

Media Factsheet

Example of how the Organised Crime Bill will allow law enforcement agencies to tackle organised crime more effectively

This document uses the example of a typical drug trafficking organised criminal group (OCG) to illustrate how the Organised Crime Bill will allow law enforcement agencies to tackle organised crime more effectively.

2. The graphic illustrates how a typical drug trafficking OCG operates, based on actual cases that CNB has dealt with. The structure of an OCG is complex and layered. Its activities are initiated and coordinated by the mastermind, OCG Leader X, who is located overseas. He takes orders for drugs from his partners in Singapore, and instructs drug supply syndicates and courier coordinators to deliver drugs to these partners. Once the drugs are brought into Singapore by couriers, the drugs pass through multiple hands, channels and layers before being sold to drug abusers. The illicit proceeds from the drug trafficking activities will flow back to OCG Leader X and further finance the illegal activities of the OCG.

3. The Organised Crime Bill will allow our law enforcement agencies to take more effective and targeted enforcement actions against criminals at every layer of the OCG.

Lower rungs of OCG i.e. store keepers and runners; major traffickers; street-level traffickers

4. In the case of a drug trafficking OCG, CNB can presently take action under the Misuse of Drugs Act (MDA) against persons in the lower rungs of the OCG. With the new powers under the Organised Crime Bill, such persons may be subject to enhanced penalties in the Bill for committing offences for an OCG.

Middle tier: Local partners in Singapore i.e. A, B and C

5. In most cases, CNB is able to arrest and charge the local partners under current laws. With the new offences under the Bill, these persons will be liable for new offences such as instructing the commission of an offence for an OCG and recruiting members for an OCG. If convicted, they will face higher penalties under the Bill.

6. The Bill will provide additional levers beyond criminal sentences. The Public Prosecutor (PP) can apply for an Organised Crime Preventive Order (OCPO) to restrict the activities of the local partners, for example, by placing restrictions on the premises to which they have access to, and the manner in

which they may associate with other persons. This will curtail their involvement in the OCG's activities.

7. The PP can also apply for a Financial Reporting Order (FRO) to require these persons to furnish financial reports to CNB. This allows CNB to track their finances.

Top echelon: OCG Leader X

8. OCG Leader X operates from overseas and has created multiple layers and complex structures to distance himself from the actual drug trafficking activities. He ensures that he does not personally handle the drugs. This makes it difficult to secure a drug trafficking conviction against him.

9. With the new offences provided for under the Organised Crime Bill, OCG Leader X will be liable for criminal offences such as instructing the commission of an offence for an OCG and recruiting members for an OCG.

10. In addition, the benefits that he derives from his criminal activities can be subject to the civil confiscation regime. This will deprive him of his ill-gotten gains, disrupt the activities of his OCG and curtail its further growth.