



REGIONAL SUPPORT OFFICE

BALI PROCESS

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

RSO NEWSLETTER

Edition Two

New Year Greetings from the RSO Co-Managers

Welcome to the second edition of the Newsletter of the Regional Support Office of the Bali Process (RSO). As 2013 begins, you will note from this edition that it has been a very busy and productive few months for the RSO. We continue to meet with Bali Process states and progress members' agenda, including through the implementation of the foundation projects, a number of additional activities, and increasing stakeholder engagement.



Over the past few months, the office has been pleased to host delegates visiting from various Bali Process member and observer states, as well as representatives from civil society organizations as part of an open and informal consultation day.

It was also a great pleasure to meet members at the *Bali Process 10th Anniversary Commemorative Events* in Bali in November 2012, and hear participants' interest in the RSO's work to implement the Regional Cooperation Framework that is mutually owned by all members.

We look forward to engaging with you this year on ways forward for the RSO to support your priorities further.

Finally, we wish you and your family a very happy and safe 2013.

Greg Kelly
Co-Manager (Australia)

Bebeb A.K.N. Djundjuna
Co-Manager (Indonesia)

Contents

- Welcome to RSO Co-Manager (Indonesia).....page 1
- RSO celebrates Bali Process 10th Anniversary page 1
- Additional RSO activities for consideration page 2
- Foundation Projects Updatepage 2
- RSO National Focal Pointspage 3
- Civil Society Open Day..... page 3
- RSO welcomes new contributions from Thai and US Governmentspage 3
- Bali Process Workshop on UNTOC and Protocols....page 3
- RSO meets with Thai Immigration Bureau.....page 4
- Canadian delegation visit.....page 4

Welcome to RSO Co-Manager for Indonesia

The RSO has the pleasure of announcing the formal appointment of the new Co-Manager for Indonesia, Mr. Bebeb A.K.N. Djundjuna. Mr Djundjuna is also Minister and Deputy Chief of Mission for the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia in Thailand. You can contact Mr. Djundjuna on bdjundjuna@kemlu.go.id or (66) 02 252 3135 Ext. 124.



RSO celebrates Bali Process 10th Anniversary

Bali Process Co-Chairs hosted a commemorative conference and a forum on advancing regional cooperation on trafficking in persons as part of the 10th Anniversary Commemorative Events from 12 to 13 November 2012.



At the Conference, participants welcomed the opportunity to highlight achievements of the past 10 years, noting that the Bali Process had become the pre-eminent regional forum for cooperation in developing regional responses to irregular migration in the Asia-Pacific.

The Co-Chairs encouraged members to continue to move the Bali Process forward, beyond information sharing to broader cooperative and practical approaches to managing irregular migration and combatting people smuggling and trafficking in persons syndicates.

RSO representatives reported on the establishment of the RSO and its activities to date and future work program, and engaged in fruitful discussions with Bali Process members as part of this significant event for the region.

In addition to Bali Process members and observers, the event was also attended by Chairs of other Regional Consultative Processes on migration and asylum: the Colombo Process; Inter-governmental Consultations on Migration, Asylum and Refugees (IGC); Inter-governmental Authority on Development Regional Consultative Process on Migration (IGAD-RCP); Migration Dialogue for Southern Africa (MIDSA); and South American Conference on Migration (SACM).

Additional RSO activities for members' consideration

At the Commemorative Conference in Bali, members noted that the RSO is also working to implement other activities as agreed by the Bali Process Ad Hoc Group.

Concept papers for the following activities have been drafted and circulated to members for discussion:

- Supporting the design and implementation of information campaigns to address irregular migration, trafficking in persons and people smuggling.
- Roster of experts on migration management.
- Technical training on refugee protection and migration management and assistance.
- Technical training and assistance on victims of trafficking protection, law enforcement and international cooperation.
- Best practices on protection of refugees and victims of trafficking in persons and international migration.

- Supporting the harmonisation of national legislation on migrant smuggling and trafficking in persons.

The RSO welcomes members' expressions of interest in these activities. States are invited to contact the RSO to discuss further.

Update on RSO Foundation Projects

The RSO's engagement with Bali Process members continues through the four foundation projects covering key migration and refugee protection issues. Progress is well advanced, and members are encouraged to participate.

1. *Enhancing Collection, Use and Sharing of Data*

Overview: *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.*

Following agreement on the project methodology and structure, the consultants have prepared a questionnaire which will be forwarded to Bali Process members shortly.

The questionnaire is currently organized into four parts: a) Regular Migration; b) Irregular Migration; c) Asylum; and d) Civil Registration. Consultants continue to consider sources and models for data collection, and to consult with key stakeholders such as UNHCR. The project completion date has been extended to October 2013.

2. *Voluntary Return Support and Reintegration Assistance*

Overview: *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.*

Bali Process members are invited to contact the RSO for further information regarding voluntary return services and reintegration assistance that is available for eligible participants upon request.

To date, the project has supported the voluntary return of a number of irregular migrants, asylum seekers and refugees to their country of origin. In the case of asylum seekers and refugees, return has been facilitated in line with UNHCR's established principles and procedures.

3. Regional Roundtable on Irregular Movements by Sea

Overview: This project, implemented by UNHCR, will promote common understandings of conceptual issues to inform future cooperative arrangements between interested States.

