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CYBERCRIME AND ELECTRONIC EVIDENCE NOTE: INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON INTEGRATING CYBERCRIME AND ELECTRONIC EVIDENCE INTO JUDICIAL TRAINING CURRICULA

INTRODUCTION

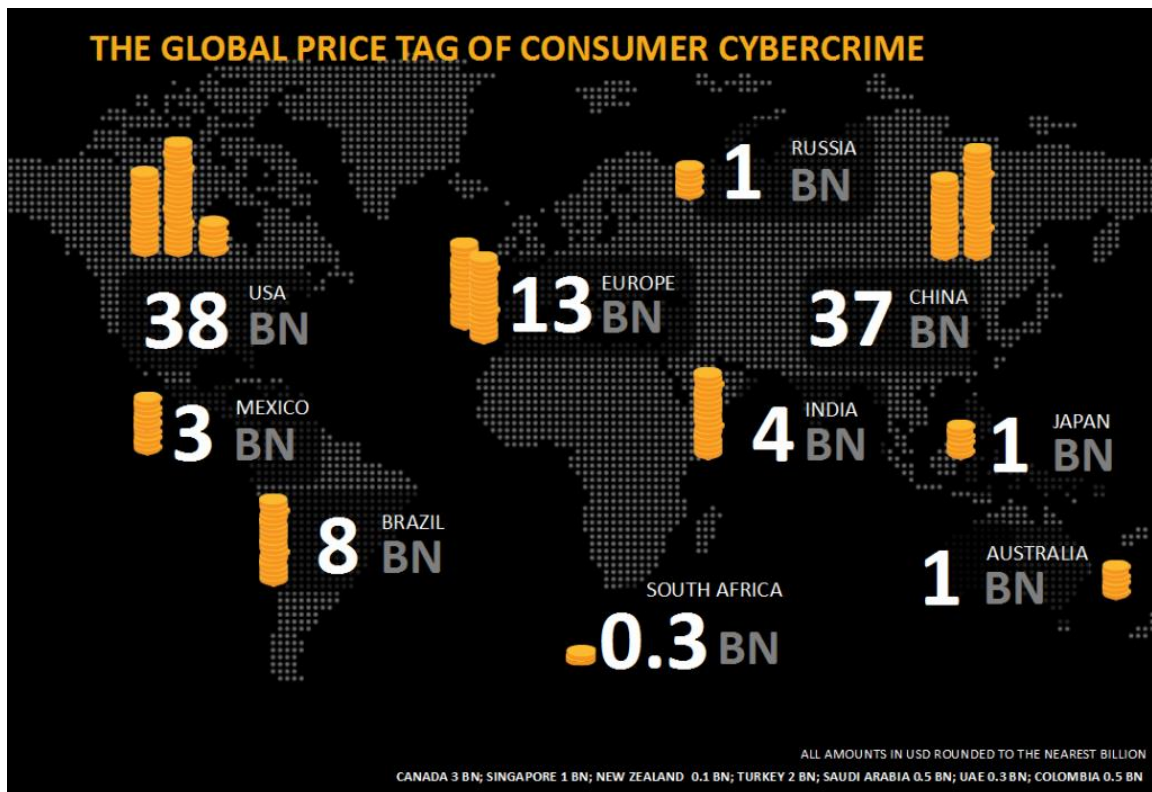
Cybercrime has far reaching impact on the world at large. Cybercrime adversely affect amongst others economic growth, national security, trade opportunities and competitiveness. Cybercrime is linked to other crimes like human trafficking, money laundering and drug trafficking.

Methods used to commit cybercrime are constantly evolving hence the need to intensify efforts to address this problem on an ongoing basis. It is alleged that due to resource constraints, South African is one of the prime spots for cybercrime activities. In 2013, cybercrime was described to be as bad as HIV/AIDS in South Africa.

The prevalent targets for cybercrime are mobile platforms (phones, tablets, computers), bank websites, cash machines, online dating websites, etcetera. Some of the notable incidents in South Africa are the hacking of the Post Office Postbank accounts in 2012 resulting in a loss estimated at R42 million as well as the defacing of 24 government websites by Team Root.

South Africa ranks among the top ten countries that are hard hit by cybercrime. The cost of cybercrime on the global economy is estimated at billion dollars and trillion rands as reflected in Figure 1 below:

FIGURE 1: COST OF CYBERCRIME



Given the prevailing threat of cybercrime and the increasing relevance of electronic evidence in court proceedings, it is critical that Judicial officers have thorough understanding of Cybercrime and electronic evidence. It is against this background that SAJEI under Office of the Chief Justice welcomed the support of the Council of Europe offered through the Global Action on Cybercrime (GLACY) project.

GLACY SUPPORT

In 2014 SAJEI was invited to nominate one of the Judicial officers to attend a capacity building program in Bucharest, Romania. SAJEI was represented by Ms J. Wessels, Regional Court President, Limpopo and SAJEI Council member. The purpose of the workshop was to develop training materials incorporating domestic elements.

GLACY further supported SAJEI with facilitating Train-the-Trainer seminars for a number of Judges and Magistrates. The GLACY experts also provided support during the seminars conducted by the Trainers in South Africa. In sum, the following Cybercrime and Electronic seminars took place for the South African Judiciary:

#	DATE	COURSE	DELEGATES	NUMBER
1	19 January 2015	Cybercrime and Electronic Evidence	Judges	48
2	13-17 July 2015	Train-the-Trainer (Basic)	Judges	12
3	11-13 January 2016	Train-the-Trainer (Advanced)	Judges	10
4	14-15 January 2016	Cybercrime and Electronic Evidence seminar	Judges	20
5	18-22 May 2015	Train-the-Trainer (Basic)	District Magistrates + 1 Regional Magistrate	13
6	08-10 July 2015	Cybercrime and Electronic Evidence	District Magistrates	21
6	10-13 November 2015	Cybercrime and Electronic Evidence seminar (Eastern Cape)	Regional Magistrates	29
7	17-18 September 2015	Cybercrime and Electronic Evidence conference	Regional Magistrates	88
8	14-16 September 2015	Cybercrime and Electronic Evidence conference	District Magistrates	72
TOTAL				323

The topics covered amongst others were as follows:

- a. Training skills
- b. Introduction to Cybercrime
- c. Cybercrime threats and Challenges
- d. Cybercrime tools and infrastructure
- e. The Budapest Convention, SA Legislation and relevant domestic legislation
- f. Introduction to Computer Technology
- g. Proceeds of crime and money laundering
- h. Cybercrime Legislation
- i. Sources of Electronic Evidence
- j. Electronic Evidence and Forensics

- k. Electronic Evidence practice and Procedure
- l. International cooperation and mutual legal assistance

The feedback from the delegates was very positive. The content was found to be relevant to judicial work. Delegates expressed the need for continuous capacity building on Cybercrime and Electronic Evidence.

SAJEI welcomes the opportunity to host this ground breaking international workshop on integrating Cybercrime and Electronic Evidence into judicial curricula of various countries. This effort will ensure sustainability of the support rendered by the Council of Europe through the GLACY project. SAJEI will indeed ensure that all Judicial officers are exposed to the training on these important topics.