

REPORT OF THE SEMINAR ON PROMOTING COMMUNITY-BASED TREATMENT IN THE ASEAN REGION

From 29 September to 1 October 2015, the Department of Probation, Ministry of Justice, Thailand (DOP), the Thailand Institute of Justice (TIJ), the Rehabilitation Bureau, Ministry of Justice, Japan, and the United Nations Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFEI) hosted the Seminar on Promoting Community-based Treatment in the ASEAN Region (hereinafter, the “Seminar”). This report summarizes the proceedings, country presentations and general discussion held throughout the Seminar.

Proceedings

1. DIRECTOR YAMASHITA TERUTOSHI of UNAFEI opened the Seminar by delivering a welcome address, emphasizing the importance of community support in the rehabilitation and social re-integration of offenders, as well as the importance of involving practitioners from all sectors of the criminal justice system and the private sector in the development of effective measures to reduce reoffending.
2. MRS YOSSAWAN BORIBOONTHANA, Director of Research and Development Institute of the DOP, delivered opening remarks, stressing the positive steps taken pursuant to the ASEAN plus Three Roadmap to promote the sharing of information and experiences on community-based treatment in the ASEAN region.
3. MS JANE HOLLOWAY, Programme Specialist, Crime and Development of TIJ, delivered opening remarks stressing the importance of developing effective community-based treatment for the rehabilitation and reintegration of non-violent offenders, particularly for vulnerable groups such as women and children, and expressing her hope that the Seminar will facilitate the sharing of best practices and promote the implementation of non-custodial measures and capacity-building in ASEAN countries.
4. MR SHOJI IMAFUKU, Director of the Supervision Division of the Rehabilitation Bureau, Ministry of Justice, Japan, delivered his opening remarks stressing Japan’s high-level commitment to facilitating the re-integration of offenders into society and their acceptance by the community, and encouraging the Seminar participants to embrace the opportunity to exchange information and practices for the improvement of community-based treatment.
5. Keynote speeches were delivered by: (1) MS SONYA SPENCER, Executive Director of the John Howard Society of Toronto, on “Canadian Community Corrections: A Perspective from the Front Line”; (2) MR YAMADA KENJI, Volunteer Probation Officer and Secretary General of the National Organization for Employment of Offenders, on “The Spirit of Offenders Rehabilitation (Community-based Treatment in Japan)”.
6. Country presentations were made by the delegations from Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.
7. The Volunteer Probation Officers’ Presentations were made by: (1) MRS NONGNUCH SORN RACH, a Volunteer Probation Officer from Thailand; (2) MRS SENG SOO HONG MONICA, a Volunteer Probation Officer from Singapore; (3) MR REY PAGLINAWAN MODILLAS, a Volunteer Probation Assistant in the Philippines; (4) MR YAMADA

HIROSHI, a Volunteer Probation Officer in Japan.

8. At the conclusion of the seminar, participating countries discussed (1) the needs and interest for future training courses and (2) the ASEAN Plus Three Probation Association.

