

**REPORT TO THE STEERING COMMITTEE ON THE
2nd MEETING OF THE CSCAP STUDY GROUP ON
THE ESTABLISHMENT OF REGIONAL TRANSNATIONAL CRIME HUBS.**

THE PURPOSE OF THE STUDY GROUP MEETING

By identifying likely facilitators of transnational crime in the Asia Pacific Region it is anticipated that a predictive model for emerging crime typologies that impact on regional security can be developed.

The Study Group (SG) seeks to identify such strategies and the opportunities to counteract threats including better regional and national policing strategies, supported by appropriate national and regional intelligence frameworks, and supported by appropriate regulatory environments with the aim of impeding crime.

Through a scientific approach the project seeks to identify and then assess conditions that exist which increase the probability of the emergence and propagation of certain crime categories within existing regional crime hubs and the likely evolution of new crime hubs. This supports ARF, ASEAN regional security objectives and the goals of numerous sub-regional and bi-lateral agreements.

Co-Chairs:

-	Aus CSCAP	- A/Prof. Doug MacKinnon
-	CSCAPNZ	- A/Prof. Jim Veitch
-	CSCAP Philippines	- Dr. Herman Kraft (<i>unable to attend</i>)
-	CSCAP Thailand	- Prof. Suchit Bunbonkarn

Venue: - Radisson Plaza Resort Phuket, Thailand.

Dates:

- Friday 9th October 2009 -Arrival at venue and welcome reception.
- Saturday 10th and Sunday 11th October 2009 - SG Meeting.
- Sunday 11th October 2009 – Meeting concluded 14:30 hrs.

SG 2nd Meeting Coordination:

- CSCAP Thailand - Prof. Suchit Bunbonkarn

SG Material Coordination:

- Aus CSCAP - A/Prof. Doug MacKinnon

Meeting Participation (20)

Aus-CSCAP; CSCAP China; CSCAP Europe; CSCAP India; CSCAP Japan; CSCAP New Zealand; CSCAP Singapore; CSCAP Thailand; and Non CSCAP Committee Participants together with guests from Australia and Germany.

Financial Support:

\$3,000 (AUD) in addition to CSCAP Committee allocated funds were provided to CSCAP Thailand to assist with the conduct of this SG Meeting by the sponsorship of *Wandering Waratah (Australia)*.

DEVELOPMENTS AND ACTIVITY LEADING INTO SECOND MEETING.

A first working draft of the survey mechanism was developed by John Walker, with assistance from Doug MacKinnon based on the discussions at the first SG meeting. Questions aimed at estimating the size and sources of proceeds of crime and money laundering in each country, together with some indications of the sorts of geo-political factors that might drive organized crime in, through or from the country are now part of the “draft survey”.

Survey Monkey, the online data collection tool is viewed as a good vehicle for this project with every CSCAP Committee having ready access to the program through the internet.

Importantly the survey mechanism also has some privacy and security capability enabling relatively secure access around the survey.

While a range of geographic and socio economic factors were addressed within the first draft Participants were asked to consider additional factors that could also be addressed at the 2nd meeting.

CSCAP Committees who had not participated in the SG were invited to consider sending a Participant(s) to the 2nd meeting in Phuket. As the SG progresses with its task it is conscious that it will be very useful to have broader participation from CSCAP National Committees as it is expected that when finalised and approved the survey will be sent to all CSCAP Committees for their attention and completion.

The following link to the developing survey was sent to all CSCAP Committees for their information and attention:

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=5bPcb_2frCHa3VLQm6iIaxNQ_3d_3d

THE SECOND TRANSCRIME HUBS SG MEETING.

2nd Meeting Non CSCAP Supporting Experts:

A/Professor John Walker is a Principal Fellow at Centre for Transnational Crime Prevention, University of Wollongong and the Lead Consultant of John Walker Crime Trends Analysis since 1994. Prior to setting up his consultancy John worked as a research criminologist with the Australian Institute of Criminology. Since its establishment the consultancy service has assisted government and international agencies to plan and evaluate justice policy options through an understanding of the impacts on crime and justice, changes in the demographic structure of the population; economic factors, especially changing rates of consumption and unemployment; illicit drug use and drug markets; the impacts of new legislation and policy; changes in resources directed at crime prevention and control (especially policing).

John has developed key estimates on the economics of organized crime including the first assessment on the national costs of crime; the first estimates of national and global levels of money laundering, the first estimates of the global proceeds of the illicit drugs

trade. John has consulted extensively to governments, as well as the IMF, UNODC and police and justice system agencies.

John has assisted this project from concept development through to the present CSCAP SG activity.

2nd Meeting CSCAP Supporting Expert:

Karsten von Hoesslin is a Senior Analyst and Editor of *Strategic Insights* with Risk Intelligence. His work and research interests include piracy, organized crime and insurgency issues. Karsten holds a Master Degree in Strategic Studies and is presently studying towards a PhD. He is a member of CSCAP Europe and has participated in Maritime Security related Study Group activity. Karsten gave a major presentation at this meeting.

