

Regional Training Workshop on Responding to Violence against Children in contact with the Justice System

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Bangkok - Thailand*

Biographies

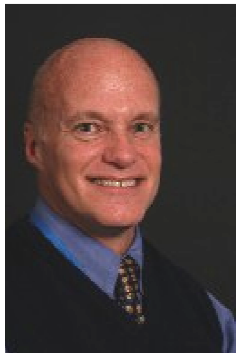
Keynote Speakers



Her Royal Highness Princess Bajrakitiyabha Mahidol currently serves as the Deputy Provincial Chief Public Prosecutor at Nong Bua Lam Phu Province, Thailand. Prior to that, Her Royal Highness served as the Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Thailand to the United Nations Office at Vienna, Austria. With a distinguished dual career track, Her Royal Highness brings to her legal practice a wealth of diplomatic experience, particularly in international cooperation in the rule of law, crime prevention and criminal justice. Her Royal Highness's keen interest in promoting women's rights has led her to an extraordinary journey in mainstreaming gender-sensitivity in the criminal justice system. From a charitable program aimed at improving the quality of lives of women prisoners in Thailand entitled Kamlangjai (or Inspire) Project in 2006, Her Royal Highness has been instrumental in the creation of a new set of international standards on the treatment of women offenders in 2010. Since 2011, Her Royal Highness has also served as the Chairperson of the Special Advisory Board of the Thailand Institute of Justice, a semi-private agency charged with promoting excellence in research and capacity-building in crime prevention and criminal justice. Her Royal Highness received a Doctor of Juridical Science (J.S.D.) Degree from Cornell University in May 2005.



Mr. Jeremy Douglas is the Regional Representative of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) for Southeast Asia and the Pacific, overseeing and managing UNODC strategy and operations from Myanmar to the Pacific. Prior to his appointment as Regional Representative SEAP, he was the UNODC Representative in Pakistan from September 2009 – April 2013. Between 2007 and 2009, Mr. Douglas was based in UNODC Headquarters in Vienna, Austria as Manager of UNODC's Global SMART Programme which assists states to develop a evidence base for effective policy and operational responses to synthetic drugs and precursors. Prior to his time in UNODC HQ Mr. Douglas was a Regional Project Coordinator for UNODC in East Asia, managing a project covering ASEAN states and China. Mr. Douglas has also worked with the United Nations in New York, the Management Board of Cabinet of the Government of Ontario, Canada, and in the Caribbean. Mr. Douglas is a graduate of the London School of Economics in the United Kingdom and Bishop's University in Canada.



Mr. Daniel Toole is currently the UNICEF Regional Director for East Asia and the Pacific. Based in Bangkok, he is responsible for oversight, ensuring overall policy and programme coherence, and regional as well as global advocacy for UNICEF's fourteen offices covering the twenty-eight countries of the East Asia and the Pacific region. Prior to his current assignment in Bangkok, he served four years as UNICEF Regional Director for South Asia in Kathmandu. For four years, he served as Director of Emergency Programmes for UNICEF New York, where he was responsible for ensuring UNICEF's global response to both natural and man-made emergencies and disasters. Mr. Toole is a member of the UNICEF Global Management Team and was the Chair of the UN Framework Team for Early Warning and Preventive Action from 2004-2006. During 2007 he also served for four months as Deputy Executive Director a.i. of UNICEF. Daniel was also the Chief Operating Officer and part of the start-up team of Acumen Fund, a non-profit, global venture fund. He was responsible for creating and managing the business and investment processes and for overseeing investment due diligence and implementation. He continues to serve on the Acumen Fund Advisory Council. Previously, he served 15 years in various positions at UNICEF: as Chief of Staff for the Executive Director of UNICEF; as UNICEF's Country Representative in Rwanda where he was responsible for directing and implementing the country's emergency relief program post-genocide. Daniel also served as UNICEF Country Representative in Mali and Deputy Representative in Tanzania. Prior to UNICEF, he worked with USAID in Burundi and with the Peace Corps in Central African Republic. Mr. Toole was a Visiting Fellow at the Program on Humanitarian Policy and Conflict Research, Harvard University. He holds an MA from The Institute of Social Studies, The Hague, The Netherlands and a BA from the University of Arizona.