Keynote Speeches

9. MS SPENCER shared examples of public-private partnership for community corrections in Canada. She introduced the background of the Canadian community corrections system, and reported that the corrections system faces the challenge of the increasingly complex needs of offenders. Challenges begin at the time of incarceration, and there is a need to focus on matters such as health care and reintegration efforts. In part this could be addressed through the rebalancing of budgets that heavily favour the institutional setting, thus decreasing the capacity within the community corrections, both public and private efforts. In 2009, Correctional Services Canada (CSC) developed a community corrections strategy linking reintegration strategies with community partnerships. The *Federal Community Corrections Strategy: Vision to 2020* lays down strategic principles that will guide programme development, interventions and practice. Despite CSC's 89.3 percent success rate for offenders granted early release, challenges facing community corrections include (1) community resistance to halfway houses and community group homes; (2) providing for the needs of offenders upon release, such as housing and employment assistance; and (3) developing collaborative relationships with other governmental and community agencies. One practice in Canada is the use of supervised satellite apartments, which provide independent living accommodations for offenders and offer supervision services at offsite locations. Another practice is "Klink Coffee", created by St. Leonard's Society of Toronto, which utilizes the social enterprise model to employ released offenders with challenging employment prospects in the gourmet coffee roasting business. MS SPENCER introduced the activities of the John Howard Society of Toronto, which provides front line services to released offenders on the local level. These services help released offenders become contributing members of society. Front-line services include (1) pre-employment training and assistance; (2) post-incarceration housing support services; (3) residential support facilities; (4) the Partner Assault Response Programme, which diverts suspects charged with domestic assault for counselling and treatment; (5) employment at social enterprises and (6) pre-release institutional services. Further, the Crossroads Day Reporting Centre provides a one-stop-shop model for local monitoring and supervision, addiction and other counselling services, assistance (housing, employment and education), crisis management and community referrals. Finally, the Reintegration Centre is modelled after the United Way's community-hub concept, bringing together a variety of service providers that collaboratively work to address the needs of released offenders. For the future of community corrections, it is important to focus on the individual. Community corrections is vital to, among others, protecting the public and reducing reoffending, providing support for victims of crime, and building and maintaining public confidence in the criminal justice system.
10. MR YAMADA KENJI explained the purpose of the offender rehabilitation system in Japan, which includes providing support for the reintegration of offenders, protecting society and enhancing the welfare of the public. Japan enjoys strong public support for offender rehabilitation, as evidenced by the significant involvement of the public: in Japan roughly 48,000 volunteer probation officers (VPOs), 4,500 members of the Big Brothers and Sisters Association, 170,000 members of the Women's Association of Rehabilitation

Aid and 14,500 cooperative employers are actively involved in community corrections. Nevertheless, the recent decline in the number of VPOs shows that the system still faces challenges. MR YAMADA reported that the majority of the Japanese public believe crime and delinquency result from social environment rather than the personal characteristics of the offender. Nevertheless, community resistance to the construction of new halfway houses is still a problem. The success of community corrections depends on the way that society views crime and offenders. Historically, community-based treatment has its origins in the actions of concerned citizens in late 19th century in response to the understanding that rehabilitation during incarceration has no value if the offender is not supported upon his or her return to the community. During the post-war era, the Japanese national government assumed responsibility for offender rehabilitation through the enactment of legislation, recognizing the importance of protecting society and preventing crime and recidivism through cooperation between the government and society. The mission of VPOs as set forth in the Volunteer Probation Officers Act is to provide assistance to offenders and delinquents in the spirit of volunteer social services. To carry out this mission, MR YAMADA shared lessons he learned from other Japanese VPOs, stating that to encourage change in others, it is necessary to let go of hate and to treat others as you would like to be treated. He concluded by urging that crime must be understood as a social problem, that the offender must be viewed separately from the offence, and that society must adopt the belief that people have the capacity to change and to recover.

Country Presentations

11. CAMBODIA. Alternative sentencing was introduced through legislation in 2007; however, such measures have not been used in practice, and offender rehabilitation is not a principal focus. Challenges include (1) the lack of judicial awareness and training for community-based treatment and (2) the lack of clear guidelines on the use of alternative sentencing. In January 2014, the Inter-Ministerial Working Group on Alternative Sentencing issued guidance on the non-custodial measures of judicial supervision, suspended sentence with probation and community service. The Working Group has been unable to issue further guidance, for example, on juvenile justice, due to a lack of funding, technical knowledge and cooperation with the judiciary. Regarding public participation, the Cambodian Law on Prisons requires relevant agencies to engage local communities to improve offenders' skills, enhance vocational training, and provide employment opportunities; however, implementation is lacking. Cambodia's prisons currently house 17,173 inmates, and this figure is increasing due to the prevalence of drug trafficking and related offences. There are 2,507 prison officers nationwide, but the ratio of inmates to prison officers continues to increase. Prison overcrowding is also a challenge because only 31.3 percent of inmates are convicted. The remaining inmates are pre-trial detainees or are still involved in the judicial process. Cambodia does not have halfway houses, but community engagement is facilitated through non-profit organizations, and religious groups; computer, cultural and vocational training are provided in the institutional setting. Cambodia faces a unique challenge in that, unlike developed countries, the cost of incarceration is less than the cost of community supervision. Additional challenges include insufficient understanding of the causes underlying criminal conduct, human resources, training, lack of experience in community corrections, technical support, poor inter-agency cooperation, and so on.
12. INDONESIA. Probation and parole were established by law in 1964, and the concept of punishment in Indonesia includes providing support to the offender and ensuring