2nd STUDY GROUP MEETING PROCESS.

Saturday 10th October 2009

Following welcoming comments by Prof. Suchit Bunbonkarn and the Co-Chairs, the meeting was addressed by Doug MacKinnon who reaffirmed the purpose and objectives of the SG together with brief overview for new SG Participants and an update on work undertaken to date.

The first session was followed by an icebreaking round of introductions by CSCAP Committee Representatives and Invited Experts including several 5-8 minute overviews on recent or otherwise relevant survey or research projects undertaken within national jurisdictions. This was done in order to identify other methodologies employed elsewhere that may be of benefit to the SG in its activities. There was healthy and very useful discussion on such methodologies as well as recognition of political sensitivities that may arise from such survey work.

Karsten von Hoesslin, Senior Analyst with Risk Intelligence spoke about strategies to identify risk, with his presentation identifying security and safety issues linked to the sea with developments in maritime piracy as a major element. This led into his ongoing work, recognizing the need for accurate definitions, in developing a “Four Circle Methodology” to categorize crime types and their links to relevant drivers including commercial or political activity.

John Walker then led the SG through the work undertaken to date on the draft online survey. This took up most of the afternoon and included SG debate on survey interpretation, data inclusions, data sources and potential workload issues to collect relevant information for inclusion. The SG was reminded that much of the data already exists at national and regional levels as a result of national reports prepared in accordance with treaty obligations as well as state collaboration with International and Domestic NGOs. Examples of survey outcomes by regional groupings participating in IMF sponsored programs were also demonstrated.

The first day of structured activity concluded with different participants or “delegations” continuing with independent discussions subsequent to the formal sitting of the SG.

Sunday 11th October 2009

The SG resumed its work in Plenary for continuing discussions on all aspects of the program. Two Syndicates were established both with the mandate to conduct a Needs Analysis of the project to date, the outcomes of this work together with perspectives raised by the participating individuals and committees is reflected below. The meeting concluded following summation by Doug MacKinnon and Prof. Suchit Bunbonkarn.

MEETING OUTCOMES AND NEXT STEPS.

The working draft of the survey mechanism is to continue to be developed by John Walker in collaboration with Doug MacKinnon.

Opportunities for linkages and financial support from entities including NGOs are to be examined by the Co-Chairs with a view to broaden the support base for the current work and its implementation. Such outcomes are to be brought to the attention of the CSCAP Steering Committee.

Outcomes:

- **The SG agreed to ask the Steering Committee at the December meeting to support the circulation of the survey (which is attached to this report) which the SG members agreed should be undertaken in as many CSCAP countries as possible.**
- **The SG agreed to recommend to the Steering Committee that the survey should be undertaken by member committees before the middle of April 2010 and to ask for the support of the Steering Committee in making this possible.**
- **To enable member committees to collate the questionnaire material the Co-Chairs agreed to approach the IMF for assistance in offering to CSCAP member committees regional workshops - the IMF to facilitate the meetings and to provide some of the funding.**
- **It was agreed that the SG convene a third meeting again after the workshops (in early May) to review the data and to prepare a suitable publication and memorandum for the consideration of the June Meeting of the Steering Committee.**
- **At its projected third meeting in addition to IMF representation the SG plans to invite the ASEAN secretariat to send a representative to assist with the evaluation of the data.**
- **With the completion of this current survey and in anticipation of new directions being identified through the work undertaken, it was agreed that the SG should build on the work undertaken through similar surveys in collaboration with interested bodies such as the IMF.**

- Possible collaboration with other SGs was also raised in an effort to assist with the circulation of other targeted questionnaires relevant to both Transcrime Hubs SG and other SGs.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The Steering committee note the time frame for a future meeting as set out above - and in particular a meeting to be scheduled in May 2010 and include it in the budget for 2010.
2. In order to assist with the gathering of the material for the survey the Steering Committee supports the proposal of the SG working with the IMF to establish Workshops and commends these workshops to CSCAP Member committees. (*Note: It is anticipated that CSCAP member committees will need to finance travel to the workshops. One workshop will most likely be held in Singapore and preliminary discussions are under way for a workshop in a second location.*)
3. CSCAP Steering Committee supports the proposal to circulate the Survey for completion to all CSCAP National Committees and recommends that as many as possible participate within the time frame suggested above.
4. The Steering Committee approves the plan of the present Study Group to seek to undertake further survey work and anticipates a new proposal at the June meeting in 2010.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Co-Chairs on behalf of the Participants would like to thank:

- CSCAP Thailand and Prof. Suchit Bunbonkarn for the excellent hosting of the meeting.
- Ms. Wuttinee Kamolpattarakul and her team for the excellent support and organization.
- A/Prof. John Walker and Mr. Karsten von Hoesslin for their contributions to the meeting
- Wandering Waratah for its (AUD\$3,000) sponsorship enabling the SG to convene.

Submitted for the attention of the CSCAP Steering Committee

Doug MacKinnon
AusCSCAP

Jim Veitch
CSCAP New Zealand

Suchit Bunbonkarn
CSCAP Thailand

10th November 2009