

**COUNTRY SITUATION – MALAYSIA;  
MANAGEMENT OF DECEDENT MIGRANTS –  
THE WANG KELIAN CLANDESTINE MASS GRAVES**

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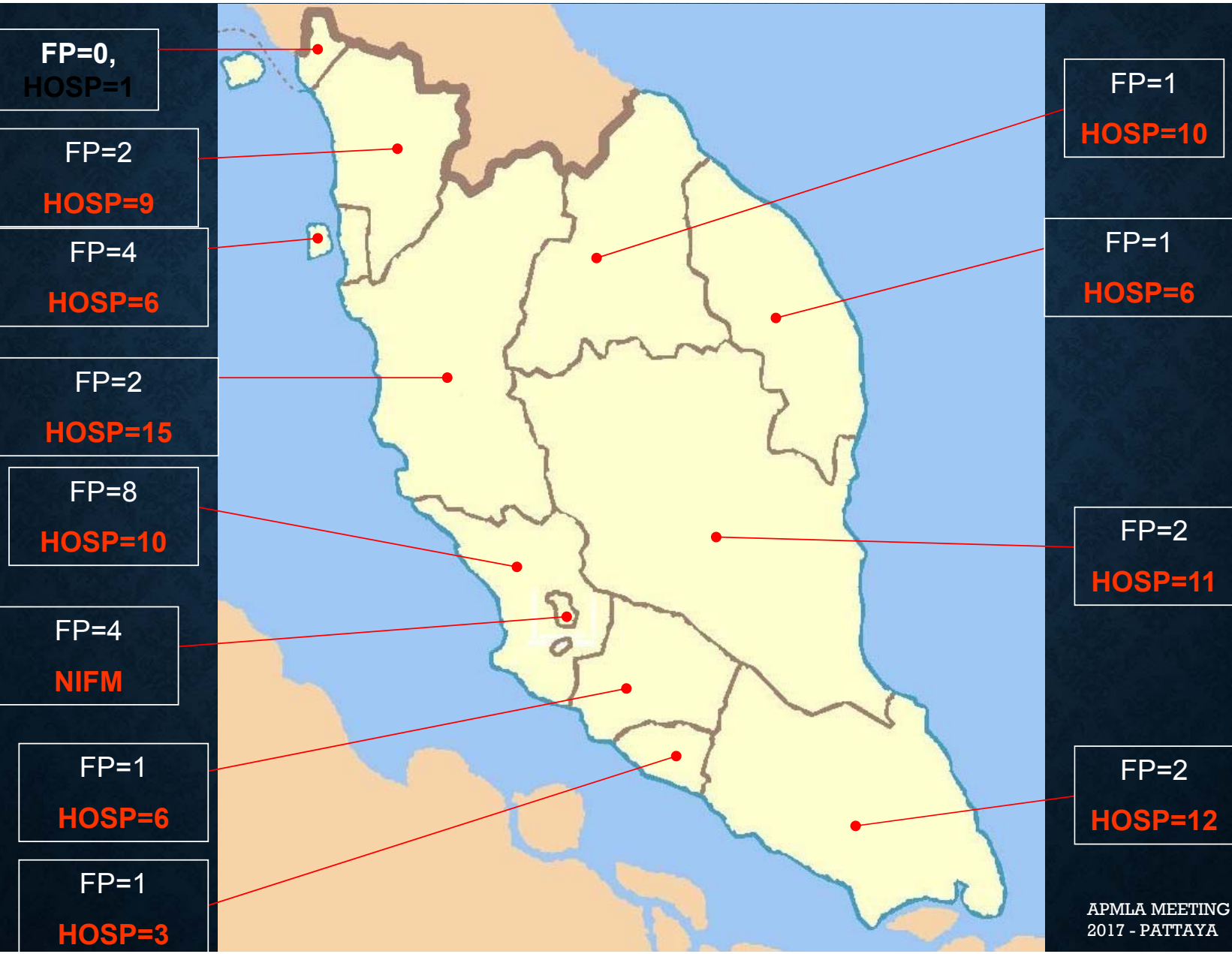
MINISTRY OF HEALTH, MALAYSIA

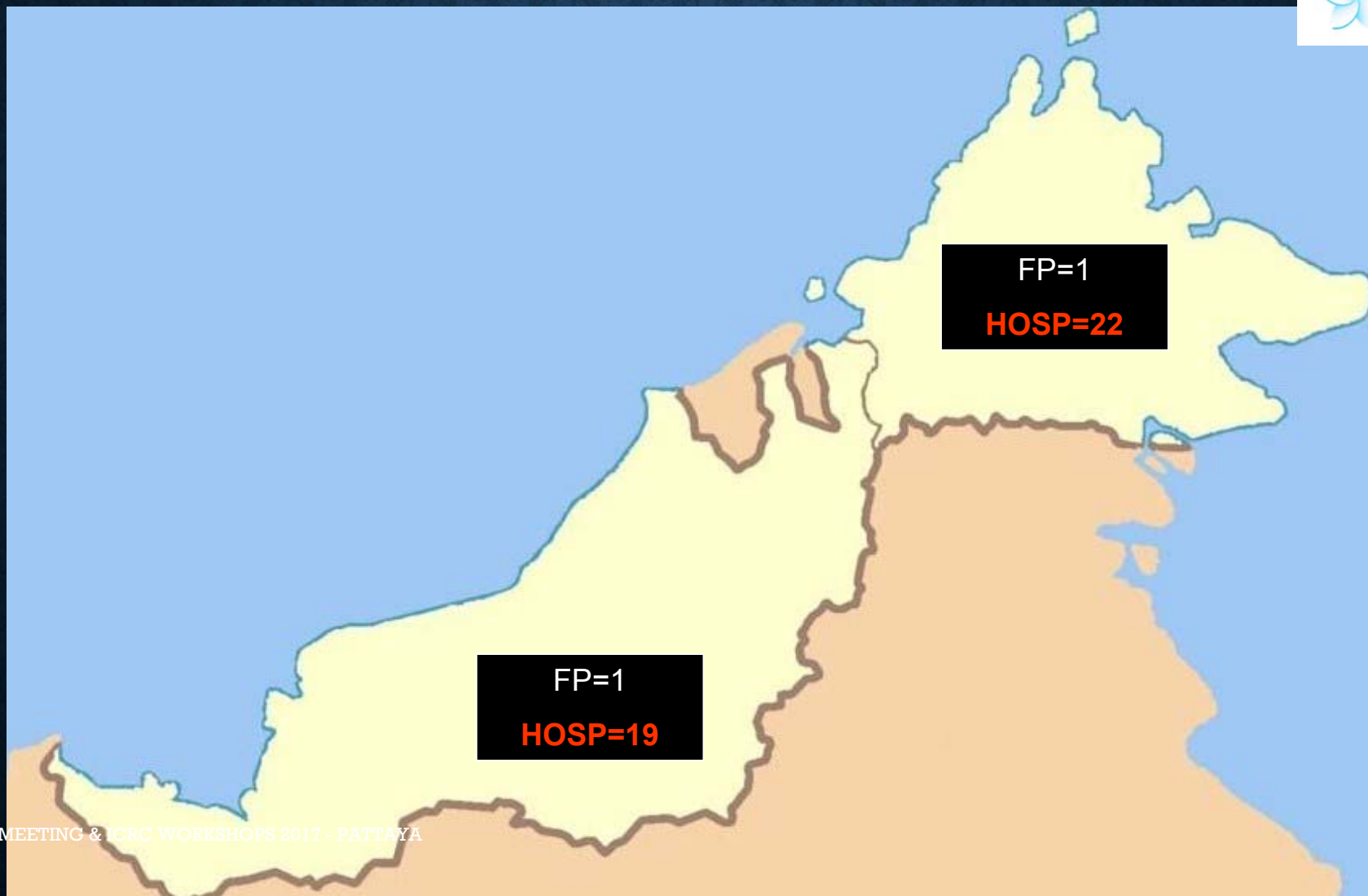
- INTRODUCTION
- THE SCENE
- POST-MORTEM PHASE
- ANTE-MORTEM PHASE?
- RECONCILIATION (IDENTIFICATION)?
- BODY DISPOSAL



