Bali Process Working Group on the Disruption of People Smuggling and Trafficking in Persons Networks

Forward Work Plan: 2021-2023

The Forward Work Plan 2021-23 articulates key priorities and activities for the Disruption Working Group over the next two years, based on the Concept Note that has been endorsed. It is intended to be a 'living' document that can be amended to reflect new and emerging Working Group priorities.

Delivering the Forward Work Plan will progress key objectives under the Disruption Working Group's Terms of Reference including:

- Discuss the role of transnational networks in people smuggling and trafficking in persons
- Foster a better understanding of the routes, modus operandi, hierarchies, and criminal activities
- Suggest strategies to strengthen national and regional law enforcement efforts
- Promote effective and coordinated approaches in the investigation and prosecution
- Identify ways to strengthen the operational capacities of participating agencies to disrupt

Co-chairs of the Disruption Working Group will work closely with other working group cochairs to align planning and avoid duplication of Bali Process member efforts.

Priorities

The 2021-2023 Forward Work Plan identifies the below priorities to guide the Working Group's efforts over the next two years.

- 1. Put together a compendium of successful cross-border people smuggling and trafficking in persons joint operations and cases, including those based on historical Joint Periods of Action:
- Conduct a simulation-based exercise on people smuggling and trafficking in persons investigations. It is intended that such exercises would help develop strong networks between practitioners to effectively detect, investigate and prosecute people smuggling and trafficking in persons enterprises operating along migration routes in and through the Asia-Pacific;
- 3. Conduct a **Joint Period of Action** in 2023 (extend to 12-month duration), allowing tangible outcomes from larger and longer-term investigations to be progressed and reported on. Recommend moving from 2022 to 2023 to allow for in-person format considering the COVID-9 environment. The activity is best conducted after the simulation-based exercise.

- 4. Provide training opportunities and presentations on trends, policies and tools by international organisations or other Ad Hoc Group members.
- 5. Collaboration with the Working Group on Trafficking in Persons on, for example, enhancing a victim-centred approach and identifying trafficking indicators in cases of smuggling;
- 6. Collaboration with the Returns and Reintegration Working Group on, for example, operationalising repatriation; and
- 7. Collaboration with the Task Force on Planning and Preparedness on, for example, maritime people smuggling and enhancing co-operation between origin, transit and destination countries.

Action Items

Action Item	Members' Interest to lead or support ¹	Status ²
 Conduct a Joint Period of Action in 2023 (extend to 12-month duration), allowing tangible outcomes from larger and longer-term investigations to be progressed and reported on. 		
 Conduct a simulation-based exercise on people smuggling and trafficking in persons investigations. It is intended that such exercises would help develop strong networks between practitioners to effectively detect, investigate and prosecute people smuggling and trafficking in persons enterprises operating along migration routes in and through the Asia-Pacific; 		
 Identify and arrange training opportunities and presentations on trends, policies and tools by international organisations or other Ad Hoc Group members. 		

¹ To be updated as Disruption Working Group members indicate interest in leading or contributing to Action Items

² For updating at Disruption Working Group Annual Meetings, including with timeframes for delivery