




Establishment of The Law On The Seizure of Assets Resulting From Money Laundering Based On Fair Law Enforcement In Indonesia

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Submitted: 2023-04-06

Revised: 2023-08-01

Published: 2023-09-22

Article Info

Keywords:

Asset Seizure; Money Laundering; UNCAC.

Abstract

Introduction: The realization of Parliament's desire to support asset seizure efforts, currently there is a discourse to regulate the seizure of assets resulting from criminal offenses in a separate law. The proposal to form a law on the expropriation of assets resulting from criminal acts is seen in the agreement to include a draft law on the expropriation of assets resulting from criminal acts in the National Legislation 2009-2014.

Purposes of the Research: The purpose of this study is to explain the paradigm that the importance of the establishment of asset seizure laws in money laundering.

Methods of the Research: The research method used is normative legal research with a statute legal approach and a conceptual approach.

Results of the Research: The urgency of establishing a special asset seizure law for money laundering is an inadequate mechanism. Adequate mechanisms in asset seizure efforts are expected to use the mechanisms contained in the UNCAC so that asset seizure in Indonesia will run effectively.

1. INTRODUCTION

In the international world, there are legal developments that show that the confiscation and seizure of proceeds and instruments of crime become an important part of efforts to reduce crime rates.¹ Even the seizure of assets is regulated in a separate chapter, namely Chapter V of the United Nation Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) as an affirmation of the importance of the seizure of criminal proceeds in the settlement of cases.² Indonesia has ratified UNCAC through Law No. 7 of 2006 on the ratification of the UN Convention Against Corruption. With the ratification, Indonesia is a state party of UNCAC. Indonesia should have the same legal standing in carrying out the necessary actions to seize assets obtained illegally and rushed abroad. In addition to UNCAC, many other UN conventions also contain provisions regarding the seizure of assets resulting from criminal acts. These

¹ Eddy O. S. Hiariej, "Pengembalian Aset Kejahatan," *Jurnal Opinio Juris* 13, no. 1 (2013).

² Refki Saputra, "Tantangan Penerapan Perampasan Aset Tanpa Tuntutan Pidana (Non-Conviction Based Asset Forfeiture) Dalam RUU Perampasan Aset Di Indonesia," *Integritas: Jurnal Antikorupsi* 3, no. 1 (2017): 115-30, <https://doi.org/10.32697/integritas.v3i1.158>.

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include the United Nations Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic substances (1988), the United Nations Convention on Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) (2002), and various provisions of the United Nations Counter Terrorism Convention.

Attempts to seize assets in a country certainly require the political will of the state from Parliament, government, and the judiciary. The political will of Parliament is related to the desire of Parliament to prepare a legal instrument in an effort to seize assets from the beginning until assets derived from criminal acts can be returned to the right party. The legal rules in question are related to asset tracking, asset management, asset delivery to the utilization and supervision of assets that have been handed over. In addition, it is also necessary to prepare legal instruments related to the relationship of mutual cooperation between countries. This political will can be realized through laws that specifically regulate the seizure of assets resulting from criminal acts in the legal system in Indonesia.³ The realization of the desire of Parliament to support efforts to seize assets, currently emerging discourse to regulate the seizure of assets resulting from criminal acts in a separate law. The proposal to form a law on the expropriation of assets resulting from criminal acts is seen in the agreement to include a draft law on the expropriation of assets resulting from criminal acts in the National Legislation 2009-2014. In the span of 5 years, although it has been included in the prolegnas, the draft law on asset expropriation was not also discussed even though the draft law was submitted in 2012. Prolegnas for the period 2014-2019 also lists the asset Expropriation Bill as one of the Bills on the long list to be discussed. In the draft law, there is a new paradigm related to the mechanism of asset seizure resulting from criminal acts which refers to several international conventions, especially UNCAC which uses the mechanism of asset seizure without conviction. This, of course, is different from the provisions for the seizure and seizure of assets resulting from criminal acts practiced in Indonesia so far. Because so far, asset seizure in the Indonesian legal system can be carried out after the enforcement process has obtained a Permanent Court decision.