protection of society. Probation offices are the frontline units for the delivery of community-based treatment, and they have four main duties: preparing social inquiry reports, accompanying juveniles in court, providing correctional treatment and providing supervision. Treatment programmes begin in prison, and they follow a progressive track through release. These programmes are continued in the community through aftercare programmes. Indonesia does not have a volunteer probation officer programme; community-based measures include assimilation, conditional release, furlough, and conditional furlough. One practical measure is a programme which helps released offenders make a high-quality soybean product, which is sold in the community for the benefit of the offenders. Indonesia's prisons house 107,507 convicted prisoners and 52,145 detainees. Meanwhile, Indonesia has 38,000 parolees and 52,059 probationers who are overseen by a staff of 1,338 probation and parole officers. Challenges facing community-based treatment in Indonesia include service delivery in a country with a dispersed population, the limited number of probation and parole officers, financial constraints, and the quantity and quality of human resources.

13. JAPAN. Community-based treatment is administered by professional probation officers serving in Japan's 50 probation offices. The activities of the probation officers are supported by Japan's 47,872 VPOs who facilitate the smooth reintegration of offenders into the community. Japanese law requires that VPOs possess sound moral character, have time to fulfil their duties, be financially stable, and be healthy and active. VPOs are commissioned by the Minister of Justice as part-time government officials. They receive no salary but are reimbursed for expenses incurred. They serve two-year terms and may be reappointed until the age of 76; the average VPO age is 64.7 years old. VPOs are assigned to probation districts, which are subdivisions of the jurisdiction of each probation office. VPOs' duties include probationary and parole supervision; coordinating the social circumstances of each offender by meeting with the offender's family, coordinating family counselling, and coordinating living and employment assistance; and supporting crime prevention activities by promoting public awareness of the importance of community-based treatment. VPOs accomplish these tasks by liaising with relevant governmental agencies and drawing on community resources. A hierarchy of VPOs associations has been established from the local to the national level, and these associations facilitate VPO training and networking. Challenges facing the VPO system in Japan include recruitment and reinforcing the VPOs' working environment. In response, the Ministry of Justice has established offenders rehabilitation support centres to provide public meeting space for VPOs and offenders. Additionally, the compensation system for damages and injuries to VPOs has been expanded to include property damage and injuries to their family members.
14. LAOS. In Laos, the law provides the imposition of fines, confiscation of property connected to the offence, deprivation of election rights, house arrest, suspended execution of sentence, conditional release and court referrals for alcohol and drug treatment programmes administered by the state. For example, property crimes causing damages less than 65 USD are not considered offences, and children under the age of 18 are generally not processed through the traditional criminal justice system. Re-education without deprivation of liberty is a measure under which the offender continues his or her employment subject to garnishment of 5 to 20 percent of the offender's wages by the state. In Laos, there were more than 6,000 prisoners in 2014, and the number increases slightly each year. Drug-related offences account for 60 percent of incarcerated offenders. Rehabilitation is provided for by law; prisoners are encouraged to reform their lives and

are provided opportunities to learn marketable skills. However, rehabilitation and reintegration cannot succeed solely through treatment within the prison walls. Reintegration efforts must involve the community and must focus on enhancing family ties and securing employment opportunities. Upon release, offenders' families, relatives and village authorities are invited to receive the offenders and to follow up on their rehabilitation. Prosecutors make recommendations to the offenders on how to live successful lives in the community, and the offenders promise not to commit crime in the future. Although the law permits suspension of execution of sentence, Laos does not have formal probation or parole. The Ministry of Justice is considering how to take the necessary legislative steps to introduce such systems.

