

Press Release – GCFFC in person meeting at INTERPOL headquarters

27 Oct 2023

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

[Lyon, France] – The Global Coalition to Fight Financial Crime (GCFFC) has convened for their first ever in person meeting, held at the General Secretariat headquarters of INTERPOL.

The meeting, which took place on October 23rd in Lyon, brought together leading experts on fighting financial crime from across the world, along with key representatives from INTERPOL. The meeting was opened by the Chair of the GCFFC, Mr. John Cusack, the Secretary General of INTERPOL, Mr. Jurgen Stock and the Executive Director of INTERPOL’s Partnerships and Planning division, Mr. Darrin Jones.

Secretary General Stock welcomed attendees to the meeting, commenting on the 100-year anniversary of the founding of INTERPOL, on the new resolution to expand INTERPOL’s partnerships, and on how the Global Coalition to Fight Financial Crime is a part of this initiative.

“INTERPOL, through its mandate and membership of 195 countries, provides a unique global platform for the exchange of operational information. This convening power is a key strength in the fight against financial crime, which cannot be fought by one sector or region alone,” said Secretary General Stock.

“Criminal syndicates seek to exploit national borders and regulatory differences, hoping that information exchange between police and other authorities will not keep up. Today’s event is about showing them they are wrong,” Secretary General Stock added.

The purpose of the meeting of the GCFFC was to bring together the key stakeholders and leaders of the coalition to discuss current work and future priorities of the Coalition. There were updates from the Chairs of the various regional chapters and working groups, and a final workshop session focussed on creating a strong road map for the upcoming years.

In his address to the group, Chair of the GCFFC Mr. John Cusack brought up the incredible year the Coalition had had so far. As the Coalition moves into its new phase, heralded by the addition of 15 new member organisations, the in-person meeting was vital to cement its partnership with INTERPOL and to deliberate on the future goals and priorities of the organisation.

“I want to thank INTERPOL for hosting this in-person meeting of the GCFFC and for their contributions over the years to supporting the work of the Coalition, just as we support the work of INTERPOL and hope to be able to announce further details of opportunities to collaborate further in the future,” said Chair, Mr. John Cusack.

“Contact and dialogue across the public and private sectors from leading experts as well as hearing from the third sector in civil society doesn’t generate much discord; in fact, the realisation is that there is a common understanding of both the problems and the solutions to more effectively fighting financial crime. These discussions and meetings help the GCFFC, its members and its experts sharpen their thoughts in order to influence the future,” he added.

The GCFFC is well-positioned to collaborate with INTERPOL, leveraging our resources, group expertise, and global reach to help enhance the effectiveness of law enforcement efforts worldwide. Both INTERPOL and the GCFFC shared their commitment to curbing financial crimes in all its forms, going beyond anti-money laundering to focus on fraud, corruption, and cybercrime, which all have far-reaching consequences on global security and economic stability.

Vice Chair, Mr. Che Sidanius highlighted the importance of creating actionable targets and solutions for fighting financial crime, and how the GCFFC and INTERPOL can align on future strategies:

“The need to enhance global collaboration to fight financial crime has never been more pressing. Only by harnessing the best intelligence and advancing tangible steps to promote partnerships can the common vision of the GCFFC and INTERPOL be realised. As INTERPOL celebrates its centennial in 2023, I’m delighted to advance our strategic partnership to make a real difference,” said Vice Chair, Mr. Che Sidanius.

The meeting was concluded by the Director of INTERPOL's Financial Crime and Anti-Corruption Centre (IFCACC), Mr. Isaac Oginni.

For more information about this collaboration and its objectives, please contact the Secretariat of the GCFFC at secretariat@gcffc.org.

About the Global Coalition to Fight Financial Crime

The GCFFC was established in 2018 by the World Economic Forum, Europol and Refinitiv following calls for closer international collaboration in the field of fighting financial crime. The organisation brings together of leading experts from across the world to join in its mission of strengthening the global fight against financial crime. In the last year, the GCFFC has undergone multiple important steps, with the establishing of its legal status as an *Ideell Förening* in Stockholm, Sweden and the addition of a permanent full-time Secretary General, Ms. Grace Marshall.

About INTERPOL:

INTERPOL is the world's largest international police organization. Our role is to assist law enforcement agencies in our 195 member countries to combat all forms of transnational crime. We work to help police across the world meet the growing challenges of crime in the 21st century by providing a high-tech infrastructure of technical and operational support. Our services include targeted training, expert investigative services, specialized databases and secure police communication channels.