

Pavel Lazarenko (Switzerland)

Case ID:

ARW-153

Jurisdiction of Origin of Public Official or Entity Allegedly Involved:

Ukraine

Position of Public Official(s) (yrs in office):

Member of Parliament (1998); Prime Minister (1996-1997); First Vice Prime Minister (1995-1996); various government and political positions, Dnepropetrovsk region (1992-1995)

Jurisdiction of Asset Recovery:

Switzerland

Jurisdiction of Asset Recovery ? Description:

Undertaking Recovery Effort, Location of Recovery Effort, Asset Location / Alleged Asset Location

Asset Recovery Start:

1999

Asset Recovery End:

2001

UNCAC Offenses Implicated:

Art.15

Art.17

Art.18

Art.20

Art.23

Money laundering Implicated:

Yes

Legal Basis for Asset Recovery:

Criminal Prosecution and Forfeiture

Intl.Cooperation: MLAT/Letter of Request?:

Unknown

Basis for Intl Cooperation:

Investigatory cooperation but exact mechanism unknown

Contributing Factors in Asset Recovery:

Close cooperation among investigators of Ukraine, Switzerland, U.S. and Antigua

Status of Asset Recovery :

Completed

Stage in Asset Recovery Chain:

Assets Returned to Victim or Requesting Jurisdiction

Assets Returned (USD) - Description:

Unknown amount

Agreement for Returned Assets:

No

Agreement for Returned Assets - Description:

N/A

Case Summary:

In 2000, Mr. Lazarenko was convicted in absentia on money laundering charges. (Sources:

BGer 125 II 356 (excerpt, judgment of 25 June 1999) and BGer 125 II 238 (excerpt, judgment of 8 April 1999), both of Canton of Geneva, administrative law court; see also BBC News, "The case against Pavlo Lazarenko," August 25, 2006, accessed at <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/europe/4780743.stm>.)

Disposition of Criminal Case(s):

According to the U.S. Department of Justice Press Release dated November 19, 2009, Mr. Lazarenko was sentenced to 97 months in prison, subsequent to his conviction on eight counts of money laundering. (Source: U.S. Department of Justice, "Former Ukrainian Prime Minister Sentenced to 97 Months in Prison," November 19, 2009.) According to BBC News, Mr. Lazarenko was convicted in Switzerland, in June 2000, on money laundering charges. (Sources: BBC News, "The case against Lazarenko," August 25, 2006. See also, Swiss court decisions: BGer 125 II 356 (excerpt, judgment of 25 June 1999) and BGer 125 II 238 (excerpt, judgment of 8 April 1999), both of Canton of Geneva, administrative law court).

Jurisdiction of Origin: Investigative Agency:

Prosecutor General

Jurisdiction of Origin: Prosecuting Authority/Civil Attorney(s):

Prosecutor General

Jurisdiction of Asset Recovery: Investigative Agency:

Investigating Magistrate

Jurisdiction of Asset Recovery: Prosecuting Authority/Civil Attorney(s):

Prosecutor General

Jurisdiction of Asset Recovery: Courts Involved:

Administrative Law Court, Geneva

Documents:

Lazarenko_Catch_Oligarch_Oct_4_2004.pdf

Lazarenko_Switzerland_Bger_125_II_238_Apr_8_1999.pdf

Lazarenko_Switzerland_Bger_125_II_356_Jun_25_1999.docx

Lazarenko_Switzerland_Case_Against_Lazarenko_BBC_Aug_25_2006.pdf

Documents Links:

Other Sources:

BGer 125 II 356 (excerpt, judgment of 25 June 1999) and BGer 125 II 238 (excerpt, judgment of 8 April 1999), both of Canton of Geneva, administrative law court (decisions can be downloaded from www.bger.ch). Jason Felch, "To Catch an Oligarch," San Francisco Magazine, October 4, 2004, posted on <http://www.centerforinvestigativereporting.org/articles/tocatchanologarch>; BBC News, "The case against Pavlo Lazarenko," August 25, 2006, accessed at <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/europe/4780743.stm>.