

**BALI PROCESS WORKSHOP ON CHILD SEX TOURISM
MANILA, PHILLIPINES
26 - 28 JUNE 2006**

Background

The 'Bali Process' refers to the successful inter-government collaborative effort, initiated following a regional Ministerial conference in Bali in 2002, to address significant trans-national crime and related law enforcement issues, including people smuggling, trafficking in people and child sex tourism, in South-East Asia. The process brings together participants from over 50 countries as well as numerous government agencies in practically-focused 'workshop' forums to proactively discuss issues and share vital information and intelligence. The Bali Process is co-chaired by the Indonesian and Australian governments.

Participants have noted in previous Bali Process workshops¹ the need to further improve operational cooperation between participating countries in relation to Child Sex Tourism (Travelling Sex Offenders). The Manila Workshop on Child Sex Tourism held on 26-29 June 2006 continues to build on those earlier Bali Process efforts to combat this serious and abhorrent crime. This report describes the objectives and outcomes of the Manila Workshop.

The Manila Workshop was co-chaired by Federal Agent Bruce Hill of the Australian Federal Police and Police Major General Kerkphong Pukprayura of the Royal Thailand Police. Appendix A provides a list of the participating members and countries. Although not listed as an attendee, Major Tshewang RINZIN, a Superintendent with the Royal Bhutan Police was in the region on other business and was invited to attend by the Philippine National Police.

Manila Workshop Objectives

The theme of the Manila Workshop on CST was 'Excellence in Investigation'. There were four broad objectives of the Manila Workshop as follows:

1. Discuss regional information sharing strategies in relation to CST matters;
2. Explore the CST legislative approaches adopted by participants;
3. Highlight the various operational techniques and their effectiveness; and
4. Examine evidentiary issues associated with CST investigation and prosecution.

These issues were explored through a series of detailed presentations conducted by each of the participating members. The overarching aim of this process, and in keeping with the theme, was to identify and encourage the adoption of 'best-practice' methodology in relation to the investigation, legislation, and policy of CST. Hypothetical operational dilemmas were introduced to examine specific tactics within the frameworks of the countries represented.

Outcomes

Major outcomes achieved were:

¹ In particular the Bangkok Workshop on Child Sex Tourism, 14-16 November, 2005.
www.afp.gov.au

- Development of underpinning knowledge relevant to strategies to overcome regional intelligence gaps in relation to CST through increased intelligence-sharing and communication between participant agencies and countries.
- Specific strategies discussed include the use of information technology systems such as secure email and fax to increase the flow of 'real-time' intelligence and improve the efficiency and accessibility.
- Identified the similarities and differences of existing legislation across with respect to positions of trust, penalties and process.
- Identified, in a hypothetical crime environment, operational priority, cooperative arrangements and the sensitivities of the criminal and operating environments presented within transnational crime.

Upcoming Events (OR) Future Planned Workshops

- Sex Exploitation training program in BKK for last half of 2006

F/A Don Craill
National Coordinator
Border and International

21 September