



THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR JUSTICE AND THE RULE OF LAW

GLOBAL CENTRAL AUTHORITIES INITIATIVE

The Global Central Authorities Initiative is one of eight core initiatives that the IIJ is implementing:

Addressing Homegrown Terrorism Global Central Authorities Returning FTFs
Judicial Capacity-Building Juvenile Justice Parliamentarians
Prison Management Investigations

The IIJ is a non-profit intergovernmental organization dedicated to combatting terrorism through capacity-building training in justice and the rule of law. More than 4000 criminal justice practitioners have participated in IIJ workshops in Malta and abroad.

Central Authorities – the national entities responsible for mutual legal assistance and extradition – play a critical role in facilitating international cooperation in criminal investigations and prosecutions. The IIJ Global Central Authorities Initiative (GCAI) was launched by the United States at a Justice Minister’s Meeting on International Cooperation in November 2015.

Through this initiative, the IIJ worked in a collaborative process with Central Authority practitioners and experts from regional and international organizations to develop a set of internationally-recognized good practices to guide the work of Central Authorities and set forth the essential functions these important institutions need to perform.

Key Foci:

- ▶ **Strengthening** capacities of Central Authorities
- ▶ **Developing** internationally-recognized good practices to guide roles and functions
- ▶ **Encouraging** direct communication between Central Authorities to facilitate and expedite mutual legal assistance and extradition
- ▶ **Fostering** practitioner networks



GCTF
GLOBAL COUNTERTERRORISM FORUM

The *IIJ Good Practices for Central Authorities* expand on Good Practice 9 of the GCTF’s *Rabat Memorandum on Good Practices for Effective Counterterrorism Practice in the Criminal Justice Sector*, which calls for practices and procedures to encourage international cooperation in CT matters. The *IIJ Good Practices* also support implementation of UN Security Council Resolutions, including 2322 (2016) and 2396 (2017), which call on members to strengthen international judicial cooperation in countering terrorism, including through the designation of Central Authorities.

Next Steps

In 2018-2019, the IIJ will implement and operationalize the *IIJ Good Practices for Central Authorities* through a series of regional workshops, coordinating with UNODC and other partners.

These workshops will bring Central Authority practitioners together with judges, prosecutors and investigators, and using simulations and case studies will strengthen the capacities of practitioners and enhance international cooperation to improve the outcome of terrorism cases.

Sahel-Maghreb Regional Workshop

The Sahel-Maghreb Regional Workshop was held in Malta in March 2016. Central Authority practitioners from Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Egypt, Jordan, Kenya, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Niger, Senegal, and Tunisia, joined the United States and the IJ in identifying and developing consensus around an initial set of ten good practices for Central Authorities, which provided the framework for the next three regional workshops.

Horn of Africa Regional Workshop

The Horn of Africa Regional Workshop was held in Malta in December 2017, co-hosted by Tanzania's Attorney General's Chambers. Central Authority practitioners and experts from Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya and Tanzania, along with colleagues from Malta, the United States, and UNODC, joined the IJ for a three-day workshop aimed at sharing and discussing national and regional challenges, applying lessons learned and refining the draft good practices.

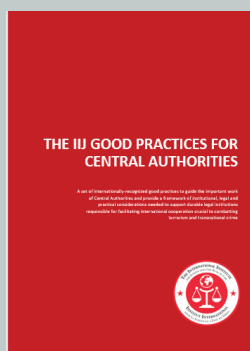


Southeast Asia Regional Workshop

The Southeast Asia Regional Workshop, co-hosted by Indonesia's Ministry of Law and Human Rights, was held in Jakarta, Indonesia, in May 2017. Central Authority practitioners from Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam, along with Australia, Japan, the United States, UNAFEI and UNODC, met in plenary and small group sessions to discuss the draft good practices and to share national experiences.

South Asia Regional Workshop

The South Asia Regional Workshop was held in New Delhi, India, in July 2018, co-hosted by India's Ministry of Home Affairs. The three-day workshop brought together practitioners from Bangladesh, India, the Maldives, Nepal, and Sri Lanka, along with Japan, the United States, UNAFEI and UNODC, to discuss the IJ's draft good practices and to exchange views and lessons learned on the steps needed to create durable and effective Central Authorities.



The *IJ Good Practices for Central Authorities* are accessible in Arabic, English and French at: www.theij.org

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