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The London Action Plan: A 21st Century Model For Anti-Spam Co-Operation.

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The screenshot shows a BBC News article from February 24, 2009, titled "Straw hit by internet fraudsters". The article reports that Justice Secretary Jack Straw has been the victim of Nigerian fraudsters who sent out hundreds of e-mails in his name asking for money. A photo of Jack Straw is included. The article also mentions that Straw has confirmed the e-mails had been sent to a "significant number of people" in his address book but that there were no security issues as it was his Blackburn e-mail address rather than his ministerial account that was targeted.


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London Action Plan

Formed in London, November 2004

Purpose:

- To promote international spam enforcement cooperation and address spam related problems, such as online fraud and deception, phishing, and dissemination of viruses.
- Participation open to interested government and public agencies, and by appropriate private sector representatives




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Overview:

- Informal
- Global cooperation
- Public-private collaboration
- Wide range of LEAs – civil, criminal & administrative
- E-mail Spam – vectors for cybercrime
- Fraud/scams - cybercriminals



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Who can become a member?

- Spam/cyber crime enforcement agencies
- Governments/Ministries
- Industry
- Special interest groups
- Organisations - OECD, ITU, EU, CoE, MAAWG

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Participants agree to:

- Designate a point of contact
- Encourage national coordination on spam enforcement
- Take part in LAP conferences
- Engage in a public – private dialogue
- Assist in cross-national investigations
- Report on cases, technology, trends
- Assist in training on investigative techniques
- Cooperate in providing information on spammers



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What are the obligations?

- Participants in LAP promise to work together out of a mutual interest in the fight against illegal spam
- Cooperation is subject to national law and international obligations
- Participants are not obliged to give confidential or commercially sensitive information

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Benefits

- Informal
- Enforcers inform each other
- Governments hear about effects of law, needs, statistics, threats, results
- Private business shares data and experience
- Contacts at key points; information exchange; trust; success

Results

- Annual Conference
- Teleconferences every 2 months
- Spam referral pro forma
- International cooperation
- Multinational spam enforcement
- Nigeria, China, Russia, Far East

London Action Plan and the Guidelines



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Strong support for:

- Overarching principles
- Joint training and best practice
- Contact points
- Information sharing

Reservations:

- Euro-centric?
- Exclusionary? Statutory frameworks present barriers
- Treaty based
- SPOCs at national level

Solutions

- Aspirational rather than prescriptive
- Widen out to administrative and civil LEA
- Widen discussion when reviewed

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Discussion

- What is expected of civil and administrative agencies?
- Which ISPs participate?
- How are the guidelines spread in the ISP world?
- Should we have a workshop between ISPs and LEAs?



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Final Thought ... Guidelines as a bridge between public and private and also all LEAs

