

The International Criminal Police Organization - ICPO, INTERPOL was founded in 1914 with the founding principle to coordinate efforts relating to international police cooperation. How do you see the role of INTERPOL for reducing money laundering with special reference to Pakistan?

1) Introduction:-

The International Police Organization, INTERPOL plays a crucial role in combating various forms of transnational crimes including money laundering. Money laundering is a global issue that requires international cooperation, and INTERPOL serves as a key facilitator in this regard. Moreover, in case of Pakistan, collaboration with INTERPOL brings specific benefits regarding money laundering. As the organization helps Pakistan in cross-border

investigations, training and capacity building of law enforcement personnel, and international cooperation, etc. Resultantly, Pakistan can reduce the menace of money laundering with the aid of INTERPOL.

2) Pakistan and INTERPOL ~ A Strategic Alliance :-

Pakistan became a member of INTERPOL in 1952. As a member nation, Pakistan actively engages with the organization to play a vital part in global security and collective fight against the transnational crimes. Moreover, this strategic alliance enables Pakistani law enforcement agencies to tap into a vast network of resources, expertise, and support from INTERPOL's extensive membership. The partnership not only reinforces Pakistan's dedication to maintain

regional and global stability but also exemplifies the importance of collaborative effort in tackling the evolving landscape of criminal threats

3) Role of INTERPOL for Reducing Money Laundering in Pakistan:-

INTERPOL plays a significant role in reducing money laundering in Pakistan through a multifaceted approach. The role of INTERPOL is discussed below:

Role of INTERPOL for Reducing Money Laundering in Pakistan

i) Facilitating the Information Sharing

ii) Capacity Building of Law Enforcement Personnel

iii) Assistance in Conducting Operations

iv) Development of Standards and Best Practices

v) Capacity Enhancement of Financial Intelligence Units

vi) Help in Asset Recovery

vii) Aid in Cross-Border Investigations

i) Facilitating the Information Sharing:

INTERPOL facilitates the exchange of information among itself and Pakistan. This includes intelligence on money laundering activities, trends, and methodologies. For this purpose, INTERPOL provides secure communication platforms to share sensitive information, and enables real-time

information share to receive timely updates on emerging money laundering threats and activities. For example, National Central Bureaus (NCBs) are at the heart of Pakistan and INTERPOL seeks whole information from NCBs to investigate the crimes.

ii) Capacity Building of Law

Enforcement Personnel:-

INTERPOL provides training and capacity building programs to Law Enforcement Agency in Pakistan. As Social Learning Theory by Albert Bandura emphasizes the role of observational learning and modeling in acquisition of behavior. So through exposure to successful practices provided by INTERPOL, the law enforcement person

can learn and adopt effective strategies to combat crimes in Pakistan including money laundering. In addition to this, the building of INTERPOL capacity includes latest techniques used by money launderers and promotion of use of advanced technology to trace illicit financial flows.

iii) Assistance in Conducting

Operations:-

INTERPOL assists member countries in conducting joint operations to combat money laundering. Routine

Activity Theory of Criminology developed by **Lawrence E. Cohen** emphasize the convergence of a motivated offender, a suitable target, and the absence of a capable guardian for a crime to

occur. When a country like Pakistan gets operational support from organizations like INTERPOL, it disrupts the criminal routines by enhancing capabilities of law enforcement agencies. This support strengthens the guardianship role making it more challenging for offenders engaged in activities like money laundering to find suitable targets.

iv) Development of Standards and Best Practices:-

INTERPOL works in collaboration with international organizations such as Financial Action Task Force (FATF) to develop and promote global standards and best practices in anti-money laundering efforts.

Social Control Theory
articulated by Travis Hirschi

posit that individuals refrain from criminal behavior when they have strong social bonds and connections.

So, developing standards and best practices provided by INTERPOL enhance the social bonds between regulatory bodies, and financial institutions. This collaborative approach strengthens the collective ability to control and prevent financial crimes.

v) Capacity Enhancement of Financial Intelligence Unit:-

INTERPOL assists in enhancing the capabilities of Financial Intelligence Unit of Pakistan.

The institution is responsible for collecting, analyzing, and disseminating financial intelligence to combat money laundering.

Labelling Theory by Howard Becker suggests that societal

reactions and labels influence an individual's criminal identity. Capacity enhancement for FIUs can be seen as a way to counteract negative labels associated with inefficiency. FIU is better equipped to fulfill its roles effectively avoiding negative labels and fostering a positive identity.

vi) Help in Asset Recovery:-

INTERPOL assists countries in tracing and recovering assets linked to money laundering. The organization provides expertise in locating and freezing assets acquired through illicit financial activities, contributing to the overall effectiveness of efforts to dismantle criminal networks.

vii) Aid in Cross-Border Investigations:-

Money Laundering often involves cross border transactions and networks. INTERPOL facilitates cross-border investigations in Pakistan by promoting information exchange and collaboration between law enforcement agencies from different countries. This is important for Pakistan as the country is affected by transnational money laundering activities.

Conclusion:-

The collaboration between Pakistan and INTERPOL in the context of reducing money laundering is integral to the global effort against financial crimes. INTERPOL's role extends beyond mere information exchange as it encompasses capacity building, operational support, and development of best practices. The organization strengthens Pakistan's ability to detect, investigate,

and prosecute individuals involved
in money laundering, while
addressing the evolving challenges
posed by transnational financial
crimes.
