asset Initiative (StAR) training programmes implemented by the ICAR:

- Bangladesh: Asset tracing and recovery and mutual legal assistance training for members of the StAR task force under the umbrella of the National Coordinating Committee of Bangladesh – Basel, Switzerland, February 2008
- Bangladesh: Seminar for senior officials of the National Coordinating Committee and the Anti-Corruption Commission on mutual legal assistance and asset recovery – Dhaka, Bangladesh, May 2008
- Malaysia: Asset tracing and recovery, anti-money laundering and mutual legal assistance regional training for eight countries (Malaysia, Brunei, Thailand, Vietnam, Bangladesh, Philippines, Macau Special Administrative Region and Indonesia). The countries were represented by anti-corruption prosecutors, investigators and financial intelligence unit personnel from a variety of agencies – Kuala Lumpur, June 2008
- Madagascar: Anti-money laundering and asset tracing and recovery overview training for judges, prosecutors and investigators involved in corruption investigations – Antananarivo, Madagascar, April 2008 (part one). Asset tracing and recovery, anti-money laundering and mutual legal assistance training for judges, prosecutors and investigators involved in corruption investigations – Antananarivo, Madagascar, April 2008 (part two)
- Bangladesh: Asset tracing and recovery and mutual legal assistance training for prosecutors, representatives from the Attorney General's office and members of the National Coordinating Committee and the Anti-Corruption Commission – Dhaka, Bangladesh, August 2008
- Thailand: Asset tracing and recovery, anti-money laundering and mutual legal assistance regional training for four countries (China, Thailand, Vietnam and Bangladesh). The countries were represented by anti-corruption prosecutors, investigators and financial intelligence unit personnel from a variety of agencies – Bangkok, Thailand, November 2008

Other training programmes:

- Tanzania: Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) development and asset recovery training for members of the Tanzanian FIU, bankers from the private sector and law enforcement personnel involved in money laundering and anti-corruption investigations – Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, August 2008
- Madagascar: Asset tracing and recovery, money laundering and mutual legal assistance training for judges, prosecutors, investigators and members of the FIU, which was followed

by a two day financial analysis programme specifically designed for FIU staff – Antananarivo, Madagascar, December 2008.

Extensive research and, if needed, scoping missions to the country prior to the actual training, enabled the ICAR staff to design training programmes centred around an interactive case simulation exercise which integrates domestic laws, legal systems and law enforcement procedures specific to each country. External experts in mutual legal assistance and law enforcement investigative techniques were often invited to provide detailed information relating to best practices in dealing with international financial centres (Malaysia, United Kingdom, Thailand, South Africa, Switzerland, France and Hong Kong).

These interactive programmes are designed to take the practitioner from the basics of corruption and money laundering violations and mutual legal assistance to a very advanced level by actually requiring the participants to perform a complex financial investigation. The class size for the programmes delivered during 2008 ranged from 25 to 40 participants.

Additional training programmes have been requested by numerous countries from Asia, Africa, Eastern Europe, the Caribbean and South America. The scheduling of these programmes will be evaluated carefully for delivering in 2009 to maximise the resources of the ICAR.

3.2 Legal and Advisory Services

The ICAR provides advisory services aimed at developing policies on asset recovery as well as institutional and legislative reform related to asset recovery. This assistance mainly consists of facilitating contacts and improving formal and informal channels of communication between requested and requesting states.

A programme of consultancy work started with a project in Romania, under the auspices of an EU funded/UK led project, on a separate mandate. The ICAR led a component designed to update the communication strategy of the Ministry of the Interior's Anti-Corruption Directorate (AGD). A workshop on EU best practices in anti-corruption communications and communication policy in crisis situations was held in September. Furthermore, the communication strategy of the AGD was redrafted. A second workshop was held in November.

The ICAR was invited to Buenos Aires to assist on an UK Embassy-based project on asset recovery. This two-year project is composed of a number of components, including one on asset recovery, and also aims to help the Central Authority to improve MLA proceedings and training for federal prosecutors in several provinces. The ICAR helped to devise a programme of training for a number of specialist anti-corruption prosecutors, judges, financial investigators and Ministry of Justice staff involved in this area.

The ICAR also visited Asuncion, Paraguay at the invitation of the Ministry of Economy, who is interested in exploring the possibility of implementing an asset recovery strategy for the country. There was a series of high level meetings with the Minister in the Ministry of Legal Affairs, the

Solicitor General, the Chief Anti-corruption and Economic Crimes Prosecutor and a number of other criminal law advisors in the Ministry of the Economy.

