



REGIONAL SUPPORT OFFICE

BALI PROCESS

The Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime

RSO NEWSLETTER

Edition One – October 2012

Welcome from the RSO Co-Managers

Welcome to the first edition of the Newsletter of the Regional Support Office of the Bali Process (RSO).

In this year of the 10th Anniversary of the Bali Process, the establishment of the RSO represents a significant milestone and one that we hope will develop into a long-term and practical resource for Bali Process members.

Regional engagement and ownership from Bali Process members will be critical to the success of this groundbreaking initiative. It will be essential for achieving the objective of the RSO to act as a focal point for members interested in the Regional Cooperation Framework.

In undertaking activities the office is seeking to complement and not duplicate other relevant programs and initiatives, including other activities under the Bali Process.

As you would be aware, the office has already been set an ambitious agenda, including the implementation of four foundation projects.

We hope you will engage with these projects and activities and find value in the RSO as it continues to develop.

The office will keep you all updated on our activities, news and events through the new RSO webpages on the Bali Process website and this bi-monthly newsletter.

We hope you find these useful and informative.

We look forward to working together with you.

Greg Kelly
Co-Manager (Australia)

Primanto Hendrasgoro
Co-Manager (Indonesia)

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RSO Official Opening



The RSO was officially opened on 10 September 2012 by Mr. Craig Chittick, Australian Ambassador for People Smuggling Issues and H.E. Mr. Lutfi Rauf, Indonesian Ambassador to Thailand, in the presence of Bali Process Ad Hoc Group members.



Mr Vijavat Isarabhakdi, Director-General of the Department of International Organizations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs delivered welcome remarks on behalf of the Thai Government.



Thai Government welcomes RSO opening

Welcome Remarks of Mr. Vijavat Isarabhakdi, Director-General, Department of International Organizations Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Thailand.

It is a great pleasure for me to be present this morning at this highly auspicious occasion. I am particularly gratified to see representatives from so many Bali Process countries here in Bangkok, some of whom have travelled specifically for this purpose. This inauguration of the Regional Support Office, or RSO, marks not only an important milestone, as we move to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the Bali Process, but it also represents a concrete outcome of our intensive joint efforts over the past few months to concretize the initiative. Indeed, I would venture to say that it constitutes a new chapter of the Bali Process and the beginning of the realization of the Regional Co-operation Framework (RCF) that is mutually owned by all of us.

As it stands, the Regional Support Office builds on the non-binding and voluntary approach of the Bali Process as a whole, which is amply characterized in the Regional Co-operation Framework. In this regard, the RSO will serve as a pragmatic mechanism to promote better management of irregular migration in the Asia-Pacific Region. In the coming weeks and months, it is Thailand's hope that the RSO will provide a useful pool of resources to address the trans-boundary issues of people smuggling and human trafficking. It is also our expectation that the RSO will become an effective platform for closer cooperation between government agencies and international organizations. This will further enhance effective actions to combat transnational crime and create an environment conducive to safer migration while also ensuring the human rights of migrants.

With the abundant transport linkages and flight connections available in Bangkok, as well as the high quality and competitiveness of its conference and hotel facilities, Bangkok will offer many conveniences for the operations of the RSO. So we do hope that member countries will make good use of the services provided by the Office.

New RSO website launched!

As part of the 'new look' Bali Process website, we are pleased to advise that the new RSO webpage was launched in September 2012: <http://www.baliprocess.net/regional-support-office>

Webpages provide updated information on activities, useful resources, news and events. Access the website to download and print *Information Sheets* on the background to and key projects of the RSO.

What is the role of the RSO?

The RSO is a focal point for States interested in the Regional Cooperation Framework for:

- information sharing;
- capacity building and exchange of best practices;
- pooling of common technical resources; and
- logistical, administrative, operational and coordination support for joint projects.

Update on RSO Foundation Projects

The RSO's engagement with Bali Process members has commenced with a set of foundation projects covering key migration issues:

1. Enhancing Collection, Use and Sharing of Data

This project, implemented by IOM, promotes improved information management between States and international organizations by enhancing data collection, supporting further analysis and reporting, and facilitating information sharing and dialogue. It is funded by the Australian Government.

Consultants are considering sources and models for data collection with a view to engage with Bali Process members over the coming months.

2. Voluntary Return Support and Reintegration Assistance

This pilot project aims to raise awareness of voluntary repatriation opportunities for irregular migrants and enhancing government capacity to facilitate voluntary returns. This project is implemented by IOM and funded by the Australian Government.

Standard Operating Procedures for voluntary return services and reintegration assistance have been finalized. These services are now available for eligible participants upon the request and agreement of Bali Process Members.

Assistance includes pre-departure counseling, pre-embarkation assistance and medical checks, transportation, reception and provision of reintegration grants.

3. Regional Roundtable on Irregular Movements by Sea

This project, implemented by UNHCR and funded by the United States of America, will promote common understanding of conceptual issues to inform future cooperative arrangements between interested States.

The RSO will engage with Bali Process members as soon as further information (for example, the dates and location) for this significant initiative is announced.

4. Pilot study on information exchange and data analysis on irregular migration by sea

The scope of this project is still being considered by the RSO.

- **Protection of unaccompanied and separated children**

This additional project of the RSO, implemented by UNHCR, aims to map and analyze the protection situation and treatment of unaccompanied and separated children who move irregularly into and/or within Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand.

