



INTERPOL

EDITION 2026/1



DVI Newsletter

DISASTER VICTIM IDENTIFICATION

GENERAL INFORMATION

This newsletter is produced four times a year by the INTERPOL DVI Unit and provides an overview of the activities and developments of the previous three months in the field of Disaster Victim Identification (DVI). This newsletter provides an update on the most recent DVI Working Group meeting and the upcoming DVI Conference. It

also includes important changes within the DVI Unit, as well as information on the INTERPOL DVI Training.

If you also would like to share information of relevance to the DVI community, please send a request to the e-mail address at the end of this newsletter.



SPECIAL EDITION NEWSLETTER

In November 2025, a special edition of the DVI Newsletter was published. It was entirely dedicated to the successful meeting of the DVI Working Group, which was held in Madrid, Spain from 4 to 6 November. This meeting of the working group was particularly significant, as it was the 50th gathering since its inception. The meeting's agenda was comprehensive, covering nearly 30 topics, including regular updates from member countries and the four Sub-

working groups. Substantively, extensive discussions focused on the value of facial comparison in DVI, the role of DVI in identifying severely injured (and non-self-identifiable) victims, and the necessity of implementing robust health protocols for both DVI personnel and bereaved families.

The special edition of this Newsletter is still available on request.



UPCOMING DVI CONFERENCE

The 35th DVI conference will be held in the INTERPOL Headquarters from 2 to 4 June 2026. More than 200 DVI colleagues from around the world are expected to gather in Lyon, France. The program will again feature a great mix of new developments, improvements, and field experiences. Prior to and following the conference, the DVI working group, as well as the four scientific Sub-

working groups, will also meet. There's been tremendous interest in the conference — spots are filling up fast! Don't miss your chance to join us. If you are interested in participating, please reach out to your national NCB, a member of the DVI (Sub)-working group, or your national DVI team.



Workshop DVI Sweden

On March 12, the DVI Unit delivered an interactive workshop for the management team of DVI Sweden. Four modules from the comprehensive INTERPOL DVI training curriculum (see elsewhere in this newsletter) were presented in close consultation with the participants. Special attention was also given to the updated Quick Scan

procedure — details of which will be shared in a forthcoming update. The modules covered:

- ✓ DVI in an international context
- ✓ DVI management
- ✓ Mental welfare for DVI officers
- ✓ Reconciliation and ID Board procedures





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PERSONNEL CHANGES DVI UNIT

After more than seven years of dedicated service in the INTERPOL DVI Unit, Eckhard Klemp will retire on 1 July 2026. Throughout his tenure, he was responsible for all operational activities, including the organization of the annual DVI Conference and working group meetings. On behalf of the DVI community, we extend our heartfelt thanks for his unwavering commitment and invaluable contributions.

In the months preceding his departure, a selection process was carried out to

fill the vital role Eckhard held. We are pleased and proud to announce that Annegret DAMJANOWA has been appointed to this position. She joins us from the German Police, bringing extensive experience gained through her work with Police and DVI team.

With her arrival, the Unit is once again fully staffed and equipped to support the global DVI community with professionalism, continuity, and expertise.

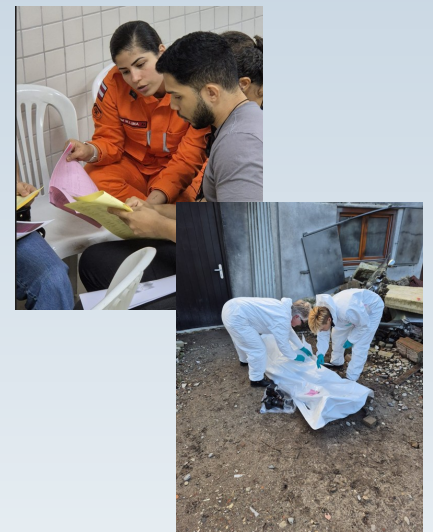


INTERPOL DVI TRAINING

Over the last two and a half years, INTERPOL has offered its own dedicated DVI training programme. Through 11 structured modules, participants are guided through every step of the identification process, equipping them to operate as fully qualified, all-round DVI officers within national teams. The training is delivered by two highly experienced instructors, thereby ensuring a direct and continuous link between theory and practice. In addition, many modules include advanced components tailored specifically for senior DVI officers and DVI commanders. The programme is fully aligned

with INTERPOL DVI standards and uses standardized procedures and forms throughout. This is not a classroom-only course—it is a hands-on programme featuring practical exercises that allow participants to immediately apply what they have learned. The training is open to DVI teams and relevant organizations worldwide.

Looking to strengthen your DVI team with both expertise and practical skills? Contact the INTERPOL DVI Unit for further information.



UPCOMING WORKING GROUP AND SUB-WORKING GROUP MEETINGS

As usual, meetings of the DVI working group and its Sub-groups will take place before and during the annual DVI conference. The subgroups will hold their first meeting on the morning of Monday, 1 June, and the main working group will convene in the afternoon. On the first day of the conference (2 June), breakout sessions will be organized for the Sub-groups. Additionally, a special meeting

will be held for non-scientific law enforcement (police) participants. Following the conference, the working group will conclude its week's activities on the afternoon of 4 June. All formal members of these groups will receive detailed information about the agenda and organization from their respective chairpersons.

