

## **Outcomes of the Bali Process Workshop on Immigration Aspects of Seaport Security**

1 The objectives of the workshop are to:

- a) gain an awareness of threats posed by people smugglers, impostors and stowaways; and how to control and mitigate these risks from an immigration perspective;

To create awareness on this front, the meeting discussed the following:

- i) Singapore's borders security framework;
- ii) Singapore's experience in dealing with illegal immigrants; and
- iii) Australia's perspective on irregular migration and people smugglers.

- b) share information on clearance procedures for vessels and persons; and pre-arrival reporting; and

The meeting shared information on the following:

- i) Singapore's sea clearance and security regime;
- ii) Legislation, technology and practice in Australia's maritime environment; and
- iii) Australia's Maritime Crew Visa.

- c) share immigration best practices on seaports security, incorporating how inter-agency co-operation can play a vital part.

The meeting recognized the importance of sharing experiences and best practices, and enhancing co-operation and integration with key stakeholders, to achieve national and regional seaport security; and on that note discussed the following:

- i) Co-operation at the Australian border;
- ii) Multi-agency Co-operation for Maritime Security in Singapore;
- iii) The value of Inter-agency agreements, i.e. MOU;
- iv) Singapore's Threat Oriented Passenger Screening Integrated System (TOPSIS);
- v) ISPS Code "Risk Managing the Security of Ships and Port Facilities"; and
- vi) Enhancing Port Security in Singapore Waters.

### Achievements

2 Participants of the Workshop identified the benefits of sharing information where practicable and noted that such exchanges can be pursued as much on a bilateral basis between interested members as through Bali Process forums and workshops.

3 Participants acknowledged the need for capacity building initiatives to improve their core competencies on matters relating to immigration aspects of seaport security and noted that this could be achieved through participating in other workshops and learning and development opportunities, arranged within the ambit of Bali Process as well as on a bilateral basis.

4 Participants also acknowledged the various challenges facing border control agencies and recognized the value in performing immigration pre-arrival screening and reporting, where appropriate, so that resources could be better deployed to focus on high risk travellers while facilitating genuine travellers.

5 Participants appreciated the need to have an effective legislative and law enforcement framework and noted the different legislative mechanisms that have been implemented by some Bali Process members to criminalize the activities of people smugglers and their syndicates.

6 Participants noted the challenges faced by border control agencies in maritime security and recognized the value of a multi agency coordinated approach to address these challenges.