Dr. Kittipong Kittayarak has long been involved in judicial and criminal justice reform in Thailand. He has made substantial contributions to the improvement of the Thai judicial system through his roles in a number of national bodies including the Senate's Judicial Committee (1994-1999), the Constitution Drafting Committee (1997), the Law Reform Commission (2004 – 2006), and Police Reform Commission (2006 – 2008). He has been known as one of the champions for the reform of the Thai criminal justice towards due process and the rule of law, and for pioneering the implementation of the restorative justice and community justice programs in Thailand. Moreover, in the area of peace and reconciliation, Dr. Kittipong was actively engaged in the National Reconciliation Committee (2005 – 2006), which focused its work on conflicts in the deep south of Thailand. During the period of 2010 - 2012, Dr. Kittipong was appointed as a member of the Truth for Reconciliation Commission of Thailand (TRCT), where he was responsible for its strategies and overall management. After completing his six-year term as the Permanent Secretary for Justice (2008 – 2014), he has assumed a new role as an Advisor to the Prime Minister and has recently been invited to serve as the Advisor to the Board of Directors of the Thailand Institute of Justice (TIJ) to assist in the promotion of research and capacity-building activities in accordance with the justice-relates UN standards and norms.



Ms. Yasmeen Shariff is Malaysia's elected representative on the Committee on the Convention on the Rights of the Child, commencing 2013-2017. Since 2001 Yasmeen Shariff has been on the Technical Committee on Setting up of Family Courts Chair. She completed a LL.B. (Hons) degree from University of Buckingham, England in 1985 and received a Certificate in Legal Practice from the University of Malaya in 1987. Yasmeen was admitted as an advocate and Solicitor in 1987 and has been in active practice since 1987. Yasmeen earned a Post Degree Diploma in Syariah Law and Practice in 1989, a Masters degree in Comparative Law in 1992, Post Degree Diploma Siswazah Syariah in 1993, Post Degree Diploma in

Islamic Studies in 1994, Family Mediation Course from University of Florida in 2000 and 2007. Yasmeen is also a fully fledged Family and Commercial Mediator. Yasmeen earned an Executive Diploma in Islamic Studies (Islamic Finance and Banking) at the International Islamic University Malaysia and is currently reading for the Master of Advanced Studies in Children's Rights. Yasmeen has given lectures on Family Law and Child issues at the invitation of several organizations and presented papers at numerous conference, seminars and workshop at national and international levels (Malaysian Law Journal, Malaysian Bar, Department of social Welfare, National Legal Aid among others). Yasmeen has also conducted workshops, brainstorming and training sessions for officers of various government departments on laws relating to Women (marriage, divorce, custody, maintenance, adoption, procedures in Court, Reproductive Rights, Domestic Violence) and Children.

Facilitators and Trainers

UNODC



Ms. Margaret Akullo is a Programme Coordinator for UNODC Regional Office for Southeast Asia and the Pacific. Margaret manages the programme on combatting child sex offences and coordinates work related to providing technical assistance to law enforcement officers. She was instrumental in the development of a police training curriculum on Investigating Sexual Exploitation of Children and also oversaw the drafting of the analytical report on gaps in domestic legal frameworks related to the protection of children in Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand, and Viet Nam. Prior to UNODC, Margaret worked with the UK

Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre developing training material on investigating child abuse and as a Consultant for UNODC Uzbekistan and Albania, assessing the criminal justice responses to human trafficking. Margaret's professional career began in 1991 with the London Metropolitan Police Service where she was a Researcher and Criminal Intelligence Analyst on child abuse investigations. She later worked for a London charity as a Children's Services Project Manager for homeless and abandoned children. Margaret was also a Researcher for a UNICEF report on online/offline sexual abuse of children. Margaret is a graduate of Loughborough University (UK) and is in the final stages of completing her Criminology doctorate degree. She continues to work in academic research and her most recent published work is a chapter titled *Child Trafficking Policy making between Africa and Europe*, in the academic volume *Trafficking in Slavery's Wake (2012)*, a collection by the University of Stanford (USA).



