

Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade

Inquiry into Australia's Relationship with ASEAN

AFP Response to Questions on Notice (2 October 2008)

Question 1: Does the ASEAN organisation coordinate training or is this done with individual authorities in each country? (transcript page 30 – Q. from Senator Arbib)

ASEANAPOL comprises the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) Chiefs of Police who meet annually and form an important platform to promote regional cooperation and collaboration and provide a focus on priority crime types in the region. In 2007, following submissions, Australia was elevated to Dialogue Partner in ASEANAPOL and in May 2008, the AFP attended the 28th ASEANAPOL conference in Brunei.

ASEANAPOL itself does not deliver or coordinate training. It has, however, requested Dialogue Partners to propose initiatives to assist in capacity building to ASEANAPOL. In response the AFP proposed the Human Trafficking Investigations Training Program (HTIP) which was agreed to and will commence next year.

ASEANAPOL also provides a forum through which Australian and ASEAN nations can broker capacity building and training initiatives. The AFP has delivered a number of multilateral training programs to ASEAN nations through the Jakarta Centre for Law Enforcement (JCLEC) including International Management of Serious Crime (IMOSC) and Regional Executive Leadership Program (RELP). The AFP targets law enforcement officers from ASEAN nations through other multinational training programs and workshops such as the Asia Region Law Enforcement Management Program (ARLEMP) in Vietnam and Intellectual Property Crime Workshops in Bangkok. These programs are all an important part of the AFP's contribution to regional security.

The AFP also uses ASEANAPOL as a forum to negotiate bilateral training initiatives.

Question 2: What percentage of the AFPs work relates to ASEAN countries? (transcript page 36 Q. from Senator Moore)

Unfortunately the AFP is unable to supply a percentage figure for the amount of work that relates to a particular country or specific group of countries. AFP data analysis systems do not readily support the extraction of such information. Considerable manual manipulation of the data would be required to obtain any meaningful figures.

Question 3: What ASEAN countries does the AFP not have Liaison Officers in? (transcript page 29 – Q. from Senator Moore)

The AFP does not have Liaison Officers in Laos and Brunei.