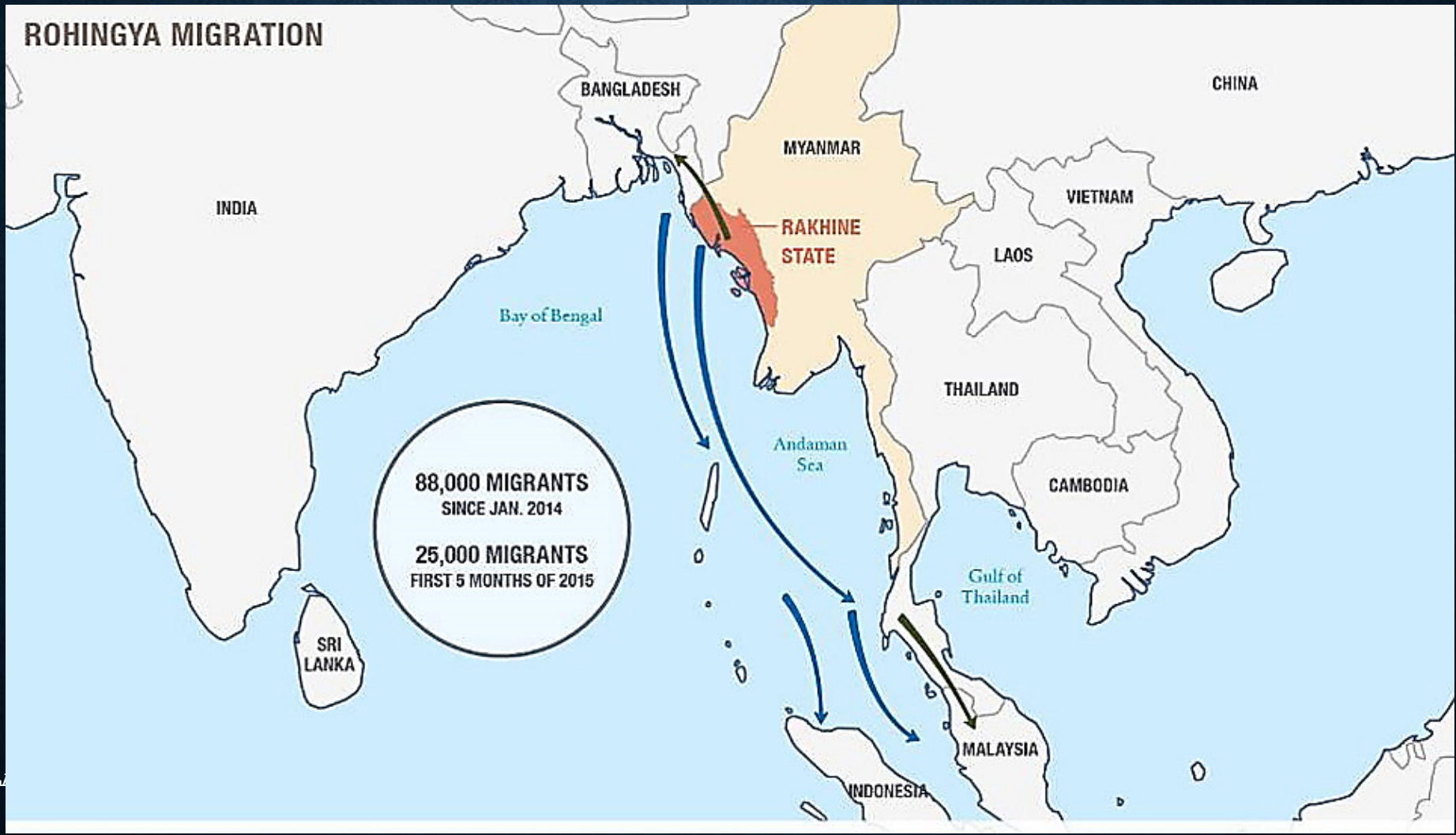


- 330,803 square kilometres
- Population: 30 million
- Forensic Pathologists = 30 MOH (including 2 Forensic Anthropologists)
- Forensic Odontologists = 4 AF, 4 Univ & 1 MOH
- Forensic Radiologists = 2 Univ & 1 MOH
- National Forensic Science Lab = DNA profiling











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## Malaysia migrant mass graves: police reveal 139 sites, some with multiple corpses

Dozens of suspected people-smuggling camps also discovered in north of the country on border with Thailand



Advertisement

Khalid Abu Bakar, Malaysia's inspector general of police, gives details of the discovery of 139 mass graves

Malaysian police say they have uncovered 28 suspected human trafficking camps located about 500 metres from the country's northern border, a day after authorities reported the discovery of multiple mass graves.

"We discovered 139 of what we believe are graves," national police chief Gen Khalid Abu Bakar told reporters.