Ms. Alexandra Martins works as a Crime Prevention Officer with the Justice Section, Division for Operations at the UNODC Headquarters in Vienna, Austria. She is the focal point at the UNODC on Justice for Children and aims to develop and expand UNODC's policy work and programme of technical assistance to developing countries in the area of justice for children and violence against children. She started her career in 1998 as a criminal lawyer in Sao Paulo, Brazil. From 2001 to 2005, she worked as a Programme Officer with the international NGO, Save the Children, in Italy and dealt with a variety of issues related to children's rights. Since 2005 she has been working with the Division for

Operations, at the Headquarters of the UNODC. She initially worked as a Crime Prevention Expert with the Anti-Corruption Unit and the Justice and Integrity Unit, and then subsequently went on to cover the functions of Programme Officer at the Latin American and Caribbean Unit. Alexandra was born in Sao Paulo, Brazil and studied Law at the University of Sao Paulo. She holds a postgraduate qualification in Criminal Procedural Law and a Ph.D. in Criminal Law from the University of Florence, Italy. The focus of her Ph.D. thesis was on juvenile justice, particularly on alternatives to detention for children in conflict with the law.



Mr. Mario Hemmerling works as a Justice for Children Expert with the Justice Section, Division for Operations at the UNODC Headquarters in Vienna, Austria. He is a qualified German lawyer who has previously worked at the European Court of Human Rights, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Germany and Berlin Office of the Prosecutor in the juvenile justice division. He has taught at the University of Leipzig, Germany as a Research Fellow, where he earned his Ph.D. in international law. He conducted his law studies at the University of Bonn, Germany, and the Universidad Católica Argentina, Buenos Aires.



Dr. Geeta Sekhon is a legal professional from India specializing in the Rights of Children. She has a Doctorate in Law on the subject of 'Child Sexual Abuse'. Geeta commenced her professional career in 1992 as an officer with the Indian Navy and subsequently, joined the academic profession teaching law in different universities in India and as a visiting faculty in Bangladesh, Nepal and Pakistan. Since 2007, Geeta has been associated with the UN and has performed multifarious tasks as a Project Coordinator and as a Consultant with extensive professional experience in the South Asia and South East Asia region. In a project

in India on Anti Human Trafficking, she conducted several training programmes as master trainer for criminal justice actors, and authored several documents. Since 2011, Geeta has been associated with UNODC Regional Office for Southeast Asia and the Pacific and has previously authored 3 sets of Curriculum for Front Line Law Enforcement Officials, for Specialist Investigators on Investigating Crimes of Child Sexual Exploitation and for Prosecutors and Judges. Geeta is also author the Curriculum for Law Enforcement Officials and Prosecutors and Judges on Child Victims and Witnesses in Crimes of Child Sexual Exploitation. Geeta is currently working with UNODC Regional Office for Southeast Asia and the Pacific, ILO (Geneva), UNDP (India) and the University of Peace, Costa Rica as an independent consultant.



Prof. Yvon Dandurand is a criminologist, member of the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice and Associate of the Centre for Safe Schools and Communities at the University of the Fraser Valley, British Columbia, Canada, as well as a Fellow and Senior Associate of the International Centre for Criminal Law Reform and Criminal Justice Policy, a United Nations affiliated institute. He specializes in comparative criminal law and criminal justice research and has been extensively involved in juvenile justice reform and policy development projects in Canada and abroad. Prof. Dandurand has developed and implemented assessment tools and performance indicators and other monitoring mechanisms in the areas of child protection and juvenile justice. One of his publications is a

report on *Criteria for the design and evaluation of juvenile justice reform programs* for the Interagency Panel on Juvenile Justice. He also participated in the development of the *Mapping and Assessment Toolkit* for child protection systems published by UNICEF. He recently worked as the UNODC lead consultant for the development of the *United Nations Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Children in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice*.



