

## **The Morning**

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# **CBSL Governor attends Asia Pacific Group on Money Laundering Annual Plenary**

Central Bank of Sri Lanka (CBSL) Governor Dr. Nandalal Weerasinghe, in his capacity as the Chairman of the National Coordinating Committee (NCC) on Anti-Money Laundering/Countering the Financing of Terrorism (AML/CFT), represented the Sri Lankan delegation to the 2023 Annual Plenary of the Asia Pacific Group on Money Laundering (APG) and the ensuing Technical Assistance and Training (TA&T) Forum held in Vancouver, Canada from 11-14 July 2023.

### **CBSL...**

The Sri Lankan delegation consisted of the expert assessors participating in the respective Mutual Evaluations of the Peoples' Democratic Republic of Lao (Lao PDR), Nepal, and Brunei. The annual plenary brought together over 300 delegates from the 42 APG member countries, observer institutions and jurisdictions, and private sector stakeholders to discuss issues concerning countering serious financial crime, including money laundering (ML), terrorist financing (TF), and proliferation financing relating to weapons of mass destruction (PF).

The 2023 APG was co-chaired by the Department of Finance of Canada's Associate Assistant Deputy Minister of Finance Julien Brazeau and Australian Federal Police Deputy Commissioner Ian McCartney.

During the plenary, two Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) were signed between the Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) of Sri Lanka and the FIUs of Timor Leste and Lao PDR.

These MoUs would assist in enhancing international cooperation and collaboration in combating money laundering and terrorism financing (ML/TF) between the respective jurisdictions. Governor Weerasinghe provided leadership in facilitating these partnerships, reflecting Sri Lanka's commitment to strengthening international ties in the fight against illicit financial activities.

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