"It's a very sad scene ... To us even one is serious," he added. "We are working closely with our counterparts in Thailand. We will find the people who did this."

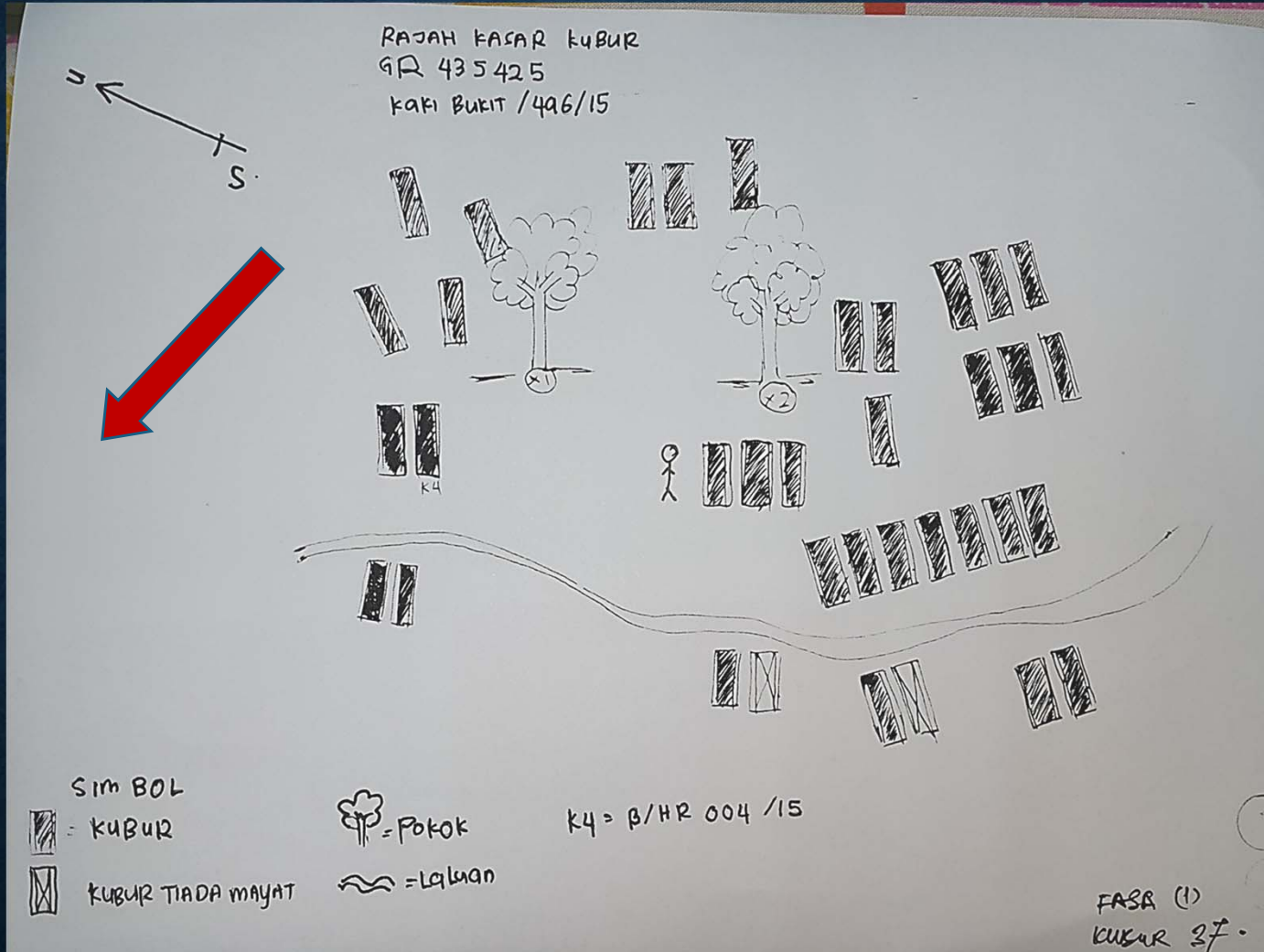
# THE SCENE



- Search and Recover Operation : 25 May 2015 until 8 June 2015.
- Temporary shelters/camps of illegal immigrants located at the Malaysia-Thailand border.
- Built without permission.



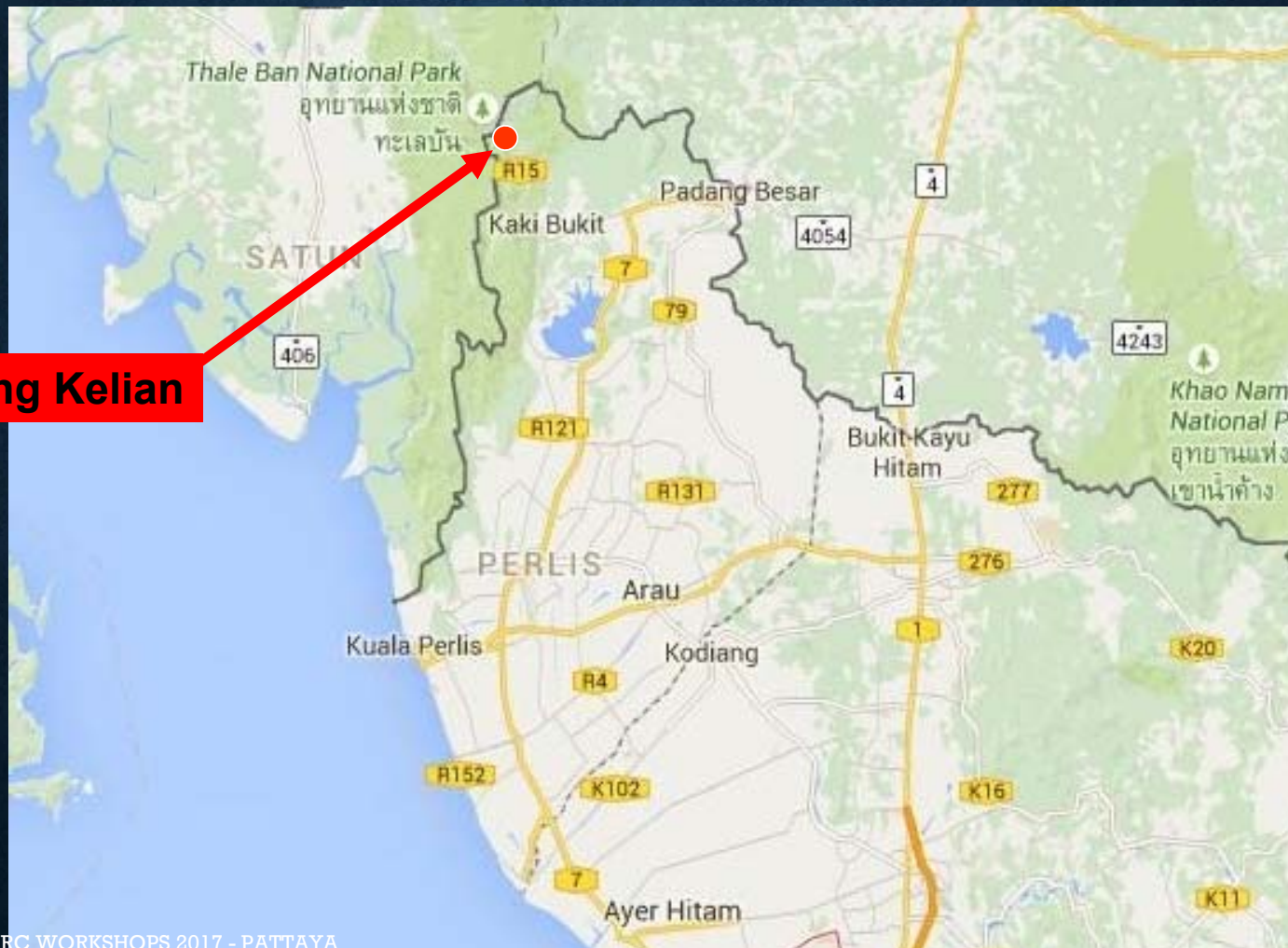
- 139 graves found in Malaysia in hidden camps used by people undertaking illegal border crossings from Thailand.
- The deceased are thought to be Rohingya refugees fleeing from Myanmar.
- Skeletal remains of 165 people were discovered.
- PM phase = **7/6/2015 – 1/7/2015**





