
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. 97. This volume contains the work product of the 160th International Training Course, conducted from 13 May to 17 June 2015. The main theme of the 160th International Training Course was *The State of Cybercrime: Current Issues and Countermeasures*.

On 23 November 2001, 30 countries, including Japan, signed the Convention on Cybercrime. The Convention aimed to counter cybercrime by harmonizing criminal legislation and establishing closer international cooperation. Nevertheless, criminal justice practitioners from developed and developing countries alike still face numerous challenges in the investigation and prosecution of cybercrime. These challenges include rapidly changing technology, the anonymity of cybercriminals and the borderless nature of cybercrime.

UNAFEI, as one of the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme Network, held this Course to explore various issues that relate to cybercrime. This issue of the *Resource Material Series* contains papers contributed by one of the visiting experts, selected individual-presentation papers from among the participants, and the Reports of the Course. I regret that not all the papers submitted by the participants of the Course 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.

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