Dr. Hayli Millar is an Assistant Professor at the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice, University of the Fraser Valley in Canada. Her research interests and expertise broadly encompass comparative and international criminal law and criminal justice policy reform, transitional justice, and rights-based approaches to development. Dr. Millar is currently working on three research projects, one of which is exploring international legal standards and promising comparative state practices concerning how the ‘best interests of the child’ are considered in relation to adult criminal justice decision-making from the point of parental arrest through to release and reintegration. A second research project is focused on empirically assessing the effects of domestic anti-trafficking laws in the more than ten years since Canada ratified the *UN Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons*. A third research project is investigating youth cybercrime and victimization. Dr. Millar has lived and worked internationally as a consultant to the United Nations in Jordan and as a gender, law and development specialist for the Asian Development Bank in the Philippines. She has conducted research and/or worked professionally in nine countries, including Canada’s Northwest Territories and Yukon Territory in relation to criminal sentencing, alternative dispute resolution and indigenous community-based justice. Dr. Millar has a PhD in law from the University of Melbourne, Australia and a MA in criminology from Simon Fraser University, Canada.

UNICEF



Mr Kerry L Neal has worked in the post of Child Protection Specialist, Justice for Children, in UNICEF Headquarters in New York, since 2012. Prior to joining the New York Office, he held staff positions in UNICEF field offices in FYR Macedonia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Georgia, where he headed the juvenile justice component of the national criminal reform strategy. At HQ, he manages the migration portfolio as well as Justice for Children. Kerry is a lawyer by training, and has spent many years working in the field of juvenile justice / justice for children, as well as in other areas of child protection, most notably migration and trafficking. His career has included work with NGOs, IGOs and government, in locations as diverse as the Balkans, Haiti, Iran, Burundi and Kazakhstan. As well as his professional legal qualifications, he has a Masters in Law and Human Rights, and a Bachelor’s degree in Social Policy and Public Administration.



Mr. Stephen Blight is the UNICEF Regional Child Protection Advisor for East Asia and the Pacific. Based in Bangkok, he provides oversight and technical support to the child protection programs in 14 countries in the region. He was formerly Chief of child protection in UNICEF Sudan, South Africa and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). Stephen was Country Director of Save the Children UK in DRC and also worked with OXFAM and CARE International. Stephen worked in Ethiopia, Burundi, Algeria, Zaire, Mauritania, Kenya, Somalia, Guinea and Thailand. As Chief of child protection Stephen managed programmes that provided strategic support to governments in implementing recent legislative reform, including the Children’s Act, Child Justice Act, and Sexual Offences Act. In Sudan, there was specific focus on rolling out prevention and early intervention programmes for children at risk; supporting intersectoral collaboration in addressing child abuse and neglect; strengthening alternative care options; and working with probation services for children in conflict with the law. The programme also supported government efforts to include foreign migrant children in national care and protection systems. As Head of a large child protection programme in DRC, Stephen led the (a) strengthening the legal and social protection of children at risk of violence, exploitation, and

social exclusion; (b) developing a national framework for the care and protection of orphans and other vulnerable children, and scaling up community-based responses in their favour; (c) preventing and responding to sexual violence; and (d) preventing the use of children in conflict, and supporting the release and reintegration of children associated with armed groups and forces.



Ms. Grace Agcaoili is a Regional Child Protection Specialist at **UNICEF** East Asia and the Pacific Regional Office. Grace is mainly working on Child Rights, Justice for Children, ASEAN and other regional bodies. Previous to this, she was Chief of Policy and Advocacy in UNICEF Philippines. She has been with UNICEF for 14 years working on child protection, human rights, legislative reform and justice for children, governance, decentralization, social policy, gender, emergencies, social protection, urbanization, disability, migration among other areas. She joined UNICEF in 2000 as a Juvenile Justice Training officer where she developed training manuals and Standard Operating Procedures as well as delivered training programs for all justice professionals. Grace is a lawyer by training. She obtained a Juris Doctor degree and a Masters in International Cooperation for Development from the Universidad Complutense de Madrid. She also holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Legal Management and Bachelor of Arts in Hispanic studies. She took a Fellowship in Public International Law from the UN Institute of Training and Research. She also took courses on Public Policy from Maastricht University, Social Protection from Sussex University and Health Policy from London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. Before joining UNICEF, she was with the Child Rights Desk of the Ateneo Human Rights Center, a university-based human rights institute and Aides a Toutes Detresses (ATD) Fourth World, an international NGO in consultative status with UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) working with urban poor families where she handled children's cases.