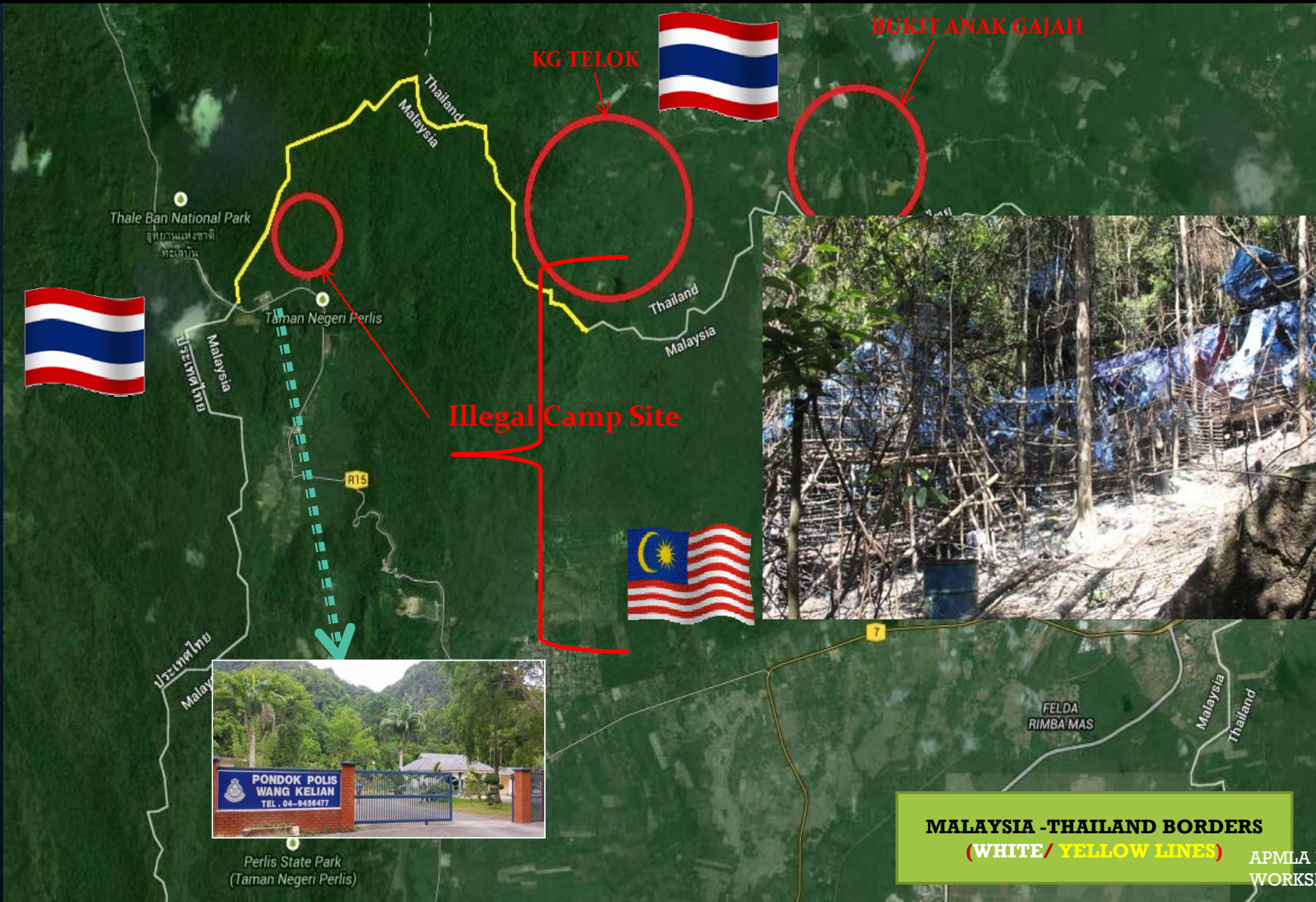


**Wang Kelian**





# MAP OF ILLEGAL DETENTION CAMP AT WANG BURMA/WANG KELIAN, PERLIS



The map shows the border between Thailand and Malaysia. A yellow line indicates the official border, while a white line indicates an alternative border. Three red circles mark specific locations: 'KG TELOK' (with a Thai flag), 'BUKIT ANAK GAJAH', and an 'Illegal Camp Site' (with a Malaysian flag). A dashed blue arrow points from the 'Illegal Camp Site' to an inset photo of 'PONDOK POLIS WANG KELIAN'. Another inset photo shows a makeshift camp in a forest. Labels include 'Thale Ban National Park', 'Taman Negeri Perlis', 'PERLIS STATE PARK', 'FELDA RIMBAMAS', and 'R15'. The text 'MALAYSIA - THAILAND BORDERS (WHITE / YELLOW LINES)' is in a green box at the bottom right.













