

Session II: Communication and Outreach

Domestic Interagency Cooperation

- Stressed the importance of having a comprehensive, whole-of-government CT strategy
- Need for more effective networks and channels for communication within and between agencies
- Cited a number of good practices and mechanisms for improving interagency cooperation, e.g., secondments, MoUs , and national coordinating mechanisms
- Stressed the need to involve NPO regulators in national counter-terrorist financing coordinating bodies

International Cooperation

- Challenges to effective international cooperation on preventing terrorist abuse of the nonprofit sector
 - Sensitivity of some information and intelligence, which may be protected for security reasons
 - Privacy issues related to sharing information with/from tax authorities
 - Challenge of reciprocity among governments
- Cited a number of mechanisms for int'l cooperation, including MoUs and MLATs

International Cooperation

- FIU officials noted that communication is often facilitated through the Egmont Group
- Law enforcement officials have networks and procedures for sharing information, including mutual legal assistance arrangements and less formal channels for assistance
- Participants observed, however, that among regulators such mechanisms are underdeveloped; interest was expressed in establishing an international network to improve such cooperation

Consultation between Government and the NPO Sector

- Participants suggested that the volume and scope of consultation between the sector and government should increase
- Noted a number of good practices in this regard, e.g., public meetings, interactions with umbrella bodies, and public dissemination of information, including online
- Stressed that engagement should encompass issues beyond terrorist financing alone and that NPOs should have a role in setting the agenda

Consultation between Government and the NPO Sector

- Participants stressed that concern about the vulnerability of the sector to terrorist abuse should not exacerbate tensions between government and the sector
- Noted overlapping interest among governments and NPOs and suggested that governments (including all relevant ministries) and the sector should “work together” as “partners” and through “dialogue,” to address a common problems

Building Knowledge within the NPO Sector

- There is a range of good practice already within the sector; self-regulatory initiatives and other methods for sharing information and experience are well advanced in many regions
- Within the sector there is a demand for dialogue, to cover consultation, information sharing, and guidance
- A trilateral dialogue – including the financial sector – may be productive

Building Knowledge within the NPO Sector

- Umbrella bodies provide a useful means for building knowledge and expertise, generating consensus on principles and standards, and interacting with government
- Across the NPO sector, there is a need to build capacity to support the advancement of good governance
- In that regard, there is a need to provide additional resources for umbrella bodies and building governance capacity within the sector