3.3 IT Business Development

3.3.1 Asset Recovery Knowledge Centre

The ICAR's Asset Recovery Knowledge Centre (www.assetrecovery.org) was launched at the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) Conference of States Parties in Bali in January. This free-of-charge online database gives detailed and structured information on the following elements for a total number of 52 countries:

- Listings of relevant law enforcement authorities and their contact information
- Relevant legislation for anti-corruption and asset recovery, such as international and bilateral treaties the country is a part of that will facilitate freezing of assets and request cooperation on asset recovery cases etc.
- Major case statistics
- Glossary of terms, theme pages
- Training material, publications, paper
- Tools (websites, registries, UNODC MLA toolwriter, ICAR AR Process Chart etc.)

The UNODC organised a Knowledge Management Consortium under the UNCAC, with UNODC, the ICAR, U4 and the World Bank StAR initiative (amongst others) as initial members. The ICAR attended follow-up meetings of the Knowledge Consortium held subsequently throughout the year.

3.3.2 Case Management Systems

The IT Unit led a 5-day joint mission to Tanzania, along with representatives from Deloitte USA and Deloitte South Africa, to evaluate case management and investigation processes as well as the general information technology landscape, at the request of the Prevention & Combating of Corruption Bureau (PCCB). A set of recommendations on how to design and implement an automated computerised case management system was provided shortly after the mission. The unit also took part in an evaluation and scoping study of case management systems and IT applications in South Africa on behalf of the Tanzanian Directorate of Public Prosecutions.

The ICAR has prepared the ground work to undertake a mission in 2009 to evaluate and recommend the necessary tools and platform for automated and integrated case management systems for the Ministry of Interior and The General Prosecutor's Office in Ukraine, under the auspices of a Council of Europe project.

3.3.3 Training Automation Tool for ICAR Trainers

The IT Business Development team has developed a custom application for training course development. The training team can now use this application to develop tailor made interactive case exercises using an automated system that generates the sixty plus documents required for each training course based on inputs such as country name, currency used, names of organisations in the country etc.

3.4 Publications

Pieth, Mark (ed.), Basel Institute on Governance, Recovering stolen assets, Peter Lang, Bern, January 2008.

ADB/OECD/Basel Institute on Governance, Asset recovery and mutual legal assistance in Asia and the Pacific, 2008.

Jorge, Guillermo (preface Mark Pieth), Recuperacion de Activos de la Corrupcion, Editores del Puerto, Buenos Aires, Argentina, 2008.

4 Conferences organised by the Basel Institute on Governance

Organised jointly by the Law Faculty of the University of Basel, SWISSCHAM-AFRICA and UNIDA, the Basel Institute on Governance hosted the "OHADA (Organisation pour l'harmonisation du droit des affaires en Afrique)" Conference in February 2008. It addressed the problem of corruption as an impediment to investment in Africa. The event was largely directed at enterprises, especially SMEs, willing to invest in Africa. Anti-corruption reforms and risk mitigation in Africa were the major topics discussed.

The "Philanthropy and global health: governance and effectiveness criteria" Conference, held in April 2008, was the third in a series of conferences organised around health and governance issues since 2005. This conference attracted a large variety of stakeholders who discussed how best to ensure efficient use of grants for the health sector abroad.

Together with the Department of International Public Law, the ICAR organised the "Lausanne IV expert meeting" in Lausanne in May 2008. This was the fourth session of the so-called "Lausanne"-process, a forum for law enforcement officials of many countries to gather and share experiences and constraints with regard to the tracing and confiscation of assets.

From 1 - 3 October 2008, the Basel Institute on Governance, jointly with the Financial Intelligence Network, organised an international seminar on "Combating the financing of terrorism" ("Giessbach II"), held in Davos. Speakers and workshop moderators from IMF, OSCE, Council of Europe, the Swiss General Prosecutor's Office, the Swiss Ministry of Foreign Affairs, GIABA, the FIUs of Belgium and Israel, as well as from academia and the private sector, highlighted the areas where, in the

future, more attention should be given to achieving increased efficiency in combating terrorist financing. The seminar was attended by 110 representatives from over 30 countries, consisting of regulators, supervisors, policy experts and members of law enforcement agencies, FIUs, and financial institutions. The Council of Europe and the OSCE significantly contributed to the funding of this seminar.