The project is led by Dr Sriprapha Petcharamesree of the Institute for Human Rights and Peace Studies, Mahidol University, Thailand, in partnership with researchers from the Institute for Human Rights and Peace Studies, Mahidol University, Thailand, ECPAT International – Thailand and Indonesia, The Research and Education for Peace, University of Sains Malaysia, and the Centre for Southeast Asia Social Studies, Gadjah Mada University, Indonesia.

Further information on RSO activities and its foundation projects, including Information Sheets, is available at:

<http://www.baliprocess.net/regional-support-office/activities>

Bali Process Members briefed on RSO Voluntary Return Assistance



On 11 October 2012, the RSO held a briefing for Bali Process members with diplomatic missions in Bangkok on the voluntary return support and reintegration assistance offered by the RSO.

Following a presentation on the RSO by the RSO co-managers, Mr Dragan Aleksoski (IOM Project Manager) provided an overview of the scope and eligibility criteria for funding support for the voluntary return of irregular migrants from Bali Process member states.

For more information on this project, contact the RSO or visit:

<http://www.baliprocess.net/regional-support-office/activities>

Meet us at Bali Process 10th Anniversary

Representatives from the RSO will be in Bali for the 10th Anniversary Celebrations from 12-13 November 2012.

We will present a report on the establishment of the RSO and its activities to date and future work program. We also look forward to engaging in discussions with Bali Process members as part of this significant event for the region.

How can you engage with the RSO?

There are various ways Bali Process members can engage with the RSO:

- Express interest in participation in new or existing initiatives
- Propose new project ideas
- Provide funding or in-kind support for new or existing initiatives
- Second a government official to undertake project-based work (eg. for 6-12 months).

Do not hesitate to contact the RSO to find out more on possible ways to participate in its activities.

Who's who in the RSO?

Mr. Greg Kelly



Greg Kelly is the Co-Manager for the RSO. Prior to taking up this position, Greg Kelly has held a number of senior positions in the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (Australian Government) including postings in India, New Zealand and Malaysia. You can contact Greg Kelly on greg.kelly@rso.baliprocess.net or +66 (0) 2343 9471 or +66 (0) 9 0880 4571.

Mr. Primanto Hendrasgoro



Primanto Hendrasgoro is the Co-Manager for the RSO. He is also Minister and Deputy Chief of Mission for the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia in Thailand, and the Deputy Permanent Representative to the UNESCAP. New functions will take him away from this role soon. As Indonesian Diplomat since 1985, he had served in several divisions in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia and Indonesian mission overseas in Sri Lanka and Indonesian Mission to the UN in Geneva. In 2007-2008, he was Co-Director of the Secretariat of Truth and Friendship Commission of the Republic of Indonesia and the Democratic Republic of Timor Leste. You can contact Primanto Hendrasgoro on phendrasgoro@kemlu.go.id or +66 (0) 2254 1225.

Ms. Carolina Tinangon



Carolina Tinangon is the First Secretary for Political Affairs of the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia to the Kingdom of Thailand since 2009. Prior to her current post, she was working at the Directorate of International Security and Disarmament, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia and Indonesian Mission to the UN in New York. You can contact Carolina Tinangon on c.tinangon@kemlu.go.id or +66 (0) 22523135 ext. 129.

Ms. Areti Sianni



Areti Sianni Areti is UNHCR's representative at the RSO as the Senior Regional Asylum and Migration Policy Officer. Over a period of twenty years, she has held positions with UNHCR in Geneva, Central Europe and Jordan and leading international NGOs and foundations working on refugee protection and broader migration issues. You can contact her on aretisianni@rso.baliprocess.net or +66 (0) 2343 9472 or +66 (0) 9 0880 4572.

Ms. Sophie Nonnenmacher



Sophie Nonnenmacher is IOM's representative at the RSO as the Senior Regional Policy and Liaison Officer. Before, she was a Senior Migration Policy Officer in IOM Headquarters where she worked on a wide range of migration policy issues and in particular on bilateral and regional cooperation arrangements since 2000.

She moved to Bangkok in 2009 to take the position of Head of the Counter Trafficking Unit in the Regional Office for Asia and Pacific. You can contact Sophie Nonnenmacher on sophie.nonnenmacher@rso.baliprocess.net or +66 (0) 2343 9474 or +66 (0) 8 4438 1745.

Ms. Piyaporn Kanjanawong



Piyaporn Kanjanawong or Poy is the Administrative Assistant for the RSO. Before joining the RSO she was working as Project Assistant for the Counter Trafficking and Labour Migration Unit for the International Organization for Migration. You can contact her on piyaporn.kanjanawong@rso.baliprocess.net or +66 (0) 2343 9476.

FEATURE TEXT BOX: What is the RSO?

The Regional Support Office of the Bali Process (RSO) has been established to facilitate the operationalization of the Regional Cooperation Framework (RCF) to reduce irregular migration in the Asia and Pacific region. The RSO aims to support and strengthen practical cooperation on refugee protection and international migration, including human trafficking and smuggling, and other components of migration management in the region.

Thank you.

The RSO team would like to thank Mr. Primanto Hendrasgoro for his contribution and support during this initial phase of the RSO life. We wish him all the best for his future career.

Contact us

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