Chairman of the Committee on money laundering, Coordinating Minister for Political, Legal and legal Mahfud MD, in a public hearing (RDP) with Commission III of the DPR related to the Rp349 trillion awkward transaction at the Ministry of Finance. It turns out that in the public hearing, members of Commission III Arteria Dahlan mentioned that people who divulge the secret of the findings of money laundering can be sentenced to prison which is another form of resisting asset seizure.⁴

The need for a draft law on asset seizure, based on the fact that law enforcement efforts, especially money laundering, are based on the original criminal acts contained in law No. 8 in 2010 which also did not produce significant results to the state treasury. In addition, Romli also stated that the applicable law in Indonesia is currently not able to optimally regulate and accommodate activities in order to return assets resulting from corruption and crime in the field of Finance and banking in general.⁵ The asset forfeiture bill needs to be

³ Ariman Sitompul and H Maswandi, *Perampasan Aset Hasil Tindak Pidana Pencucian Uang Dengan Asal Pidana Korupsi (Kajian Dalam Perspektif Hukum Islam)*, Mazda Media (Malang: Mazda Media, 2020), p. 20-25.

⁴ Merdeka.com, "Mahfud MD vs Komisi III Bahas Transaksi Janggal Rp349 T, Sampai Bawa-Bawa Kepala BIN," [www.merdeka.com](https://www.merdeka.com/peristiwa/mahfud-md-vs-komisi-iii-bahas-transaksi-janggal-rp349-t-sampai-bawa-bawa-kepala-bin.html), 2023, <https://www.merdeka.com/peristiwa/mahfud-md-vs-komisi-iii-bahas-transaksi-janggal-rp349-t-sampai-bawa-bawa-kepala-bin.html>.

⁵ Ariman Sitompul, Pagar Hasibuan, and M. Sahnan, "The Morality Of Law Enforcement Agencies (Police, Prosecutor's Office, KPK) In Money Laundering With The Origin Of The Corruption," *European Law Review* 9, no. 10 (2021): 55-63.

passed because it is strategic enough to eradicate money laundering in Indonesia. In addition, the draft law on the seizure of assets is also useful for the recovery of losses incurred from criminal acts committed by the perpetrator. Furthermore, Mudzakkir also emphasized that the draft law on asset seizure must be prepared proportionally and still prioritize the element of Justice. From the description above, the author is interested in studying money laundering laws related to the establishment of asset seizure laws originating from criminal acts as stated in law no. 8 of 2010.

2. METHOD

This study is a normative legal research. Normative legal research is research law that lays down the law as a building system of norms in conducting research. The system of norms in question are the principles, norms, rules of legislation, decisions judgment, and doctrine.⁶ The legal materials used in this study consist of primary legal materials, secondary legal materials, and tertiary legal materials. Primary legal material consists of legislation, jurisprudence or court decisions, and international treaties. Primary legal material in this study is the Law No. 8 of 2010 on prevention and the eradication of money laundering. Secondary legal material is legal material can provide an explanation of the primary legal material.⁷ Secondary legal material consists of books- books, research journals, scientific articles and news from electronic and internet media related with this research topic. Tertiary legal material is legal material that can explain the material primary law and secondary law. Tertiary law material consists of Law Dictionary, dictionary large Indonesian, and English dictionaries. This study uses the approach of legislation- approach) and conceptual approach. Legal approach- invitation (statue approach) is done by examining the rule of law (as the initial basis for doing analysis) which underlies the criminal sanctions for money laundering, and the concept approach (conceptual approach) is done by using the theory of economic analysis of law as a knife analysis to the issues / topics discussed in this study.⁸ Collection is done by study library (library research) by conducting searches and reviews of legal materials primary, secondary legal materials, and tertiary legal materials, then the data are analyzed qualitative and descriptive in order to provide an explanation or a clear picture of analysis results obtained.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1 Seizure of Assets In Criminal Law

In the criminal law system in Indonesia, the Criminal Procedure Code uses the word "object" as the equivalent of an asset. This is stated in Article 39 of the foreclosure. In these provisions, it is explained that confiscation is a series of actions of the investigator to take over and or keep under his control movable or immovable, tangible or intangible objects for the purpose of evidence in the investigation, prosecution and Justice.⁹ In the Criminal Code Bill, the word asset is also not clearly explained either in form or meaning. The word asset

⁶ Ediwarman, *Metode Penelitian Hukum (Panduan Penulisan Skripsidan Disertasi)* (Yogyakarta: Genta Publishing, 2016), p. 14.

⁷ Ariman Sitompul, *Metode Penelitian Hukum Normatif* (Malang: Mazda Media, 2022), p. 106.

