



*For immediate release*

## EU, UN launch new partnership through anti-money laundering/counter-terrorist financing workshop in Mongolia

**Brussels, 17 February 2021**– The EU Global Facility on AML/CFT kicked off a first-of-its-kind collaboration with the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Office (UNCTO) / UN Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT), through a two-day workshop on Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorist Financing (AML/CFT) for Mongolian authorities and Not for Profit Organisations (NPOs)

Conducted online, the training targeted some 280 participants, including state authorities, members of National Counterterrorism Centre Branches, banks, Financial Reporting Councils and NPOs. Over the course of two days, participants exchanged on AML/CFT in the NPO sector, risk assessment, outreach, supervision and information gathering stemming from the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) Recommendation 8.

*“Synergies and common efforts by the UN and the EU that are shown through this very activity is intrinsic for achieving better results when it comes the implementation of the FATF REC 8,”* stressed Mamuka Jgenti, Key Expert on Judiciary/Civil Society at the EU GF-AML/CFT, noting that *“Rec 8 remains one of the FATF recommendations with the lowest number of complying jurisdiction across the world”*.

Implemented with the aim of sharing experiences and best practices for the efficient implementation of the FATF REC 8, the workshop put a specific emphasis on the importance of respecting Civil Society Organisations’ right to deliver their work without unnecessary hindrance.

*“This event is vital for us due to the important nature of capacity-building to protect the non-profit sector from terrorist abuse,”* noted Zeeshan Amin, Head of the Global Capacity-Building Programme on CFT at UNOCT-UNCCT. *“We have to remember that protecting non-profits and civil society is a must to ensure thriving humanitarian space where funds reach their intended beneficiaries.”*

The non-profit sector has become a growing target for money laundering and terrorist financing, following the implementation of more comprehensive regulation in the financial and banking sectors. As money launderers and organised criminal groups become more sophisticated, NPOs require additional assistance to ensure they have an increased knowledge and understanding of REC 8.

*“We all recognise the critical importance of a vibrant NPO sector to a healthy society. Therefore, our common aim is to help NPOs flourish whilst reducing the risks of serious financial crimes like terrorist financing and money laundering,”* explained Ben Evans, e-trainer on FATF REC 8 with the EU GF-AML/CFT.

Representatives from both organising entities commended the “highly successful first partnership”, voicing hope to “learn from this experience and continue delivering the highest quality training to reach beneficiaries”.

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**EU AML/CFT**  
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**About the EU Global Facility on Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism:** Established in 2017 by the European Commission, the EU GF-AML/CFT aims to support third countries in their efforts to prevent money laundering and cut off access to funding for individual terrorists and terrorist organisations. Financed by the Commission's Service for Foreign Policy Instruments (FPI), the project is implemented by Expertise France, in partnership with the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit – GIZ and the Northern Ireland Cooperation Oversea - NI-CO.



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