15. MALAYSIA. Malaysia's current parole system for adult offenders is based on the Australian system, and it was implemented in 2008. Parole is administered by the Ministry of Home Affairs. Parole boards investigate and make parole decisions, suspend or revoke parole orders, and impose conditions of parole. Community-based treatment programmes include vocational training, employment assistance, community service activities, sporting events, and so on. Malaysia has recently involved the prisons in the identification of parole-eligible inmates who show exemplary behaviour during incarceration. A parole officer stationed at the prison conducts an evaluation, including a risk assessment, and submits reports to the Parole Department Headquarters before the application is referred to the Parole Board. Over the past seven years, the parole success rate is 97.87 percent, and the success of the programme is expected to encourage inmate rehabilitation, reduce recidivism, and result in more offenders serving their sentences outside of the prison walls. The Department of Social Welfare provides social services to children and many other groups of persons that require social assistance. Children in conflict with the law typically commit property crimes, drug crimes, or crimes against persons. The age of criminal responsibility is 10 years old, and children under the age of 18 are diverted from the traditional criminal justice system. Treatment, formal education, and vocational training take place in approved schools for a period of three years; however, residents may be released early. Other measures include supervised probation and community service orders. Supervision is conducted by 700 probation officers; 5,153 supervision cases were handled in 2014. Members of Child Welfare Committees are appointed by the Minister of Women, Family and Community Development, and they provide support to probation officers, similar to the role of volunteer probation officers.
16. MYANMAR. No formal probation system has been established in Myanmar, although juveniles under 18 are placed on probationary supervision. However, the 2010 law establishing Myanmar's judicial system recognizes the aim of "reforming moral character in meting out punishment to offenders". Under the Code of Criminal Procedure, certain offenders may be released without serving the imposed sentence, depending on factors such as age, sex, or prior criminal history. Juvenile courts may direct probation officers to investigate and report on the background and conduct of a juvenile in conflict with the law, and juveniles may be referred for supervision for a period up to three years. During this period, the court may entrust the child to the custody of the juvenile's parents. In addition to addressing the needs of juveniles, special treatment is provided by the Ministry of Health for drug users under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law of 1993. The Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement provides housing, employment and aftercare assistance. Although Myanmar has no formal community-based treatment system, the social workers from the Department of Social Welfare (DSW) provide assistance to vulnerable groups facing social problems, focusing

on children and youth, women, the elderly, drug users, and the disabled; however, such assistance is not specifically designed to address the unique needs of offenders. The DSW also administers social welfare institutions (including rehabilitation centres and training schools), manages volunteer social workers, and collaborates with other departments to coordinate the provision of social welfare services. Some social workers are assigned as probation officers to provide a broad range of institution-based and community-based services to juveniles. Because of the broad scope of social welfare services, and the fact that they concern all members of Myanmar's society, community involvement is extremely important.