Ms. Salote Kaimacuata is a Child Protection Specialist working on Justice for Children at the UNICEF Pacific Multi Country Office. She obtained a Bachelor of Laws degree and is admitted as a Barrister & Solicitor in New Zealand and Fiji. She has a Bachelor of Education Joint Diploma in Teaching from Otago University and an MBA from the University of the South Pacific. She has specialized training on Continuing Judicial Education in Juvenile Justice, Restorative Justice, Community Corrections and Solutions to Justice for Children outcomes, Family Law. Salote is a Lawyer and teacher by trade: State Prosecutor, Legal Aid Advisor, Legal Associate and Resident Magistrate. Her areas of expertise include policy engagement dialogue, social policy, advocacy and communication, education, legal, gender and emergency.



Ms. Anjanette Saguisag joined UNICEF Philippines in 2006 where she is currently a Child Protection Specialist working on issues affecting justice for children. She manages UNICEF assisted interventions and provides technical assistance to the Juvenile Justice Welfare Council, Department of Justice Committee for the Special Protection of Children and the Philippine National Police – Women and Children Protection Desk officers Specialized Course. In 1998, Anjanette obtained a degree of Juris Doctor (Doctor of Law) from the Ateneo School of Law in Manila, Philippines, became a Member of the Philippine Bar and was admitted to the practice of law in the Philippines. She also has a Bachelor of Arts (Major in Psychology) from the University of the Philippines. Her involvement in child rights and child protection began in 1998 when she became a legal staff and advocacy officer for the Children's Legal Bureau, a non-government organization which engages in litigation of cases affecting children as victims, witnesses and alleged offender and legislative advocacy. Anjanette moved on to join ECPAT Philippines as Policy and Legislative Advocacy Officer on issues of

commercial sexual exploitation of children. Thereafter, she engaged in efforts to assist the Philippine government to improve their capacity for law enforcement and prosecution, including serving as facilitator and writer of A Manual on Law Enforcement and Prosecution of Trafficking in Persons Cases in the Philippines (2006) for the Inter-Agency Council Against Trafficking, which is the main coordinating body of government for the implementation of the Anti-trafficking in Persons Act of 2003.

Thailand Institute of Justice



Ms. Federica Piovesana works as Advisor on Violence against Children and Organized Crime at the Thailand Institute of Justice in Bangkok (TIJ), being in charge of research, capacity building and international relations activities under the TIJ strategic pillar “Children in the criminal Justice System”. Prior to this, she worked with Libera, the leading Italian NGO committed to the fight against mafias, and with the Italian Institute of Advanced Studies in Geopolitics and Auxiliary Sciences as a researcher in the area of links between the rule of law and geopolitics. She worked also with some local NGOs dedicated to child protection both in Brazil and in Italy, with assignments ranging from research to the delivery of training on the Rights of the Child in elementary and secondary schools. Previously, she was assistant of the Counsellor for Legal Affairs at the Permanent Mission of Italy to the United Nations in Vienna, and an intern at the UNODC headquarters. She worked for the event management office of the Biennale di Venezia Foundation on the occasion of several international events over the last 10 years. Federica obtained a Master of Philosophy in Political Science and Latin American Studies from the Sorbonne University with a thesis on policies to prevent and combat violence against children in Rio de Janeiro. She holds a M.A. in Diplomatic Studies from the Italian Society for the International Organization, a M.A. in Europe-Latin American International Relations from Sorbonne University and a B.A. in Political Science from Alma Mater Studiorum.