The RSO is pleased to announce that the Regional Roundtable will be co-hosted by the Government of Indonesia and UNHCR in Jakarta from 18-20 March 2013. This will provide a forum for and facilitate dialogue among interested governments and international organizations on practical approaches to irregular movements by sea. Invitations and a provisional agenda were sent to members in January 2013.

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

As the scope of this project is still being considered by the RSO, the RSO welcomes discussions and ideas from interested states as to how the pilot study could best support your country's interests.

- **Protection of unaccompanied and separated children**

Overview: 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.

Researchers in Indonesia, Thailand and Malaysia have undertaken desk research and are in the process of consulting with key stakeholders. A Regional Consultation is scheduled for 14-15 February 2013 in Bangkok. Organised by Mahidol University, this Consultation aims to provide a venue for various government officials, international organizations and NGOs to discuss, share information and experiences in protecting the rights of unaccompanied and separated children (UASC). The Consultation will also include discussions on developing regional guidelines/standard operating procedures for UASC.

Keep updated on RSO initiatives and events through the RSO website

The RSO webpages continue to be updated with 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. <http://www.baliprocess.net/regional-support-office>

Bali Process members encouraged to nominate RSO National Focal Points

To facilitate direct communication and engagement with

members, the RSO has encouraged members to nominate one or a number of National Focal Point/s from various ministries (i.e. Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Ministry for Immigration, Ministry for Interior, etc.) For example, some members have nominated a primary contact from one ministry, and secondary contacts from other ministries. Focal Points are envisioned to:

- be a national official/s from a department/s or ministry/ies relevant to the scope of the Bali Process, with a senior level of authority and decision-making capacity;
- have the role of facilitating information sharing, coordination and joint planning on RSO matters at a national level among key departments, as well as sharing information on immigration policies, procedures and practices; and
- be the primary recipient of information on RSO initiatives and events, where appropriate.

RSO welcomes Civil Society Representatives at NGO Open Day

On 25 October 2012, the RSO held an open day for non-government organizations in Bangkok. More than 25 representatives from various organizations in the region attended this half-day forum.

RSO representatives provided an overview of the role and purpose of the RSO, as well as its existing and future work program. Participants exchanged information on the role of their organizations and key issues of relevance to RSO activities.

For more information on the RSO's engagement with Civil Society, contact the RSO or visit the RSO webpage: <http://www.baliprocess.net/regional-support-office/>

RSO welcomes new contributions from Thai and US Governments

It is with great pleasure that we announce that the Governments of Thailand and the United States of America have pledged new funding to support the RSO's activities.

Funding from the US will support the implementation of the RSO's third foundation project, the Regional Roundtable on Irregular Movements by Sea, to be held in March 2013.

The RSO is also very grateful to the Thai Government for its contribution and for hosting the office in Bangkok.

RSO involvement in Bali Process Workshop on UNTOC and Protocols

RSO representatives presented to and met members at the *Bali Process Workshop on the Ratification and the*

Implementation of the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) and its related protocols on Smuggling of Migration and Trafficking in Persons from 12 to 14 December 2012. This event was co-hosted by Australia and Thailand, and co-funded by the Australian Attorney-General's Department, the Royal Thai Government and the US Department of State.



The workshop provided opportunities for members to present and reflect on national processes and mechanisms, and explore good practices in implementing related legislation or legal amendments, as well as establishing institutional mechanisms and policy measures.



Participants also discussed global tools in the context of technical assistance available to support the ratification and implementation of UNTOC and its protocols, including the Bali Process Model Laws and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)'s Comprehensive Model Laws. Participants considered options for development of further practical tools, such as practical policy guides, tailored specifically for Bali Process members.



Following on from this workshop, the RSO welcomes members' expressions of interest in additional activities that support the harmonization of national legislation on migrant smuggling and trafficking in persons.

RSO meets with Thai Immigration Commissioner and key officials

Representatives of the RSO were invited to meet with the Commissioner of the Thai Immigration Bureau, Pol.Lt.Gen. Pharnu Kerdlarphphon, and key senior officials including Superintendent for Foreign Affairs Immigration Pol.Col. Nirun Boribalburibhand, Deputy Superintendent of Investigation Pol.Lt.Col. Phatkit Jiraprasertsuk and Deputy Commander, Immigration Division 2 Pol. Col. Choochat Thareechat in November 2012.



RSO Co-Manager, Greg Kelly, provided an overview of the RSO's role and current and proposed activities, together with Ms Areti Sianni (UNHCR) and Ms Sophie Nonnenmacher (IOM). Commissioner Pharnu explained the structure and activities of the Bureau, and officials discussed key current issues of interest, as well as opportunities for future collaboration with the RSO.



Canadian delegation visit to RSO

RSO representatives were pleased to welcome a visiting delegation from the Canadian Government in Bangkok in December 2012.

Mr. W.P.D Elcock, Special Advisor on Human Smuggling and Illegal Migration, Privy Council Office, Government of Canada, Ottawa, together with Mr. Patrice Cousineau, Political and Economic Counsellor, Embassy of Canada in Thailand, outlined Canada's ongoing commitment to address issues relating to people smuggling and other forms of irregular migration in the region and its support for the Bali Process and RSO.



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