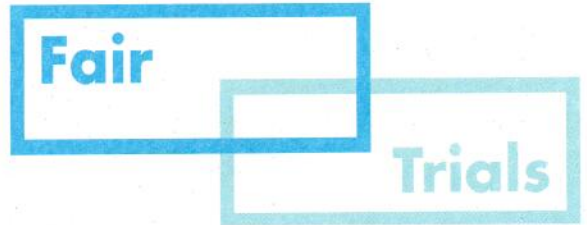


Prof. Dr. Jürgen Stock, Secretary-General  
General Secretariat, INTERPOL  
200 Quai Charles de Gaulle  
69006 Lyon  
France



25 August 2015

Dear Secretary-General,

**Re: request for clarification regarding the case of Clare Rewcastle Brown**

I write regarding the case of Ms Clare Rewcastle Brown, with whom Fair Trials is in contact. I believe that it is in INTERPOL's interests to clarify its involvement in this case, if any, and invite you to do so.

As you may know, Ms Rewcastle Brown is a British journalist whose publication *Sarawak Report* alleged the diversion of some USD 700m into the personal accounts of the Prime Minister of Malaysia. News reports indicate that Ms Rewcastle Brown, who was recently given police protection in the UK after being photographed and followed in London, is subject to an arrest warrant in Malaysia (see the Royal Malaysia Police press statement enclosed) for alleged 'activity detrimental to parliamentary democracy'. The whistleblowing website *Sarawak Report*, through which she published the report, has been blocked within Malaysia.

I understand from press reports that Malaysian authorities have made a request for a Red Notice against Ms Rewcastle Brown through INTERPOL's systems, and assume that this is currently under consideration by INTERPOL. I note, with particular concern, one article stating that "Federal police are confident of [INTERPOL]'s cooperation following discussions between Inspector-General of Police Tan Sri Khalid Abu Bakar and [INTERPOL] Secretary-General Jürgen Stock during the ASEAN police chiefs meeting in Jakarta, Indonesia this week" (I enclose a copy of this article).

Fair Trials has noted INTERPOL's 'firm commitment to the rules set out in its constitution', and welcomed the recent steps taken to create a more transparent rules-based approach, notably in relation to recognised refugees and the reported development of guidance on human rights issues. Given this, I have no doubt that the article mentioned above has drawn inappropriate inferences.

However, as you will appreciate, stories like these inform perceptions of INTERPOL and cause considerable personal concern for the individuals affected. Any attempted use of INTERPOL's systems as a way of restricting the freedom of the media is, of course, a matter of grave concern. It is however particularly worrying that, in a case of that nature, the requesting country should refer to conversations with you as Secretary-General (outside of INTERPOL's formal review processes) as enhancing the prospects of INTERPOL cooperating with a Red Notice request. It suggests that contacts and diplomacy play a more important part in INTERPOL's decision-making process than the rules.

Against that background, I would urge you to clarify INTERPOL's involvement in this case and explain the approach it will follow in the assessment of any Red Notice request against Ms Rewcastle Brown. I look forward to hearing from you and, as ever, to continuing our constructive dialogue.

Yours sincerely,

PP Jago Russell  
Chief Executive, Fair Trials

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## Interpol alert for Clare Rewcastle Brown in 190 countries



Malaysia's warrant of arrest for Clare Rewcastle Brown has put her on Interpol's Person of Interest list — TRP

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**KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 7, 2015:**

Clare Rewcastle Brown, an alleged participant in a conspiracy to disparage Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak and his administration, is now Malaysia's person-of-interest (POI) with law enforcement agencies in 190 countries.

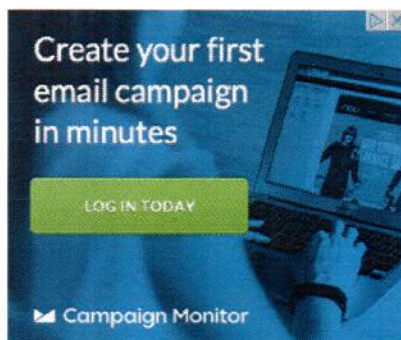
It's at their discretion if she is allowed entry into these Interpol member countries.