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3 skeletal human remains in one grave









**@ HUMAN REMAIN.**















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# POST-MORTEM PHASE

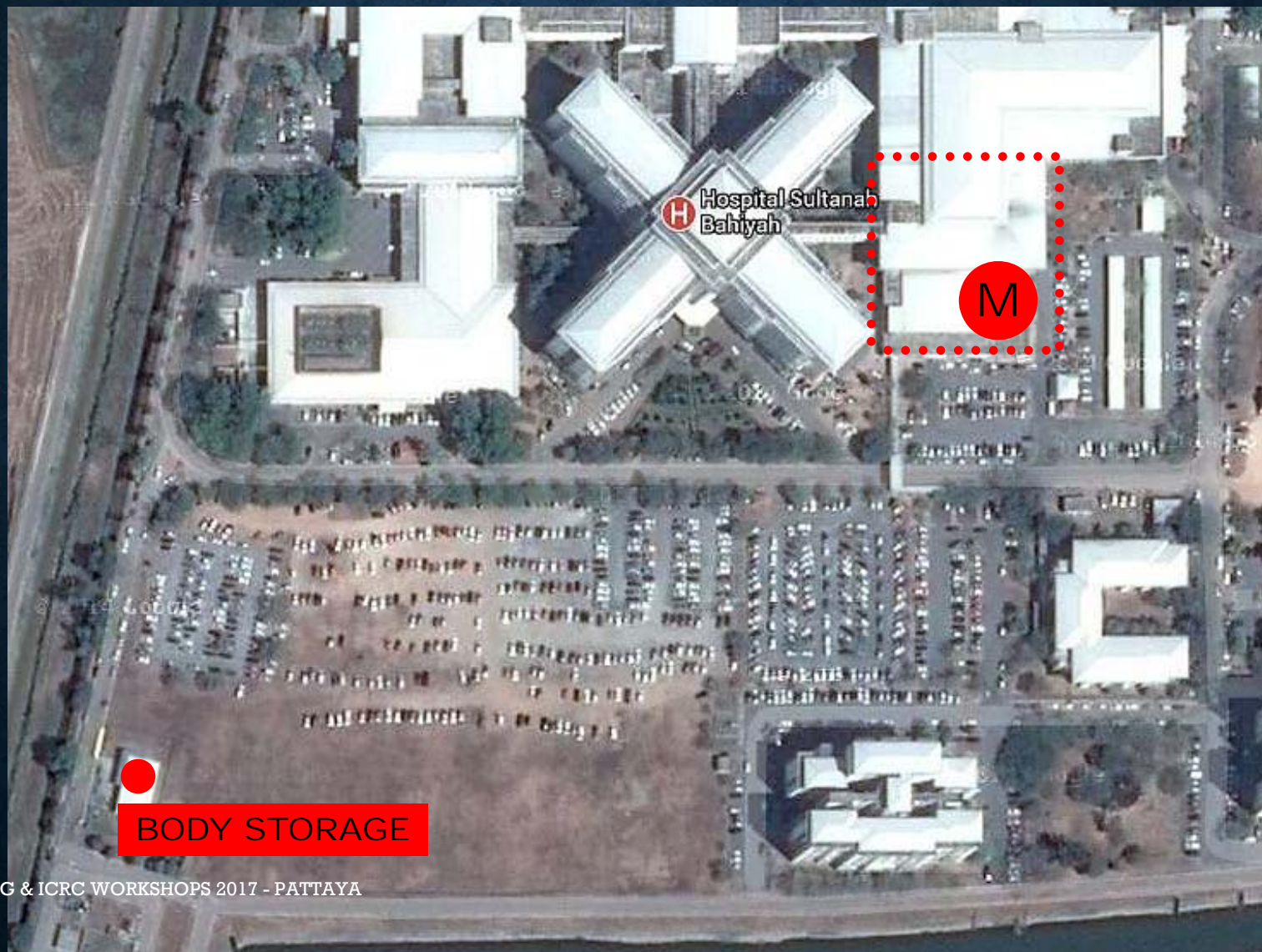




# PROCESS

## DVI Response

- Remains recovered and transported to a temporary DVI Mortuary at the Sultanah Bahiyah Hospital in Alor Setor
- DVI teams from all over Malaysia were mobilised. ICRC Forensic Coordinator attended to observe.
- Post mortem examination of the skeletonised remains found that injuries were not a feature. Likely that the deaths related to illness and infections exacerbated by poor living conditions and limited access to potable water and food. DNA samples and other data recorded for each set of remains.
- Deceased buried using temporary controlled burial to support the possibility of future identification.







Clinical waste cold room



Temporary Body Holding









Grave site	Date received	Body bags	Remains
<b>A</b>	25/6/2015	3	1
<b>B</b>	26-30/5/2015	34	44
<b>C</b>	5/6/2015	14	14
<b>D</b>	6/6/2015	20	20
<b>E</b>	7/6/2015	30	30
<b>F</b>	8/6/2015	7	7
<b>G</b>	22/8/2015	6	31
<b>H</b>	22/8/2015	18	18
		<b>132</b>	<b>165</b>

Grave sites	Postmortem phase
<b>A - F</b>	7/6 – 1/7/2015
<b>G, H</b>	1 – 4/9/2015







- Personal effects.
- Sex determination.
- Age estimation.
- Ancestry approximation.
- Stature estimation.
- Injuries.
- Cause of death.

The image displays a grid of 12 panels from a medico-legal examination form. The panels contain the following sections:

- 1. CASE DETAILS:** Includes fields for body number, date, time, location, and other case information.
- 2. Identifying Personal effects:** A table for recording personal effects found on the body.
- 3. Identifying Personal effects:** A diagram of a human skeleton with checkboxes for identifying specific body parts.
- 4. Personal effects:** A table for recording personal effects found on the body.
- 5. Sex:** Fields for sex determination (Male, Female, Indeterminate).
- 6. Age Estimation:** Fields for age estimation and a diagram of a skull with checkboxes for identifying specific features.
- 7. Ancestry:** Fields for ancestry approximation (White, Asian, Black, Indeterminate).
- 8. Stature:** Fields for stature estimation and a diagram of a human skeleton.
- 9. Injuries:** A table for recording injuries found on the body.
- 10. Cause of Death:** Fields for cause of death and a diagram of a human skeleton.





