
INTRODUCTORY NOTE

It is with pride that the United Nations Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFEI) offers to the international community the Resource Material Series No. 108. This volume contains the Annual Report for 2018 and the work produced in the 171st International Senior Seminar, conducted from 9 January to 7 February 2019. The main theme of the 171st Seminar was the *Criminal Justice Response to Crimes Motivated by Intolerance and Discrimination*.

In order to suppress intolerance crimes effectively, it is necessary to establish proper legal bases to punish intolerance crimes, such as by adopting penalty enhancement or other substantive offences. During investigation, criminal justice authorities must seek and identify bias indicators, that is, adequate evidence to prove the offender's intolerant or discriminatory motives. Moreover, it is essential to take steps to build public confidence in law enforcement in order to facilitate cooperation with investigations. This can be done by establishing positive professional relationships with victims and victim communities and by implementing witness protection and other measures that provide broader assistance (e.g. access to victim support services). When crimes are motivated by discrimination or intolerance, imposing a penalty alone may not be sufficient to prevent the offender from committing further crimes. Thus, it is important to administer proper interventions, including those aimed at correcting the offender's biased or discriminatory thoughts, and utilization of the restorative justice approach.

UNAFEI, as one of the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme Network, held this Seminar to explore various issues that relate to crimes involving intolerance and discrimination. This issue of the Resource Material Series, in regard to the 171st International Senior Seminar, contains papers contributed by visiting experts and selected individual-presentation papers from among the participants. I regret that not all the papers submitted by the participants of the Seminar could be published.

I would like to pay tribute to the contributions of the Government of Japan, particularly the Ministry of Justice, the Japan International Cooperation Agency, and the Asia Crime Prevention Foundation, for providing indispensable and unwavering support to UNAFEI's international training programmes.

Finally, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to all who so unselfishly assisted in the publication of this series.

September 2019

瀬戸 毅

Takeshi SETO
Director of UNAFEI