17. PHILIPPINES. The Parole and Probation Administration is responsible for providing individualized treatment to probationers, parolees and pardonees with supervision and mainstreaming them back into society. Community-based treatment involves three main activities: investigation, supervision and rehabilitation. Volunteerism through the Volunteer Probation Aide Program is one of the key components in the rehabilitation of probationers and parolees. The VPA Program was authorized by law in 1976, and 13,056 Volunteer Probation Assistants (VPAs) are currently appointed. VPAs supervise a maximum of five clients, work closely with probation officers to develop treatment plans, and submit monthly reports. Moreover, VPAs serve as counsellors, client sponsors, mediators, and speakers on offender rehabilitation. Other activities in which VPAs participate include VPA training, client skills- and job-training courses, VPA associations, fundraising, award ceremonies, conferences on rehabilitation, and community service and outreach projects. In the Philippines, probation is an alternative to imprisonment that is only available for first time offenders and once during the offender's lifetime. Probation was originally implemented for adults, but the programme has been extended to minors who committed drug-related offences. Other non-custodial measures include extinguishment of criminal liability upon successful completion of probationary supervision, as well as bail and personal recognizance to mitigate pre-trial detention.
18. SINGAPORE. Probation in Singapore is a court-ordered rehabilitation programme that offers the courts an alternative sentencing option for offenders who may otherwise be incarcerated. The Ministry of Social and Family Development administers probation. Volunteers were introduced to probation under the Community Probation Service in 1971, and the programme was renamed the Volunteer Probation Officer Scheme in 2012 to stress the volunteer nature of the programme. Singapore has 250 VPOs who engage in activities such as befriending, conducting curfew checks (Operation Night Watch), supporting offenders' completion of community service (ComServ), conducting school visits to support probationers (School Liaison Network), and facilitation/organization of group programmes. The probation system introduced community service in 1996 for the purposes of punishment, reparation and rehabilitation. The success of community service has been facilitated by building mutually beneficial and creative partnerships between community-service agencies and Probation Service. The Singapore Prison Service implements community corrections strategies. Singapore is facing an increase in drug offences, thus increasing the need for rehabilitation and reintegration of drug offenders. Community corrections is crucial to preventing relapse upon release, and applies techniques such as determining appropriate interventions to support inmates' and supervisees' reintegration needs, ensure adherence to supervision conditions and interfacing with the community. The Community Corrections Command (COMC) has a staff of 200 officers and manages 1,500 supervisees in the community. The case management process has four steps: (1) assess and plan, (2) intervention, (3) review and

evaluate, and (4) terminate; the case management team focuses on motivating the offender, enhancing the offenders' skills, and creating opportunities for offenders. In 2012, the recidivism rate for released offenders was 27.6 percent; in 2014, 96.7 percent of penal offenders and 88.2 percent of drug offenders successfully completed community corrections programmes in Singapore.

19. THAILAND. The present VPO system was introduced in 1986 and provides support to juvenile and adult offenders. They are appointed by the Ministry of Justice, and their duties include submitting reports to probation officers on probationers' performance, assisting in post-sentence investigations, supervising and monitoring probationers and parolees, assisting in drug rehabilitation, providing vocational training to probationers, and promoting public awareness of probation services. Eligible VPO candidates must be at least 25 years old, must be sufficiently educated, must not have served a prison sentence, and must complete a three-day training course. Although VPOs are not paid, they receive transportation allowances for home visits, receive free health care at government hospitals, and can be nominated for royal decorations. Thailand had 15,381 VPOs in 2014, which increased to 21,575 by August 2015. Challenges include increasing the active participation of VPOs in service delivery, and improving training for newly recruited VPOs. Another challenge is developing VPOs' abilities to conduct supervision and rehabilitation, such as improving report-writing skills and increasing VPO self-confidence. A strategy to enhance the abilities of VPOs is the use of a team model, under which one probation officer and three VPOs collaborate and share information and experiences. In the future, Thailand seeks to expand the duties of VPOs, such as by providing victim support, improving collaboration with local organizations and other volunteers, and recruiting younger VPOs.
20. VIETNAM. Although Vietnam has not yet adopted a parole system, community-based treatment has been implemented as a measure to support probation. Under Vietnamese law, probation can be granted for a period of 1 to 5 years. Rehabilitation without detention is another measure imposed on offenders who have stable work and residences. The period of supervision ranges from 6 months to 3 years, and 5 to 20 percent of the offender's wages are garnished by the state: the garnished wages will be refunded upon successful completion of the programme. Probation and rehabilitation without detention are both administered by the commune in which the offender resides. Local resources are utilized to provide probationers with job assistance and other guidance. Offenders are required to submit self-review reports on their observance of the law to their supervisors quarterly. Vietnam stresses the importance of community involvement in rehabilitation. Measures include regular contact with family members of the offender at the time of and during incarceration, cooperation with social organizations to teach offenders to live healthy lives, providing education and vocational training, and the establishment of the Fund for Reintegration to reward offenders for good conduct and support stable reintegration into society. The government encourages all governmental agencies and social organizations to engage in reintegration efforts, which has helped to provide employment opportunities to offenders. Vietnam is seeking to establish a parole system, which is hoped to be implemented by 2020.