⁸ Tumiwa and Adrian F, "Tindak Pidana Pencucian Uang Dalam Pespektif Undang-Undang No. 8 Tahun 2010 Tentang Pencegahan Dan Pemberantasan Tindak Pidana Pencucian Uang," *Lex Crimen* 7, no. 2 (2018): 74-80.

⁹ Ariman Sitompul, Firman Halawa, and Sabela Gayo, *Hukum Pencucian Uang Kajian Teori, Praktek Dan Perkembangannya* (Malang: Mazda Media, 2020), p. 130.

is only matched with the word “goods”, which is included in Article 165 of the Criminal Code Bill. Under the article, it is stated that “goods” mean tangible objects including water and giral money, and intangible objects including electricity, gas, data and computer programs, services including telephone services, telecommunications services, or computerized services.

The act of expropriation of assets in the legal system in Indonesia, contained in Article 10 (b) of the Criminal Code, as one form of additional criminal. Based on these provisions, the seizure is carried out on the basis of a court decision or determination from a judge, against certain goods. The expropriation is carried out limitatively in accordance with the provisions of the criminal code, that is, the goods owned by the convict obtained from the crime or intentionally used in committing the crime. the confiscation can be replaced by imprisonment if the confiscated goods are handed back to the convict, the duration of the imprisonment is at least 1 day and a maximum of 6 months.

In principle, internationally there are 2 types of deprivation.¹⁰ The types of deprivation in question are the mechanism of deprivation in Personam and the mechanism of deprivation in Rem. Deprivation In personam (criminal deprivation), is an action directed at a person personally (individually). The act is part of a criminal sanction so that it can be carried out on the basis of a criminal justice decision. The prosecutor in this case must prove that the assets to be seized are the result or means of a criminal offense. In addition, the application for seizure of assets must be filed simultaneously with the prosecution file by the public prosecutor.¹¹ The second type of asset seizure is the mechanism of seizure in rem. There are various terms for the mechanism of seizure in rem, namely civil forfeiture, civil forfeiture, Non-Conviction Based (NCB) Asset Forfeiture. The essence of asset seizure using the In rem mechanism is a lawsuit against assets not against people. This mechanism is a separate action from the criminal justice process and requires evidence that a property has been tainted by a criminal offense.¹²

In general, a criminal offense should be established on the balance of probabilities of the standard of proof. This eases the burden on the government to act. In addition, it is still possible to impose a fine if it is considered that there is sufficient evidence to support that a criminal offense has occurred. Since the lawsuit is not aimed at natural persons but rather at individuals, the owner of the property is a third party who has the right to defend the property that will be seized by the state because it is believed to be the result or tool in a criminal offense.

Between the two types of deprivation, as mentioned above, there is a common goal, which is the deprivation of the results and means in criminal acts by the state. In addition, the two mechanisms have 2 things in common, namely that the perpetrators of violations of the law should not be allowed to profit from their crimes. The proceeds from the crime they must be seized and used for compensation to the victim, in this case both the state as a victim of the crime, and the individual. In addition, another similarity between the two mechanisms of asset seizure is that the seizure of assets or proceeds of crime can have a

¹⁰ Barbara Vettori, *Tough on Criminal Wealth Exploring the Practice of Proceeds from Crime Confiscation in the EU* (Dordrecht: Springer, 2006), p. 8-11.

¹¹ Murniyanti, Sahuri Lasmadi, and Tri Imam Munandar, “Kewenangan Penuntutan Komisi Pemberantasan Korupsi Terhadap Tindak Pidana Pencucian Uang,” *PAMPAS: Journal Of Criminal Law* 3, no. 2 (2022): 163–73, <https://doi.org/10.22437/pampas.v3i2.19311>.

¹² David Scoott Romantz, “Civil Forfeiture and The Constitution: A Legislative Abrogation of Right and The Judicial Response: The Guilt of The Res,” *Suffolk University Law Review* 28 (1994): 390.

deterrent effect on offenders. With the seizure of assets, it will be a preventive measure so that the assets are not used for further criminal purposes.¹³

3.2 The Urgency Of Establishing A Law On The Seizure of Assets of Money Laundering In Indonesia

Ratification of UNCAC by Indonesia is carried out through Law Number 7 of 2006 concerning the ratification of the United Nation Convention Against Corruption, 2003 (United Nations Convention Against Corruption, 2003) one of the important parts regulated in UNCAC is the existence of arrangements relating to the search, seizure, and seizure of proceeds and instruments of criminal acts between countries. As a consequence of the ratification, the government of Indonesia must adjust the provisions of the existing legislation with the provisions of the convention, so that Indonesia can make maximum efforts to seize assets resulting from criminal acts, especially the results of corruption. In the UNCAC, there are detailed provisions regarding the mechanism of expropriation of assets resulting from criminal acts using the non conviction based asset forfeiture method. So that it can be a reference for state parties in conducting international cooperation in crime and financial problems as well as the use of technology among each other in an effort to seize assets resulting from corruption where corruption is one of the original criminal acts originating from law No. 8 of 2010 on the prevention and eradication of money laundering.

