

Awareness Programme on “Anti Money Laundering and Countering Financing of Terrorism (AML/CFT)” for the officials of National Secretariat for Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)

An awareness session on “Anti Money Laundering and Countering Financing of Terrorism (AML/CFT)” was successfully conducted for the Officials of the National Secretariat for Non-Governmental Organizations (NSNGO) at the Centre for Banking Studies (CBS), Rajagiriya on September 11, 2024. The Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) has conducted this session at the request of the NSNGO with the aim of enhancing the awareness of their officials on the AML/CFT legal framework, Sri Lanka’s current compliance level in AML/CFT and emerging trends and developments related to risk of abuse of NGOs for Terrorist Financing (TF) including real world examples.

Around 35 officials from the NSNGO including District Coordinators of 17 districts participated in the above awareness programme.



The following topics were discussed during the session:

- Overview of Mutual Evaluation on country's AML/CFT framework
- Money Laundering (ML) and TF typologies relating to NPOs
- AML/CFT Legal Context in Sri Lanka
- Current trends in TF focusing on the NPO sector
- Regulatory Compliance with United Nations Security Council Resolutions (UNSCR)

Dr. (Mrs.) Subhani Keerthiratne, Director of the FIU delivered the opening remarks highlighting how the NGOs can be abused for TF. Hon. Justice Buwaneka Aluwihare P.C, an officer from Army Headquarters, Mr. Nimantha Athukorala, Senior Assistant Director of the FIU and Ms. Kasuni Alahakoon, Assistant Director of the FIU addressed the sessions as resource persons. Mr. Sanjeewa Wimalagunaratna, Director General of the NSNGO delivered the concluding remarks.