The Basel Institute on Governance, jointly with Transparency International, organised a panel on “The role of the civil society in asset recovery” at the International Anti-Corruption Conference in Athens (IACC) on 29 October. This panel, chaired by the Basel Institute on Governance, was visited by more than a hundred participants who showed renewed interest in the issue.

Upon the request of the Principality of Liechtenstein (one of the ICAR’s three core donors), the ICAR was invited to support the organisation of a side-event to a Conference on “Financing for development” in Doha in November 2008 and also gave a presentation entitled “The importance of asset recovery for financing development”.

The Basel Institute on Governance, jointly with the European Institute Zürich, organised a “Conference on accounting law, corporate governance and compliance”. The conference was held at Zürich University and focused on the interaction of true and fair accounting rules and corporate governance issues.

5 International relations

5.1 Public appearances

On the GOV side of the Institute, the following speeches were given:

- Presentation on “The link between corruption, human rights and development” at Transparency International’s Jour Fixe, Berlin, Germany, 28 February
- Video-conference presentation on “Action-plan on governance and anti-corruption” for the Global Development Learning Network, World Bank Institute, 20 April
- Presentation on “Corruption and human rights. The case of Malawi”, at the 2nd Meeting on “Corruption and World Order”, convened by Prof. Robert Rotberg, Kennedy School of Government, Cambridge, Harvard University, USA, 15-17 May
- Presentation on “The role of the pharmaceutical sector in promoting good governance” at a symposium of experts from the public as well as from the private sectors, at WHO Headquarters, Geneva, Switzerland, 3 September
- Presentation on “The role of the private sector in fighting corruption”, for the Council of Europe anti-corruption project workshop, Kiev, Ukraine, 17 October
- Presentation on “Health systems governance for incentives” at the 12 STI Symposium on “Health system strengthening: role of conditional cash incentives”, in Basel, Switzerland, 27-28 November

On the AML/CFT unit side, various speeches were given:

- Egmont Group Plenary, Seoul, Korea, 28 May
- Hearing of the Ukrainian Parliament to discuss the proposed amendments to the criminal legislation introducing liability of legal persons for acts of corruption, Kiev, Ukraine, 16 June
- Workshop organised by the Council of Europe to promote the adoption of the new AML/CTF legislation and the set-up of the FIU, Baku, Azerbaijan, 22 July
- Regional OSCE seminar on “The interaction between money laundering and human trafficking”, Larnaca, Cyprus, 19 September
- Presentation of the session on “Combating money laundering and proceeds of drugs trafficking” at the OSCE Regional Workshop on “Cross-border co-operation in Central Asia with Afghanistan to combat illicit drugs trafficking”, Tashkent, Uzbekistan, 21 November

Experts of the AML/CFT Unit gave various presentations on AML/CTF topics at several conferences in Frankfurt (European Finance Week), Cambridge (Symposium on Economic Crime), Zurich, University of Lucerne, Bienne, Bern and Vaduz.

The ICAR team has frequently been asked to give speeches, chair meetings and participate in international conferences:

- UNDP/Programme on Governance in the Arab Region, Regional Conference on supporting the implementation of the UNCAC, Amman, Jordan, 19-24 January
- Presentation at a workshop during the UNCAC Conference of State Parties on the role of the banks in anti-corruption with insights from the Wolfsberg Group, Bali, Indonesia, 28 January - 1 February
- Co-chair of a side event on the role of civil society in asset recovery at the UNCAC Conference of State Parties, Bali, Indonesia, 28 January - 1 February
- World Bank/ UNODC, Workshop on Asset Recovery for East African Anticorruption Agencies, Arusha, Tanzania, 23 - 26 February
- TVT Compliance/European Bank for Development and Reconstruction, Regional Anti-Money Laundering Seminar, ETC/CIS Countries, Tbilisi, Georgia, 8 - 13 March
- Canadian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Workshop on Combating the Financing of Armed Groups through Illicit Exploitation of Natural Resources, at Columbia Law School, New York, USA, 13 - 14 March
- Annual Conference “Combating corruption and fraud in the EU” at the Academy of European Law (ERA) Trier, Germany, 10 - 11 April
- UNODC/CSPI (Comprehensive and strategic plan for the rule of law and justice in Iraq), Syracuse, Italy, 7 - 11 May.
- Presentation of ICAR activities at the Govnet meeting at the OECD, Paris, 17 - 18 June.
- Presentation at the book launch “Recuperacion de Activos de la Corrupcion”, Buenos Aires, Argentina, 26 August
- Hanns Seidel Stiftung’s Conference on “Korruption – Ohne Geht’s Nicht?”, Munich, Germany, 13 September
- Conference organised by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Justice of the Netherlands on the “The importance of asset recovery for development assistance”, the Hague, 28 September.

