

Inaugural Meeting of the National Committee on AML/CFT/CPF - August 25, 2026

With the passage of the Financial Transactions Reporting (Amendment) Act, No. 17 of 2026 by Parliament on August 4, 2026, the AML/CFT National Coordinating Committee was statutorily established by law as the “National Committee on Anti-Money Laundering, Countering the Financing of Terrorism and Financing of Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction” (National Committee on AML/CFT/CPF). The statutory recognition provides a strengthened governance framework for policy coordination, strategic direction and inter-agency collaboration in combating money laundering, terrorist financing, and proliferation financing in Sri Lanka.



The first meeting of the National Committee on AML/CFT/CPF was held on August 25, 2026, at the Central Bank of Sri Lanka (CBSL) under the Chairmanship of Dr. Nandalal Weerasinghe, Governor of the CBSL. This followed 5 meetings of the AML/CFT National Coordinating Committee conducted earlier in 2026.

The National Committee on AML/CFT/CPF is mandated to provide necessary guidance in the formulation of the National Policy and to coordinate and oversee its implementation.

In his opening remarks, the Governor emphasized the importance of the upcoming Mutual Evaluation (ME) onsite visit, noting that only two months remained before the commencement of this critical phase of the assessment process. He urged all stakeholders to intensify their preparatory efforts and ensure readiness to effectively demonstrate Sri Lanka's progress and implementation of AML/CFT/CPF measures during engagements with the assessment team.

Dr. Subhani Keerthiratne, Director/Head of the Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU), delivered a brief presentation on recent developments, outcomes of the 3rd mock evaluation and progress of the ME preparations, including actions required ahead of the onsite visit.

Adding to the discussion, Hon. Justice Buwaneka Aluwihare, PC, Chairman of the AML/CFT Task Force, shared insightful remarks on the key areas of focus for stakeholder institutions in preparation for the upcoming ME onsite visit. He emphasized several critical aspects that require immediate attention, particularly in view of the short timeframe before the assessment.

The meeting was attended by the members of the National Committee on AML/CFT/CPF as well as invited representatives of key stakeholder institutions involved in national AML/CFT/CPF efforts, members of the AML/CFT Task Force, members of the Governing Board and the senior management of the CBSL.