The UNCAC determines that all states parties are obliged to consider the appropriation of proceeds of crime without incrimination (NCB). In this case, the UNCAC does not consider the existence of differences in legal systems between states parties, the NCB is considered as a system that can transcend the differences between legal systems adopted by the states parties of the UNCAC. UNCAC proposes NCB as a tool for all jurisdictions in efforts to eradicate widespread corruption with the follow-up crime of money laundering. Indonesia must comply with the provisions contained in UNCAC. After ratification, Indonesia should also make adjustments to the legal provisions applicable in Indonesia with UNCAC as an international convention in which Indonesia is part of it. The presence of the asset forfeiture bill is one of the steps of the Indonesian government in following up on the ratification of UNCAC. This is because with the draft of the asset forfeiture law that adheres to the criminal forfeiture mechanism In Rem (NCB) Indonesia has made adjustments to the provisions of the UNCAC as an international convention.

Although the provisions contained in the draft law on asset forfeiture refer to the provisions on asset forfeiture suggested in the UNCAC, the material provided for in the draft law on asset forfeiture may apply to all criminal acts with economic motives. This is because the proceeds of crime assets are the weakest point of the crime chain with economic motives so that by expropriating the proceeds of crime assets, efforts to suppress crime rates are expected to run in accordance with expectations.¹⁴

The development of criminal practices with economic motives in this case money laundering within 15 years in Indonesia is increasingly complex. Advances in Information Technology have made it easier for perpetrators to commit criminal acts thus creating variations in the modus operandi used. With the emergence of various new modus operandi in criminal acts, the efforts to enforce the law on criminal acts are certainly more difficult.

¹³ Theodore S. Greenberg et al., *Stolen Asset Recovery, A Good Practices Guide for Non-Conviction Based Asset Forfeiture* (Washington DC: The World Bank & UNODC, 2009), p. 18.

¹⁴ Sumadi, "Telaah Kasus Pencucian Uang Dalam Tinjauan Ekonomi Syariah," *Jurnal Ilmiah Ekonomi Islam* 3, no. 3 (2017): 186-92, <https://doi.org/10.29040/jiei.v3i03.131>.

In addition, advances in technology and information also facilitate the efforts of perpetrators of criminal acts to hide the results of the crime, so that efforts to conceal assets derived from a criminal offense no longer recognize certain national borders, and pass jurisdiction between one country and another.¹⁵ This development requires legal provisions that can be a solution to the problem of the development of economic types of criminal acts. So that the law enforcement of economic crimes both carried out by conventional methods and by cutting-edge methods can be completed by law enforcement officers in accordance with existing provisions.

With this development, criminal acts whose assets are the object of asset seizure also develop and increase in type. The crimes in question include corruption, money laundering, terrorism, trafficking in persons, arms smuggling, narcotics, Forestry, and fisheries, as well as other crimes that have economic elements in their implementation such as embezzlement and fraud. The criminal act certainly has its own laws and regulations, but until now the provisions of each criminal act have not regulated the seizure of assets related to the completion of criminal acts.¹⁶ Money laundering derived from 26 kinds of criminal acts contained in law no. 8 of 2010, urgently need an effective asset seizure mechanism so that justice can be established, at least in terms of the return of losses resulting from the crime. The law on asset seizure can be an answer to the need for a more effective standard mechanism in efforts to seize assets resulting from criminal offenses. The DPR RI can show the public that the DPR has the political will to implement effective asset seizure efforts in the legal system in Indonesia by passing a law on asset seizure.¹⁷