- International Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities (IAACA), Kyiv, Ukraine, 3 - 6 October
- UNDP Regional UNCAC Training Workshop, Bangkok, Thailand, 13 - 15 October
- Conference on "New strategic directions in controlling corruption: the recovery of stolen assets" sponsored by the World Bank, UNODC and the Ministry of Justice, Thailand, Bangkok, Thailand, 13 - 15 October 2008
- Norwegian Royal Foreign Affairs International Task Force on the Development Impact of Illicit Financial Flows, two workshops, Oslo, Norway, 1 - 2 April and 21 - 22 October
- Presentations at two conferences organised by the Centre for Investigation and Prevention of Economic Crimes, Buenos Aires and Rosario, Argentina, 28 - 29 October
- Presentation of "The role of asset recovery in financing development", UN Conference on Financing for Development, Doha, Qatar, 28 November - 1 December

5.2 Partnerships - Networks

The Basel Institute on Governance, mainly through the ICAR and despite its relatively small size, is glad to be a member, partner or regular guest of various international fora:

- UNODC open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Asset Recovery, Vienna
- UNODC open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Technical Assistance, Vienna
- The NORAD Hunters Network, Oslo
- The OECD DAC Govnet, Paris
- The Egmont group (the Egmont Group is the Association of Financial Intelligence Units with over 100 members from all over the world)

Additionally, a Memorandum of Understanding has been signed with the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI).

On the GOV side of the Institute, a major effort was put into expanding the Institute's network of partners at research institutions in Switzerland and abroad. The SNF project is therefore also a result of a good partnership with the Swiss Tropical Institute. Collaboration with ETHZ Nadel has also been initiated, and is likely to continue into the future (co-organisation of anti-corruption courses). The fact that the forthcoming book on non-state actors will be published at Cambridge University Press is a result of the Institute now being recognised as a valuable research institution. Strong links have also been established with Swisspeace for a forthcoming joint research project.

5.3 Media

BIG staff was interviewed by TV channels at several occasions, while on mission and duty.

- Swiss TV "Eco" on how to fight money laundering in Switzerland, 14 April
- Kenyan TV during an UNCAC Gap Analysis workshop held in Mombasa, Kenya, in May
- Swiss TV DRS Rundschau on money laundering and lawyers, 28 August

- CBC Radio-Canada, on 2nd September 08, during a visit in Switzerland to explore the Haiti case
- Several Argentina TV and radio channels in both August and October

Interviews and mentions in newspapers:

- Basler Zeitung and Swissinfo on the „Philanthropy and Global Health: governance and effectiveness criteria“ Conference, 11 April
- One Azerbaijan Newspaper on the new AML law in Azerbaijan, 22 July
- Bilanz and Davoser Zeitung on Giessbach II AML/CTF conference, 3 October
- Basler Zeitung on the Mobutu case, 25 November

5.4 Fundraising

The ICAR has received support from major bilateral and multilateral donors for carrying out asset recovery trainings in many developing and emerging countries: the World Bank (through the StAR Initiative), the African Development Bank, GTZ, the EBRD, the Council of Europe, and USAID have been among its major supporters. First talks have started, with a country located in Asia, for a possible secondment to the ICAR. A special effort was made to get in contact with other major bilaterals, to possibly attract core funding. Therefore, visits and presentations on the ICAR activities (sometimes upon invitation) have been made and a number of individual projects have been submitted to several bilateral donors. The majority of these contacts will be followed up in 2009. It is also to be noted that the Basel Institute on Governance is now invited to the OECD DAC Govnet meetings, which convenes all bilateral donors active in governance issues on a bi-annual basis. It is also part of the anti-corruption task force of the same Govnet group.

The ICAR also held a so-called “Core Donors Meeting” in December 2008 in Basel, in order to give a substantive update of its activities to its three core donors. Such meetings will be held on a regular basis.

The GOV side of the Institute benefits mainly from project funds, acquired for organising conferences or for carrying out consultancy mandates or research projects. As previously stated, the GOV side of the Institute was able to attract Swiss National Fund research funding for the first time, through Prof. Mark Pieth’s Chair at the University of Basel. It furthermore conducted work for a number of donors, such as GTZ and the Council of Europe. Private partners have supported the Institute with contributions to the organisation for a good number of Conferences.