	<b>HSB</b>	<b>KKM</b>	<b>ATM</b>	<b>IPTA</b>
<b>Forensic Pathologist</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>19</b>		
<b>Forensic Medical Officer</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>19</b>		
<b>Forensic Science Officer</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>11</b>		
<b>Forensic PPP</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>21</b>		
<b>Forensic PPK</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>13</b>		
<b>Medical attendant</b>	<b>3</b>			
<b>Forensic Odontologist</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Odontologist</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	
<b>Dental Officer</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	
<b>Dental Assistant</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	
<b>Forensic Radiologist</b>		<b>1</b>		<b>2</b>
<b>Radiologist</b>	<b>8</b>			
<b>Radiographer</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>1</b>		
<b>Total</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>

**Medical personnel: 171**



Postmortem Phase









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# TEMPORARY CONTROLLED BURIAL

Date	Remains buried
22/6/2015	21
28/6/2015	30
3/7/2015	24
5/7/2015	24
8/9/2015	20
<b>Total</b>	<b>119</b>

## Victims to be given proper burial

Mukhriz: Remains found in Wang Kelian will be laid to rest in Kedah

By OH CHIN ENG and JOSEPH KAOS JR  
newsdesk@thestar.com.my

ALOR SETAR: The 35 bodies discovered from the human trafficking graves in Wang Kelian, Perlis, will be buried in Kedah, said Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Mukhriz Mahathir.

"The Federal Government has requested the state government to bury the deceased in Kedah.

"A total of 35 bodies have been sent to the Sultanah Bahiyah Hospital in Alor Setar for post-mortem and all of them would be buried together," he said after presenting Ramadan aid to mosques at Masjid Ayer Hitam in Jerlun parliamentary here yesterday.

He added that the bodies would be buried in a Muslim cemetery in Pokok Sena as it was believed that they were all Muslims.

However, Mukhriz did not reveal the exact burial ground or when the burial would take place.

In the *Ops Wawasan Khas* launched by the police on May 11, 139 graves and 28 human trafficking camps found in Wang Burma hill and Wang Perah hill in Wang Kelian, Perlis, were believed to consist of the Rohingyas



On guard: General Operation Force personnel at the entrance to Feltra Lubuk Sireh at Wang Kelian.

from Myanmar and Bangladeshis.

In Putrajaya, Home Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi said the Government was considering building a wall or fencing along the Malaysia-Thailand border.

A recent Cabinet meeting had discussed securing the border in an attempt to curb

illegal entry and smuggling.

"Some countries have solid borders but illegal entry still happens.

"For example, the United States-Mexico border. Despite the border fence, it could not stop 11 million illegal immigrants from entering the United States.

"Without the fence, it would be worse," he told a press conference after his ministry's monthly assembly here yesterday.

Dr Ahmad Zahid said trafficking was not the only concern as there were also problems with the smuggling of drugs, firearms and subsidised goods.

On a news report that 80% of border enforcement officers are corrupt, Dr Ahmad Zahid declined to verify the report although he did not rule out the possibility.

"The news report quoted sources from Special Branch. We are investigating the sources. This should not happen, as even the police cannot confirm the percentage.

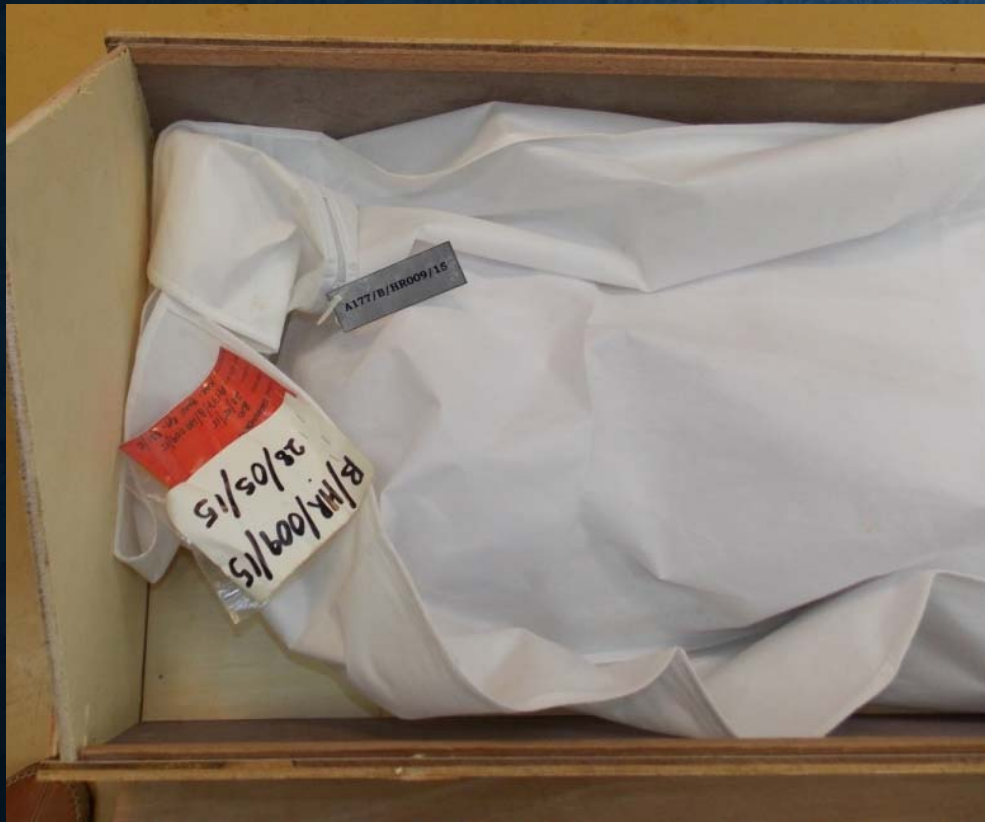
"However, I do not rule out the possibility that there are Malaysian officials involved in this syndicate," he said.

On Rohingya refugees, Dr Ahmad Zahid said the Government did not intend to allow them to work in the country.

"They have no right to work in the country. Even as UNHCR (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees) card holders, they are not permitted to work here. And we do not plan to change that," he said.









