



Australian Government
Attorney-General's Department

How to request assistance

Countries interested in engaging RLAU to provide technical legal assistance should:

- complete the request form included in this brochure and send the form directly to the Director, RLAU, and
- arrange for a formal letter requesting assistance to be sent at the Ministerial level to the Australian Attorney-General, the Hon Philip Ruddock MP.

Both the request form and letter should contain as much detail as possible. This will assist RLAU to develop a relevant program of legal assistance for the requesting country.

If you have any questions or would like further information please do not hesitate to contact the Regional Legal Assistance Unit.

Contact

Director
Regional Legal Assistance Unit
Attorney-General's Department
Robert Garran Offices
National Circuit
Barton ACT 2600
AUSTRALIA
Phone +61 2 6250 6832
Fax +61 2 6250 5917
Email rlaumb@ag.gov.au
Web www.ag.gov.au/rlau

Regional Legal Assistance Unit

Offering technical assistance in the region to improve capacity to combat terrorism and provide international legal assistance



The Regional Legal Assistance Unit

Effective counter-terrorism and international legal cooperation frameworks are essential tools for winning the fight against terrorism. The Australian Government is committed to working cooperatively with countries in South East Asia to strengthen these frameworks. Following the Bali Regional Ministerial Meeting on Counter-Terrorism in 2004, the Australian Government established the Regional Legal Assistance Unit (RLAU) in the Attorney-General's Department for this purpose.

RLAU's mandate is to provide assistance to countries in South East Asia to strengthen their counter-terrorism laws and to improve international legal cooperation arrangements in support of the fight against terrorism in our region. RLAU uses the international conventions and protocols on counter-terrorism as a benchmark, assisting countries to implement their obligations under these instruments as mandated by the United Nations Security Council. RLAU can also assist countries to establish effective law enforcement frameworks, including for extradition, mutual assistance in criminal matters and transfer of sentenced persons.

Types of assistance

RLAU provides assistance tailored to the specific needs and priorities of the country requesting the assistance. RLAU offers a range of assistance from introductory workshops and legislative drafting, through to implementation and training on the practical application of legislation. To maximise the effectiveness of its technical assistance projects, RLAU works collaboratively with the requesting country to ensure that the assistance project is complementary to existing legal frameworks. RLAU also coordinates with other donors to ensure the assistance is compatible with other capacity building projects for the country.



Each assistance project may include any combination of the following types of technical assistance, depending on the needs of the country:

- workshops and training on fundamental legal concepts and practices and international legal obligations
- advice and guidance on the strengthening of domestic legal regimes to counter terrorism
- legislative drafting assistance
- assistance with the adoption of legislation through the parliamentary process, and
- assistance in the practical implementation of legislation, including training of relevant authorities.



Other types of assistance may also be considered if they are relevant to the needs of the requesting country and relate to the mandate of RLAU.