

THE ELEVENTH UNITED NATIONS CONGRESS ON CRIME
PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

STATEMENT OF H.E. DATO HAJI KIFRAWI DATO HAJI KIFLI,
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

Mr President, Excellencies, Distinguished delegates

On behalf of the Brunei delegation, I would like to extend our gratitude to you Mr President and the Government and people of the Kingdom of Thailand for the generous hospitality extended to us and for the excellent arrangements for this Congress.

Mr President

Brunei Darussalam is unwavering in its commitment to comply with its international obligations and work closely with the United Nations, other international and regional bodies and states towards the goals of crime prevention and promotion of criminal justice.

Brunei Darussalam has acceded to 8 and signed 2 United Nations anti-terrorism Conventions with the most recent being the accession to the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism.

Brunei Darussalam views corruption as a serious threat. We have comprehensive laws to counter this threat and there is robust enforcement of those laws. Brunei Darussalam has also signed the United Nations Convention against Corruption.

Brunei Darussalam is fully committed to ratifying the conventions it has signed and is preparing national legislation to implement those conventions upon ratification.

Mr President

A review is currently undertaken to ensure that our legislation is fully compliant with the provisions of the United Nations Convention against

Organised Transnational Crimes and its Protocols with a view to acceding to these instruments in the near future.

In this regard, Brunei Darussalam has in place a new comprehensive mutual assistance in criminal matters legislation. One of the key features of this legislation is the ability to render many forms of assistance based on the principle of reciprocity without any prior treaty arrangements with the requesting state.

Last year Brunei Darussalam, together with some of its ASEAN partners, have also signed an agreement for mutual legal assistance amongst like-minded ASEAN countries.

Brunei Darussalam has also enacted a new law dealing with the trafficking and smuggling of persons. This legislation provides for severe punishment for the traffickers and smugglers of persons.

Our extradition law is also currently being reviewed with the objectives of simplifying the process and to extend the range of crimes for which extradition can be granted.

Our laws have also been amended and new legislation have been introduced to ensure that acts of terrorism and related offences are sufficiently punished and proceeds of criminal acts including terrorism financing be subjected to forfeiture.

In order to ensure effective coordination amongst its law enforcement agencies, Brunei Darussalam has set up two national committees which act as focal points and coordinating bodies namely the National Committee on Transnational Crimes and the National Anti-Money Laundering Committee.

The National Committee on Transnational Crime is chaired by the Permanent Secretary of the Prime Minister's Office and consists of various law enforcement agencies and other Government bodies responsible for the issues relating to transnational crimes. The Committee acts as a coordinating body between these agencies and acts as a focal point for combating transnational crimes. The Committee is also responsible to initiate and coordinate national action plans and programmes in this area.

The National Anti Money Laundering Committee is chaired by the Ministry of Finance and consists of various government agencies and bodies which are responsible to oversee issues pertaining to money-laundering. This committee ensures that practical and legal measures are in place to combat such activities.

Mr President,
Distinguished delegates,

I would like to conclude by reiterating Brunei Darussalam's full commitment to work with the United Nations and other states to strengthen international cooperation in the fight against crime.

Thank you for your kind attention.