FOREWORD

It is my great pleasure and privilege to present this report of the Tenth Regional Seminar on Good Governance for Southeast Asian Countries, which was held in Yogyakarta, Indonesia from 26–28 July 2016. The Good Governance Seminar was held in Indonesia for the second time, and, once again, we were deeply impressed and touched by the warm hospitality afforded to us by our Indonesian hosts.

The main theme of the Seminar was Contemporary Measures for Effective International Cooperation. The Seminar was attended by one visiting expert from Korea and 21 criminal justice practitioners from the countries of Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam. The Seminar was co-hosted by UNAFEI, the Attorney General’s Office of the Republic of Indonesia and the Corruption Eradication Commission (KPK).

As with other regions in the world, the fight against corruption in Southeast Asian countries has taken on an international dimension. The necessity of cooperating with investigative and prosecutorial agencies of other countries by providing mutual legal assistance is increasing. However, it has become more difficult for investigative and prosecutorial agencies to detect and punish corruption because the modus operandi of corruption is becoming more complicated and sophisticated. Those agencies must cooperate further in order to prevent and detect corruption effectively, and they must introduce modern forms of cooperation to combat corruption crimes.

The Seminar explored the legal frameworks and techniques for anti-corruption enforcement in the participating countries, particularly in reference to international cooperation in the detection and investigation of corruption, the trial of corruption cases, and asset recovery. Through discussion of the issues, participants exchanged knowledge, experiences, effective strategies, and best practices in the field of anti-corruption. In addition, the Seminar enabled the participants to develop personal and professional contacts between anti-corruption authorities and investigators in Southeast Asia.

The discussions during the Seminar emphasized the importance of: (1) informal information sharing among anti-corruption authorities, (2) close cooperation between investigators and prosecutors, domestically and internationally, in order to properly preserve evidence and achieve success at trial, and (3) enhancing specialized financial knowledge among investigators and prosecutors to increase the effectiveness of asset recovery. The Chair’s Summary, published in this report, details the key findings and conclusions of the Seminar.

It is a pleasure to publish this Report of the Seminar as part of UNAFEI’s mission, entrusted to it by the United Nations, to widely disseminate meaningful information on criminal justice policy. Finally, on behalf of UNAFEI, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the Attorney General’s Office of the Republic of Indonesia and the KPK for their tremendous support in co-hosting the Tenth Regional Seminar.

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