Furthermore, it would be also their decision, too, if they decide to take her into custody acting on the warrant of arrest secured by Malaysian police.

In most instances, legal sources disclosed that these border authorities would exercise their discretion to deem the individual persona non grata at air, land and sea entry points.

This POI status came about after federal police headquarters uploaded her particulars over the Interpol website accessible to members worldwide in recent days.





The warrant was issued by a Kuala Lumpur court after police justified her alleged involvement in this political conspiracy beyond a reasonable doubt in their application.

To queries about how UK authorities would treat the Malaysia warrant of arrest, a spokesperson for the British High Commission here said: "We are aware of the matter. We do not comment on individual cases."

"This POI status is the first phase of the Interpol move," a source disclosed.

The second phase would be when the Lyon-based International police coalition would then convene a panel to decide what status would Rewcastle Brown be categorised, and there is a strong possibility she would come under a "Red Notice Alert" category.

Federal police are confident of Interpol's cooperation following discussions between Inspector-General of Police Tan Sri Khalid Abu Bakar and Interpol secretary-general Jurgen Stock during the Asean police chiefs meeting in Jakarta, Indonesia this week.

While Rewcastle Brown remains a POI, the Attorney-Generals Chambers, through Wisma Putra, is expected to liaise with UK's Crown Prosecution Service to execute the arrest warrant.

"Police can seek mutual legal understanding for criminal matters for the CPS to make the application at courts there."

During the court proceedings in London, Rewcastle Brown can engage a lawyer to defend the extradition application.

"It may seem to be a long-drawn process but these are procedures which authorities have to adhere to."

Citing an example, the legal source said Malaysia authorities are still awaiting approval from Vietnam to extradite eight suspects linked to the *MT Orkim Harmony* tanker hijacking in June.

The tanker was laden with 6,000 metric tons of petrol, worth RM21 million when it was reported missing while enroute to Kuantan from Malacca on June 11.

The hijackers made their getaway from the tanker, but were detained by Vietnam authorities near Tho Chu Island, South Vietnam on June 19.

Last month, Malaysia Maritime Enforcement Agency officials went to Hanoi to oversee requirements relating to the extradition of the eight suspects to be prosecuted in Malaysia.

Despite being able to produce finger prints, DNA results of the suspects, voice analysis from cellular phones and satellite communications, they still have to await a final decision from the Vietnam authorities.

In unrelated case, a suspected terrorist, believed to be Iranian, still remains behind bars in Malaysia pending final disposal of his extradition hearing here based on a Thai application.

The said individual was one of three linked to the Valentine Day bombings in Bangkok, Thailand three years ago.

The suspect was arrested in Kuala Lumpur and detained under the Immigration Act for terrorism acts in Bangkok, Thailand. Two others sought were detained in Bangkok.

One was nabbed when trying to board a flight out of the international airport, while the other was a casualty when he had both legs blown off when he hurled a hand grenade at police, only to find it bounce back.



# **ROYAL MALAYSIA POLICE**

## **PRESS STATEMENT**

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### **PRESS STATEMENT BY THE DIRECTOR OF CRIME INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT**

#### **ARREST WARRANT AGAINST CLARE REWCASTLE BROWN**

WE HAVE SUCCESSFULLY OBTAINED A WARRANT OF ARREST FROM THE KUALA LUMPUR COURT AGAINST CLARE REWCASTLE BROWN, FOUNDER AND EDITOR OF THE SARAWAK REPORT FOR OFFENCES UNDER SECTION 124B AND 124 I OF THE PENAL CODE.

WE WILL PROCEED WITH THE APPLICATIONS TO PLACE HER ON THE ASEANAPOL WANTED LIST AS WELL AS THE INTERPOL RED NOTICE.

( DATUK SERI MOHMAD BIN SALLEH ) CP  
DIRECTOR OF CRIME INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT  
ROYAL MALAYSIA POLICE

-END-

( Released On 4 AUGUST 2015, at 7.00 pm )