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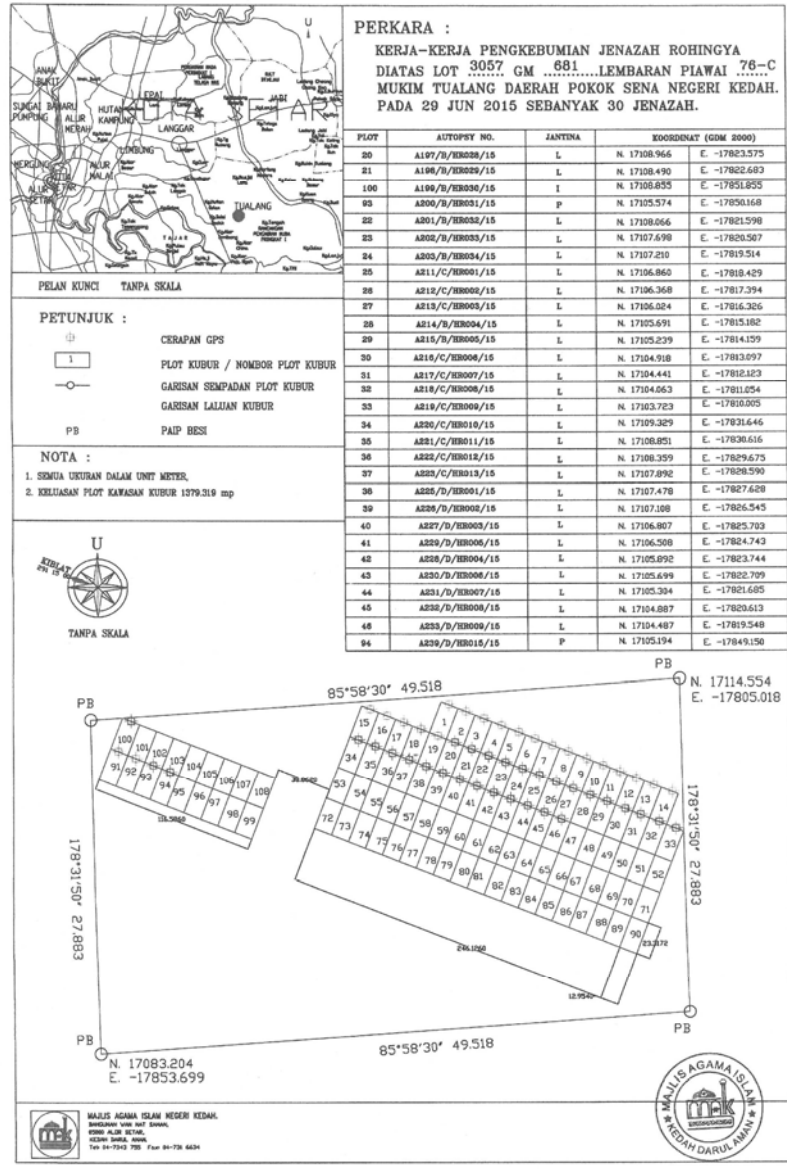
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**PERKARA :**  
 KERJA-KERJA PENGKEBUMIAN JENAZAH ROHINGYA  
 DIATAS LOT 3057 GM 681.....LEMBARAN PIAWAI 76-C  
 MUKIM TUALANG DAERAH POKOK SENI NEGERI KEDAH.  
 PADA 29 JUN 2015 SEBANYAK 30 JENAZAH.

PLOT	AUTOPSY NO.	JANTINA	KOORDINAT (GDM 2000)	
20	A197/B/HR028/15	L	N. 17108.966	E. -17823.575
21	A198/B/HR029/15	L	N. 17108.490	E. -17822.683
100	A199/B/HR030/15	I	N. 17108.855	E. -17851.855
93	A200/B/HR031/15	P	N. 17105.574	E. -17850.168
22	A201/B/HR032/15	L	N. 17108.066	E. -17821.598
23	A202/B/HR033/15	L	N. 17107.698	E. -17820.507
24	A203/B/HR034/15	L	N. 17107.210	E. -17819.514
25	A211/C/HR001/15	L	N. 17106.860	E. -17818.429
26	A212/C/HR002/15	L	N. 17106.368	E. -17817.394
27	A213/C/HR003/15	L	N. 17106.024	E. -17816.326
28	A214/B/HR004/15	L	N. 17105.691	E. -17815.182
29	A215/B/HR005/15	I	N. 17105.239	E. -17814.159
30	A216/C/HR006/15	L	N. 17104.918	E. -17813.097
31	A217/C/HR007/15	L	N. 17104.441	E. -17812.123
32	A218/C/HR008/15	L	N. 17104.063	E. -17811.054
33	A219/C/HR009/15	L	N. 17103.723	E. -17810.005
34	A220/C/HR010/15	L	N. 17109.329	E. -17831.646
35	A221/C/HR011/15	L	N. 17108.851	E. -17830.616
36	A222/C/HR012/15	L	N. 17108.359	E. -17829.675
37	A223/C/HR013/15	L	N. 17107.892	E. -17828.590
38	A225/D/HR001/15	L	N. 17107.478	E. -17827.628
39	A226/D/HR002/15	L	N. 17107.108	E. -17826.545
40	A227/D/HR003/15	L	N. 17106.807	E. -17825.703
41	A229/D/HR005/15	L	N. 17106.508	E. -17824.743
42	A228/D/HR004/15	L	N. 17105.892	E. -17823.744
43	A230/D/HR006/15	L	N. 17105.699	E. -17822.709
44	A231/D/HR007/15	L	N. 17105.304	E. -17821.685
45	A232/D/HR008/15	L	N. 17104.887	E. -17820.613
46	A233/D/HR009/15	L	N. 17104.487	E. -17819.548
94	A239/D/HR015/15	P	N. 17105.194	E. -17849.150