Volunteer Probation Officers' Workshop

21. MRS SORNACH from Thailand presented on the activities of VPOs in Thailand and the use of VPO coordination centres. Coordination centres provide many activities, such as drug treatment programmes, religious activities in support of rehabilitation, vocational

training, and livestock rearing. Extraordinarily, MRS SORN RACH self-funded the construction of her local centre, the Phra Phuttabat VPO Coordination Centre, and donated the land upon which it was built. To support the centre's construction, activities and maintenance, she engaged local associations such as the Rotary Club for assistance. With the support of the community, MRS SORN RACH supervises an average of 75 offender visits per month with a maximum of 108 offenders, offering free lunches to those who attend.

22. MRS SENG from Singapore presented on a community service project at a hospital for the elderly in Singapore. The goal of the project is to promote intergenerational bonding and understanding by befriending the elderly, serving them meals, and encouraging them to participate in social activities. The programme is intended to develop leadership skills, compassion, and reflective-thinking and communication skills. Probationers also develop a sense of responsibility and commitment. The programme allows VPOs to observe the probationers as they work and develop their skills.
23. MR MODILLAS from the Philippines reported that he finds his work with offenders to be challenging, but has a feeling of self-fulfilment when his clients are successfully rehabilitated. The main activities of VPAs include offender supervision, conducting post-sentence investigations, attending and conducting regular VPA meetings and conducting public awareness campaigns on crime prevention and related issues. Other activities include facilitating restorative justice through mediation and family/group counselling and conducting volunteer activities outside of the VPA framework, such as housing and disaster relief projects.
24. MR YAMADA HIROSHI presented a case study of an attempted murder case in which the offender was a 71 year old woman who stabbed her unemployed son in the neck with a kitchen knife. The son survived, and the mother was granted a suspended sentence. MR YAMADA discovered that poverty and an unhealthy living environment were the causes of the crime, as the offender's home was filled with trash. He arranged for trash removal by the city government; he also coordinated new living arrangements for the offender through local social welfare services. MR YAMADA also described the role of Offenders Rehabilitation Support Centers and VPOs activities, such as social contribution activities (cleaning public spaces), cooperation with other organizations, and crime prevention activities.

General Discussion

25. During the discussion session, two agenda items were addressed: (1) the needs and interest for future training courses, and (2) the ASEAN Plus Three Probation Association. DOP summarized the outcomes of the conferences in Thailand and in the Philippines, and then reviewed the goals of the Roadmap for ASEAN Plus Three on Probation and Non-custodial Measures Cooperation. The Roadmap established three key areas of action: knowledge sharing, capacity-building and developing international cooperation on treatment of offenders. The final Phase IV goal for each key area, to be achieved by 2019, is as follows: for knowledge sharing, the establishment of the ASEAN Plus Three Probation Association; for capacity-building, the establishment of the ASEAN Plus Three Probation Training Institute; for international cooperation, the proposal of standards or principles on probation and non-custodial measures for adoption.
26. DOP and UNAFEI proposed a schedule for upcoming training courses and seminars that

are planned in line with the Roadmap. It was announced that Indonesia will host the next ASEAN Plus Three Conference on Probation and Non-custodial Measures in June 2016. It was also announced that the Thailand Ministry of Justice is sponsoring a three-day seminar focusing on the treatment of drug offenders, which is tentatively scheduled to begin on 1 March 2016; another training course is planned for July 2016 in Thailand. For the next three years, UNAFEI will hold a three-day seminar in September, if the budget for those seminars is approved. It was also announced that Japan will host the third World Congress on Probation in 2017, and UNAFEI may host a seminar in conjunction therewith.

