

Anti-Trafficking in Persons and Anti-Smuggling of Migrants Task Force to be Set Up Next Year - DPM

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PUTRAJAYA, Dec 19 (Bernama) -- The government will set up an Anti-Trafficking in Persons and Anti-Smuggling of Migrants Task Force in partnership with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) next year.

Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Ahmad Zahid Hamidi who is also the Home Minister said the decision to set up the task force was made at the Anti-Trafficking in Persons and Anti-Smuggling of Migrants Council (MAPO) meeting here today.

In a statement issued after the meeting, Ahmad Zahid who had chaired the meeting said the task force would be fully managed by the enforcement agencies in the country.

The task force would be made up of representatives from the Attorney General's Chambers, Police, Immigration, Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency, Customs, National Security Council and Human Resource Department, he said.

"The Task Force will start operation in January 2017 and stationed at the Home Ministry office in Putrajaya," he said.

Ahmad Zahid said the objective of setting up the task force was to strengthen the Anti-Trafficking in Persons and Anti-Smuggling of Migrants Act (ATIPSOM) 2007 or Penal Code.

Today's MAPO meeting was attended by representatives from the Home Ministry, Defence Ministry, Foreign Ministry, Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development, Transport Ministry, Human Resource Ministry, Ministry of Communications and Multimedia, Health Ministry, Ministry of Domestic Trade, Plantation Industries and Commodities, International Trade and Industry and the Youth and Sports Ministry.

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