# FROM EXHUMATION TO TEMPORARY CONTROL BURIAL



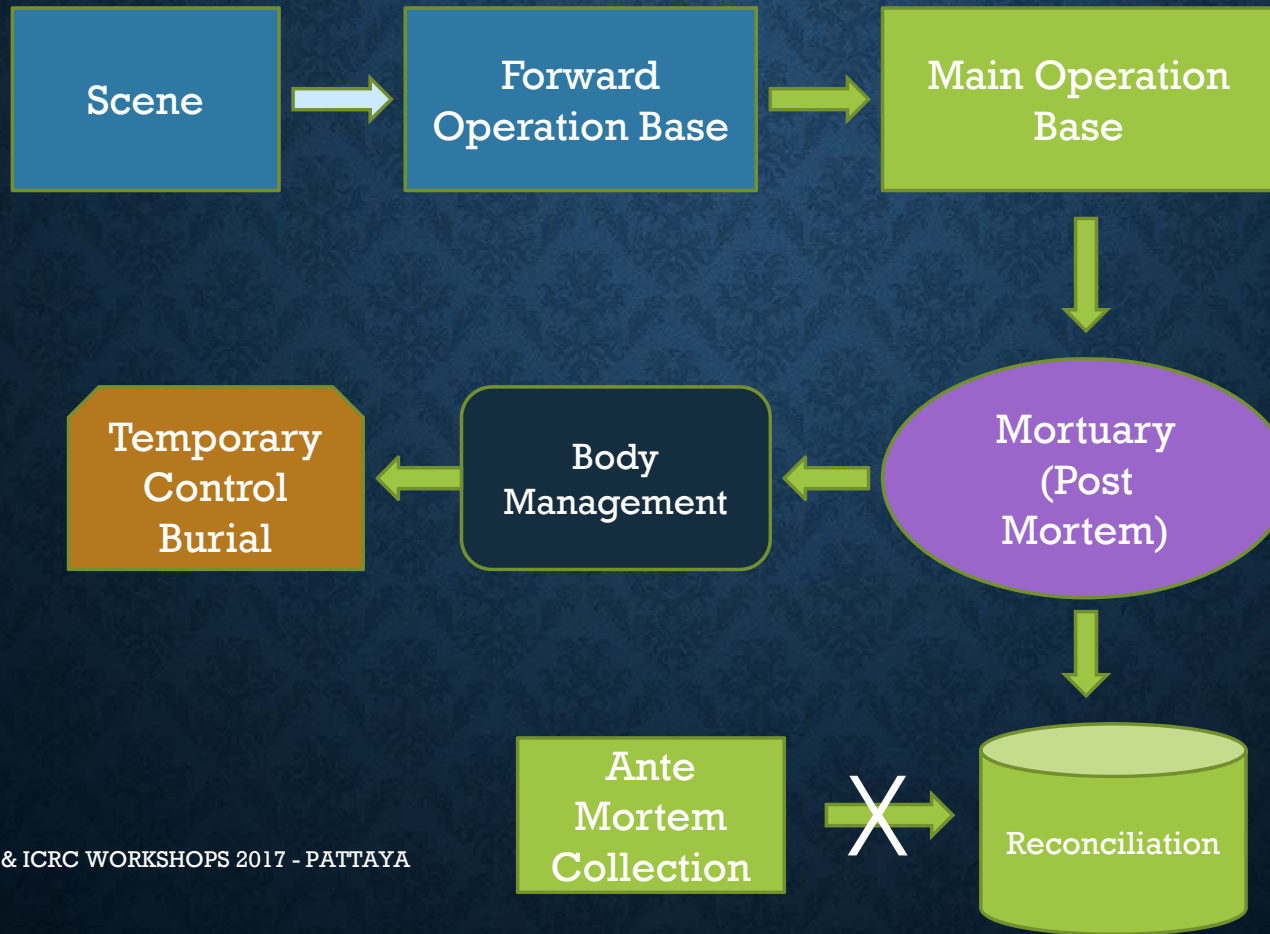




5. PENGENDALIAN ALIEN  
6. PENGENDALIAN MAYAT  
BODY  
7. BERSIH SASAT (POST-  
MORTEM) DAN PENGENDALIAN PE  
POST-MORTEM  
8. BEDAH SASAT UNTUK  
PENYAKIT BERLANGKAIT  
9. PENGENDALIAN SPESIM  
10. PEMINDAHAN MAYAT KE  
SIMPANAN SEMENTARA  
11. PENYERAHAN MAYAT LI  
PROSESSING-BODIES)  
12. PEMINDAHAN MAYAT KE  
SIMPANAN ORGAN IT  
13. PEMINDAHAN MAYAT KE  
SIMPANAN MAYAT



# FLOW CHART OF DVI OPERATION





## OUTCOME OF POLICE INVESTIGATION

- Case investigated under Section 26A Anti-Trafficking In Persons And Anti-Smuggling Of Migrants Act 2007 (Act 670).
- Illegal immigrants were smuggled through an agent using boats in international waters and then sailed to Thailand.
- Victims were transported from sea by smaller boats and cars to the Thailand-Malaysia border.
- Victims were placed in temporary shelter/camp located in Malaysia territory which was fully surrounded by barbed wire and guard posts.
- All victims were separated by gender and split into small groups.

- Victims were required to provide the contact numbers of their family, relatives or friends in their home country or in Malaysia to make a payment between RM 6000 – RM 8000 per person as payment for their release.
- Victims that could afford the payment were released.



## Nation

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Tuesday, 10 May 2016

### Four charged with trafficking Illegals brought to court in connection with human-trafficking camps

BY [CAVINA LIM](#)





# ISSUES AND CHALLENGES

- 1. Communication, cooperation and coordination**
- 2. Dealing with multi-agencies and expertise**
- 3. National DVI Team – formalise**
- 4. Preparedness – Capacity and Capability**
- 5. Logistics support**
- 6. Search and rescue vs search and recover**
- 7. Legal aspect of Death Investigation**
- 8. Training for First Responders**
- 9. SOP's and guidelines – harmonisation**
- 10. Unidentified victims – what to do**





Wang Kelian become a ghost town after the discovery of mass graves of illegal immigrants in nearby Bukit Burma two years ago. Pix by Azhar Ramli



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## Forensic Anthropology Population Data

### The clandestine multiple graves in Malaysia: The first mass identification operation of human skeletal remains

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Commingled

#### ABSTRACT

The first ever mass identification operation of skeletal remains conducted for the clandestine graves in Malaysia consisted of 165 individuals unearthed from 28 human trafficking transit camps located in Wang Kelian, along the Thai-Malaysia border. A DVI response was triggered in which expert teams comprising of pathologists, anthropologists, odontologists, radiologists and DNA experts were gathered at the identified operation centre. The Department of Forensic Medicine, Hospital Sultanah Bahiyah, Alor Star, Kedah, located approximately 75 km away from Wang Kelian, was temporarily converted into a victim identification centre (VIC) as it is the nearest available forensic facility to the mass grave site. The mortuary operation was conducted over a period of 3 months from June to September 2015, and was divided into two phases: phase 1 involving the postmortem examination of the remains of 116 suspected



**“FAIL TO PREPARE.....  
.....BE PREPARED TO FAIL”**

**Thank you  
for your kind attention**

