



Press Release

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India Hosts Inaugural Meeting of the BRICS Expert Network on Asset Recovery under its 2026 BRICS Presidency

The Directorate of Enforcement (ED) organized the inaugural meeting of the Focal Points of BRICS Expert Network on Asset Recovery on June 2, 2026, in New Delhi, marking a significant milestone within the Anti-Corruption Working Group under India's 2026 BRICS Presidency. The session brought together focal points of all the BRICS Experts on Asset Recovery indicating roles of Asset Recovery Experts including the challenges faced by the members, suggestions on the way forward; development of a standard format for informal exchange of information; and knowledge sharing and capacity building.

Director, Enforcement Directorate, welcomed the global delegates and positioned asset recovery as the central pillar of modern anti-corruption and financial crime enforcement. Highlighting how cross-border money laundering and complex corporate structures divert critical public resources from social welfare and infrastructure, the Chair called for stricter alignment with FATF guidance to prioritize asset recovery and bolster inter-agency cooperation. Sharing India's robust enforcement track record under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002, the Director highlighted ED's role in successfully securing assets worth approximately USD 25 billion through attachment and freezing measures as well as the restitution efforts of ED, of assets valuing USD 6.6 of billion to victims and legitimate claimants highlighting India's commitment in ensuring Asset Recovery as a cornerstone of Anti-Corruption and Money Laundering investigations.

During the event, member countries engaged in comprehensive deliberations regarding mutual operational challenges and welcomed the initiative on broader informal cooperation between member countries through the standard template presented for Sharing of Information and Intelligence for Asset Recovery. The members also broadly agreed for a physical meeting to be organised by India in the near future. India also outlined that constant capacity building on several emerging themes and sharing of best practices and cases would help member countries to further the cooperation on Asset Recovery.

The event concluded with positive feedback on sharing the Nodal Points for Expert Network of Asset Recovery Practitioners. The members also emphasised on annual or periodic meetings to assess progress, discuss challenges and expanding Capacity-Building. The meeting reaffirmed the importance of UNCAC principles, trust based informal cooperation in strengthening international asset recovery measures. Director, ED in his closing remarks reiterated that in present scenario the criminals are increasingly attempting to keep the assets outside the reach of local authorities and beyond borders. Director, ED also emphasised that crime should not pay the criminals, and it is the duty of the countries to cooperate with each other so that assets can be timely trace before dissipation.