27. DOP introduced plans for holding the Training Course on Development of Effective Community-based Treatment *which will be held in the framework of JICA third country training*. The course will focus on capacity-building and will target the “CLMV” countries (Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Vietnam). In year one, the course will address main concepts and principles. The target group is senior and mid-level officials, such as judges, prosecutors, correctional officers, and policy makers. By the end of the course, participants should be able to design a system that suits their respective countries. Year two will address strategies for implementing community-based treatment. The target group is mid-level officials in order to create a roadmap to implement community-based treatment. Year three will focus on providing in-depth knowledge about treatment programmes and necessary skills for offender supervision and rehabilitation. The target group is mid-level officials. Participants will be able to design treatment programmes and address human resources. The course methodology includes lectures, workshop and discussion, presentations and study visits. The proposed training period is two weeks.

Discussion Regarding Future Training Courses

28. DOP stated that the seminars planned in line with the Roadmap were proposed to last three days; the training courses were proposed to last two weeks. The delegates from Cambodia and the Philippines expressed concern over the plan to hold two week courses, noting the difficulty for high-level officials to be away from work for extended periods. It was suggested that training modules should be planned carefully, and course length should be considered on a case-by-case basis. Support was also expressed for limiting the training course to one week. The Philippines proposed a compromise involving a one-week training course focusing on theory followed by one week spent in the home country focused on practical application of the theory, and resulting in the submission of a report.
29. Several other ideas for future training courses were shared during the discussion. A delegate from Thailand noted that language is a barrier and that consideration should be given to providing interpretation services for other languages. A delegate from Indonesia identified the need for training that addresses high-risk offenders, drug offenders, corruption and terrorism, as well as an anger-management for correctional officers. UNAFEI noted that information sharing could be improved by collecting and disseminating laws, regulations and handbooks related to community-based treatment.
30. UNAFEI asked the non-host-country delegations for comments on whether future training courses should focus on developing probation systems or treatment programmes. While there was no consensus, some countries stated that both are important. However, the responses suggested that countries without established probation systems would be

interested in legislative and other guidance to develop probation systems. Meanwhile, countries with established systems seemed to express greater interest in treatment programmes.

31. DOP asked the delegations for comments on which government officials should be the target group for upcoming seminars. A delegate from Cambodia noted that in countries without a community-based treatment system in place, target groups are difficult to identify due to the lack of any responsible agency.

ASEAN Plus Three Probation Association

32. The Philippines stated that the goal of the knowledge-sharing prong of the Roadmap, as agreed during the Senior Officials' meeting at the Second ASEAN Plus Three Conference held in Thailand, is to establish an ASEAN Probation Association, noting that a sample constitution and bylaws had been circulated for discussion purposes. Acknowledging that some countries have already expressed political concerns regarding the establishment of an association, it was suggested by the Philippines that the purpose of having an association would be to ensure unified interpretation and implementation of the Roadmap. If established, the association would strengthen relationships between ASEAN countries, develop members' competence and increase efficiency in the implementation of community corrections. It was also suggested that membership in the association could be open to countries, organizations and individuals. Finally, the role of the association would be to set an agreed direction and to keep moving forward with efforts to enhance community-based treatment.
33. UNAFEI stated that the ASEAN plus Three forum on probation and non-custodial measures is an informal framework; because China has never joined the forum, it makes it difficult for the "Plus Three" countries (China, Japan and Korea) to join the framework. It was noted that any association must be officially recognized by ASEAN Secretariat and that the Senior Officials' Meeting next year will decide whether the association moves forward or not.

1 OCTOBER 2015
TOKYO, JAPAN