In the current legal system in Indonesia, the method used in law enforcement for criminal acts by finding the culprit and placing the perpetrator of the crime in prison (follow the suspect) as contained in the Criminal Procedure Code and the Corruption Act did not cause a preventive effect and was not effective enough to suppress the crime rate because the mechanism was only emphasized on punishing the perpetrator by placing the perpetrator in prison while the seizure and seizure of assets was only carried out as an additional crime.¹⁸ While confiscating and depriving the results and instruments of criminal acts from the perpetrators of criminal acts not only transfer a number of assets from the perpetrators of crimes to the community but also will increase the possibility of the community to realize the common goal of the establishment of justice and welfare for all members of society.¹⁹

In addition, the development of criminal types with economic motives also requires an adequate mechanism in terms of being able to be used in accordance with current circumstances to streamline asset seizure efforts in Indonesia. This then prompted the Indonesian government to issue a policy related to the effectiveness of asset seizure

¹⁵ Jhon Pridol and Firman Wijaya, "Kepastian Hukum Terhadap Perampasan Aset Yang Bukan Milik Negara," *Jurnal Hukum Adigama* 2, no. 2 (2019): 414–33, <https://doi.org/10.24912/adigama.v2i2.6557>.

¹⁶ Nur Atika, "Kewenangan Jaksa Dalam Perkara Tindak Pidana Pencucian Uang," *Jurnal Cakrawala Ilmiah* 2, no. 7 (2023): 3051–56, <https://doi.org/10.53625/jcijurnalcakrawalailmiah.v2i7.5291>.

¹⁷ Muh. Afdal Yanuar, "Diskursus Antara Kedudukan Delik Pencucian Uang Sebagai Independent Crime Dengan Sebagai Follow Up Crime Pasca Putusan MK Nomor 90/PUU-XIII/2015," *Jurnal Konstitusi* 16, no. 4 (2019): 721–39, <https://doi.org/10.31078/jk1643>.

¹⁸ Zico Junius Fernando, Pujiyono Pujiyono, and Nur Rochaeti, "Perampasan Aset Pelaku Tindak Pidana Dalam Perspektif Hak Asasi Manusia Dan Hukum Pidana," *Jurnal Legislasi Indonesia* 19, no. 1 (2022): 83–93.

¹⁹ Rangganata Adhi Kusuma Wardhana and R. B. Sularto, "Studi Komparasi Tindak Pidana Pencucian Uang Di Indonesia Dan Malaysia," *Jurnal Pembangunan Hukum Indonesia* 4, no. 2 (2022): 227–44, <https://doi.org/10.14710/jphi.v4i2.227-244>.

resulting from economic crimes. One of the priority policies of the Indonesian government is the creation of legal instruments that are able to seize all assets resulting from a criminal act as well as all means that allow the implementation of criminal acts, especially economically motivated criminal acts.²⁰

The policy is part of the Criminal Law Policy proposed by Mulder, namely actions that must be taken to prevent criminal acts. In this paper, the action to be taken is translated as a step taken by the Government of Indonesia to streamline asset expropriation efforts in the legal system in Indonesia is to form a draft law on asset expropriation. In the description of ditas, it seems that the importance of the existence of the law on the seizure of assets for money laundering can be seen from several factors, namely the factor of Indonesia's position as an UNCAC ratifying country; factors in the development of types of criminal acts that cause economic losses; and factors that the available mechanisms are not sufficient.

4. CONCLUSION

The establishment of the law on the seizure of assets of the crime of money laundering is the development of the types of criminal acts of economic motives contained in the criminal acts of money laundering origin. Advances in technology make it easier for perpetrators to carry out crimes and hide the results of these crimes with easier methods. This must then be overcome by the existence of legal provisions that are in accordance with current and future circumstances so that asset seizure efforts can achieve maximum results. The last factor of urgency in the establishment of asset seizure legislation is an inadequate mechanism. Adequate mechanisms in asset seizure efforts are expected to use the mechanisms contained in the UNCAC so that asset seizure in Indonesia will run effectively. The importance of the law on asset seizure of criminal acts in Indonesia can be seen from 3 factors, namely the ratification of UNCAC, the development of types of criminal acts, and inadequate asset seizure mechanisms. Indonesia's position as a ratifying country of UNCAC, so that the government of Indonesia must adjust the provisions of existing legislation with the provisions in the convention because it is a consequence of the ratification.

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²⁰ Kusbianto Kusbianto et al., "The Impact Of Criminal Police On Money Laundering Against The Resilience Of The Law," *Substantive Justice International Journal of Law* 5, no. 2 (2022): 158–77, <https://doi.org/10.56087/substantivejustice.v5i2.192>.

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