

**“Mapping Disembarkation Options: Towards Strengthening Cooperation in
Managing Irregular Movements by Sea”**

3-4 March 2014

Bangkok, Thailand

SECONDMENT OPTIONS

Background

In March 2013, UNHCR together with the Government of Indonesia convened a Regional Roundtable on Irregular Movements by Sea in the Asia-Pacific to promote “a common understanding of conceptual issues with a view to informing the development of bilateral or multilateral arrangements among interested States.”

At the fifth Ministerial Conference of the Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime, the Bali Process Co-Chairs recommended that members explore practical ways in which affected States could strengthen cooperation in managing irregular maritime movements including through the development of a “protection sensitive regional approach”.

Strengthening cooperation among affected States in managing irregular maritime movements was also underlined at the Special Conference on Irregular Movement of Persons convened by the Government of Indonesia in August 2013.

The purpose of this Paper is to outline different “secondment” options to carry out a mapping exercise on disembarkation options in some countries under the auspices of the Bali Process Regional Support Office (RSO). A *secondment* is a temporary transfer of an official to another role or assignment within the same department or to a separate organization for a specific purpose and time period.

The proposed mapping exercise on disembarkation is undertaken in the context of taking forward key recommendations from the Regional Roundtable on Irregular Maritime Movements, the fifth Bali Ministerial Conference, and the Jakarta Conference with reference to two specific proposals from the Regional Roundtable namely, to develop guidelines and a reference guide of applicable legal standards relating to disembarkation; and to map post disembarkation options to ensure that host States are properly supported. This Paper is to be read in conjunction with the Discussion Paper on the Scope and Methodology of the Mapping Exercise on Disembarkation.

Type of secondment options

Option 1: Full time secondment

Under this arrangement, an official at an appropriate level is released of his/her responsibilities in order to participate in the mapping of disembarkation options for boat arrivals under the RSO

auspices, through researching and drafting a country-specific narrative report in English of maximum thirty pages. The report will describe the national legal and policy framework, disembarkation procedures, main stakeholders involved, coordination mechanisms, institutional gaps and constraints and specific challenges faced.

The RSO and the responsible government agency will agree upon the duration of the project, which will be undertaken over a maximum period of six months. During the secondment, the official will work full time on the mapping exercise. The official will provide the RSO with progress reports every two weeks by email or phone. S/he will also commit to participating in relevant meetings and contributing to other project-specific activities as agreed between the RSO and responsible government agency.

Prior to the commencement of the secondment, a formal agreement describing the parameters and conditions of the secondment will be drafted and signed by the Bali Process Regional Support Office (RSO) and the responsible government agency. The agreement will include, as an Annex, a detailed work plan and timeline for activities including proposed methodology. The responsible government agency will receive a lump sum payment of \$ 10,000 to cover the official's salary and other expenses relating to the project including any in country travel, subsistence and meeting costs as agreed with the RSO.

Option 2: Part time secondment

Under this arrangement, an official at an appropriate level is released of some of his / her responsibilities in order to participate in the mapping of disembarkation options for boat arrivals under the RSO auspices, through the drafting of a country-specific narrative report in English of maximum thirty pages, as part of his / her ongoing position. The report will describe the national legal and policy framework, disembarkation procedures, main stakeholders involved, coordination mechanisms, institutional gaps and constraints and specific challenges faced.

The RSO and the responsible government agency will agree upon the duration of the project, which will be undertaken over a maximum period of six months. During the secondment, the official will work part time on the disembarkation project. The official will provide the RSO with progress reports every four weeks by email or phone. S/he will also commit to participating in relevant meetings and contributing to other project-specific activities as agreed between the RSO and responsible government agency.

Prior to the commencement of the secondment, a formal agreement will be drafted and signed by the Bali Process RSO and the responsible government agency. The agreement will include, as an Annex, a detailed work plan and timeline for activities including proposed methodology. The responsible government agency will receive a lump sum payment to cover part of the official's salary. Costs, in addition to the lump sum payment, incurred as a result of the secondment, including but not limited to travel expenses, will be paid by the RSO.

Option 3: Informal secondment

Under this arrangement, an official at an appropriate level is nominated to supervise the mapping project, which, in turn, is undertaken by an independent researcher or research team commissioned by the responsible government agency to research and draft a country-specific narrative report in English of maximum thirty pages. The report will describe the national legal and policy framework,

disembarkation procedures, main stakeholders involved, coordination mechanisms, institutional gaps and constraints and specific challenges faced.

The official will be responsible for overseeing the mapping project that is to be undertaken over a period not exceeding six months, convening relevant agencies, and providing additional support to the researcher or research team as required. The official will provide the RSO with progress reports every four weeks by email or phone. The researcher or research team carries out the mapping and drafts the country narrative report in English.

Prior to the commencement of the informal secondment, a work plan and timeline, including a proposed methodology, will be drafted by the official and submitted to the RSO for approval. The responsible government agency will receive a lump sum payment to cover part of the official's salary as well as the costs associated with the engagement of an independent researcher or research team. Costs, in addition to the lump sum payment, incurred as a result of the secondment, including but not limited to travel expenses, will be paid by the RSO.

Questions:

1. Which option is most appropriate for your country? And why?
2. Should all countries be under the same arrangement?
3. Is it feasible to expect that the mapping is completed over a maximum period of six months?
4. What qualifications should be required for the seconded officer? What would "at an appropriate level" mean in your national context?
5. Would it be feasible/useful to seek to establish an inter-agency mechanism involving all relevant government departments to oversee activities at national level?
6. Would it be useful to convene a meeting in Bangkok of the five countries at the mid and end points of the mapping exercise to take stock of progress and discuss common issues of interest in relation to the mapping exercise?