



**SECOND SOUTHEAST ASIAN REGIONAL MEETING
FOR LEGAL AID AND REFERRAL FOR MIGRANT WORKERS
AND VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING**

**20-21 August 2014
Bogor, Indonesia**

FINAL REPORT

LINK MTP

(Legal Initiative Network for Migrants and Trafficked Persons)

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

From 20 to 21 August 2014, 34 lawyers and members of civil society from South East Asia met in Bogor, Indonesia, with the objective of strengthening the regional network for legal aid and case referrals for migrant workers and victims of trafficking that was established at the first regional meeting in 2013 (**Concept note and participant list attached**).

In addition, this meeting aimed to:

- introduce new members from countries that were not previously represented in the network;
- finalise and consolidate a uniform referral process and data-gathering system for all network members; and
- discuss cross-border test cases and consider a common advocacy strategy.

The program commenced with a presentation from the new network member, Blue Dragon, to introduce participants to the organization and legal issues faced by migrants and victims of trafficking in Vietnam. A series of country presentations followed, to brief

participants on relevant legal developments in Cambodia, Indonesia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.

The program then moved to focus on the practical issues associated with cross-border cooperation and case referrals. The group discussed challenges and achievements in cross-border referrals to date and agreed on objectives and practical guidelines for the network moving forward. The meeting also provided participants with a valuable opportunity to meet regional partners and explore options for one-on-one collaboration.

The meeting was organized by YAYASAN DUNIA VIVA WANITA, in collaboration with HOME (Humanitarian Organization for Migration Economics), TIFA FOUNDATION, OPEN SOCIETY FOUNDATIONS and JAKARTA LEGAL AID INSTITUTE (LBH JAKARTA).

2. ACHIEVEMENTS

Overall, feedback from participants was very positive (**Feedback forms attached**). Participants found the country presentations, discussion on the network technical guidance and sharing of case experiences useful. The meeting was successful in that it facilitated the sharing of skills and knowledge by people working for migrant workers and victims of trafficking in the region. The meeting was important to allow individual participants to re-connect personally, but also through the structured sharing of updates, experiences and challenges. All participants who gave feedback indicated that they were willing to develop collaboration for legal aid and referral for migrant workers and victims of trafficking.

The key outcomes of the meeting were:

- agree that the network will be named LINK MTP (*Legal Initiative Network for Migrants and Trafficked Persons*);
- agree on the broad parameters for LINK's technical guidance. The draft guidance will be updated with clearer guidance on key issues, such as reporting, referral responsibilities and client consent;
- nominating HOME, with the assistance of Justice Without Borders, as the first LINK secretariat, responsible for circulating the amended guidance for approval and for aggregating reports on referrals under the LINK; and
- securing commitment of participants to refer cases through LINK as appropriate, with a view to future collaboration on advocacy and law reform.

The true measure of the success of the meeting will be the number of effective case referrals that occur within LINK. Participants have begun referring cases, and will report on the outcomes of these referrals to the secretariat.

3. CONTINUATION OF PROJECTS

The clearest outcome of the first regional meeting was that cases have been referred within the network. For example, HOME referred a domestic worker to LSCW in Cambodia for protection and assistance dealing with her agent. HOME is also working with Soho Spirit of Home Scalabrini Incorporated Kanlungan Center Foundation to assist

a domestic workers to file a claim against her employment agency in the Philippines and file a civil claim for compensation against her ex-employer in Singapore

The aim of the second meeting was to strengthen existing relationships between LINK members to better facilitate case referrals and cross-border collaboration on cases and advocacy. Moving forward, this will be achieved by:

- finalizing the LINK technical guidance (**Link MTP Technical Guidance attached**);
- creating a directory of LINK members, including information about expertise and organization capabilities;
- establishing and using an online community to share LINK documents, experience, reports, insights and expertise between LINK members;
- LINK members reporting on network activities including cross-border referrals and other collaboration.

Participants also agreed on the importance of future meetings to strengthen members' connections and explore new opportunities for collaboration.

4. PHOTOGRAPHS





5. ANNEXURES

1. Concept Note.
2. Participant list.
3. Copies of completed feedback forms.
4. Link MTP Technical Guidance.