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Multi-Agency Synopsis of Mandates and Research Activities Related to Combating Human Trafficking



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Introduction

The purpose of the document is to provide a synopsis of mandates and research activities of international organizations which work in the field of preventing and combating trafficking in human beings on a global level.

Prepared on the occasion of the Vienna Forum from 13 to 15 February 2008 under the United Nations Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking (UN.GIFT), the synopsis devotes one chapter to each international organization or entity.

Each chapter is structured under the following subheadings:

- Mandate and main activities related to human trafficking;
- Human trafficking research and data collection initiatives and activities;
- Focal points on anti-trafficking research and other activities.

Launched in March 2007, UN.GIFT aims to mobilize state and non-state actors to eradicate human trafficking by:

- Reducing both the vulnerability of potential victims and the demand for exploitation in all its forms;
- Ensuring adequate protection and support to those who do fall victim; and
- Supporting the efficient prosecution of the criminals involved, while respecting the fundamental human rights of all persons.

In carrying out its mission, UN.GIFT will increase the knowledge and awareness on human trafficking; promote effective rights-based responses; build capacity of state and non-state actors; and foster partnerships for joint action against human trafficking.

Coordination, partnership and teamwork are crucial to take the fight against human trafficking to new levels. There are already many important ongoing efforts by various stakeholders, which UN.GIFT aims to harness and combine by providing a framework for coherent action.

In this regard, this synopsis serves to facilitate informed discussions among the participants of the UN.GIFT Vienna Forum to Fight Human Trafficking.

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)

Mandate and main activities related to human trafficking

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) is a global leader in the fight against illicit drugs and international crime. Established in 1997, the mission of the UNODC is to contribute to the achievement of security and justice for all by making the world safer from crime, drugs and terrorism.

In 2000, the United Nations Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children (“Trafficking Protocol”), supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (“UNTOC”), provided the first internationally accepted definition of trafficking in persons, and remains the primary international legal instrument addressing human trafficking as a crime. The Trafficking Protocol emphasizes the need to balance criminal justice concerns with the protection and assistance of victims of human trafficking. This comprehensive approach sets the legal and conceptual framework for UNODC’s anti-trafficking activities.

As the custodian of the Trafficking Protocol and the Secretariat to the Conference of the States Parties to UNTOC and its three supplementing Protocols, UNODC assists States in their efforts to combat trafficking in human beings (THB) through the Global Programme against Trafficking in Human Beings (GPAT).

United Nations Global Programme against Trafficking in Human Beings (GPAT)

UNODC, in conjunction with the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI), launched the Global Programme Against Trafficking in Human Beings (GPAT) in March 1999. GPAT assists countries to identify the causes and processes of trafficking in human beings, and to develop effective, ongoing responses to the realities faced by individuals victimized by this crime globally.

Through GPAT, UNODC currently provides technical assistance to more than 60 countries. National and regional assistance projects are tailored to local needs, with the following core goals:

- To assist countries in ratifying and adopting legal frameworks in compliance with the provisions and international standard of the Trafficking Protocol;

- To assist countries in strengthening the institutional capacity and human resources of their national criminal justice systems to effectively prevent, investigate, prosecute and adjudicate cases of human trafficking, as well as to effectively support and protect victims and witnesses, based on close cooperation between criminal justice institutions and NGOs;
- To foster bilateral and multilateral cooperation between countries and their respective criminal justice actors, in order to strengthen the international criminal justice response to human trafficking;
- To collect and analyse data in order to facilitate evidence-based criminal justice policy and action at the global, regional and national level;
- In close cooperation with civil society actors, to assist countries in developing and implementing tailor-made awareness-raising campaigns to increase the general public's alertness on the dangers of human trafficking.

Trafficking research and data collection initiatives and activities

Raising awareness as well as improving evidence-based policy development, implementation and practical action are the overarching objectives of UNODC's research activities in the field of human trafficking. In particular, UNODC focuses its data collection and analysis efforts on the crime-related aspects of human trafficking, on assessing the criminal justice response to it, and on advancing standardized, yet adaptable research methodologies and tools.

In 2002, UNODC/GPAT established a the Trafficking Database on flows of trafficking in human beings. This database aimed to systematically collect open source information on trafficking in human beings in order to collate and publicize reported information that identifies international human trafficking routes, origin and transit and destination countries, and to shed light on the demographics of trafficked victims and offenders. Covering the period from 1996 to 2003, the Trafficking Database includes publicly available information from 113 different individual source institutions that provided information on human trafficking, involving 161 countries and special administrative territories. These source institutions, with international, regional and national affiliations, have produced reports, books, journal articles and newspaper reports on trafficking cases and patterns, detailing thousands of episodes of human trafficking worldwide. From the open source information, a total of 4,950 accounts of trafficking in human beings were entered into this database.

Based on the analysis of this data, in April 2006 UNODC published the report "Trafficking in Persons: Global Patterns". Mapping out the flows of human trafficking, the report identifies the main reported patterns of the trafficking in human beings at the national, regio-

nal and global levels, including the relationship between origin, transit and destination countries, subregions and regions. The report shows that human trafficking occurs to some extent in most countries, and, in some cases, to a very significant degree. This report is available on the UNODC website:

www.unodc.org/unodc/en/human-trafficking/publications.html.

UNODC also conducts regional research activities. For example, UNODC published the regional report, “Measures to combat trafficking in human beings in Benin, Nigeria and Togo”, in September 2006. The report aims to improve the level of information available on trafficking in human beings within, to and from Benin, Nigeria and Togo, and identifies measures to strengthen action to counter the crime.

Research elements included an assessment of trafficking flows and the current governmental and non-governmental responses to the problem. For this purpose, questionnaires were developed to obtain information from personnel of the following agencies and groups: (a) law enforcement; (b) immigration; (c) prosecution service; (d) the International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol); (e) magistrates and judges; (f) embassies/consulates; (g) non-governmental organizations; (h) government departments and ministries; (i) adult victims; and (j) child victims. To facilitate comparisons between States, an attempt was made to introduce standard research tools for conducting interviews with government and non-governmental organizations as well as victims. This report is available on the UNODC website:

www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/ht_research_report_nigeria.pdf.

At the national level, UNODC usually undertakes research in the context of its assistance work to inform any specific activities undertaken. Broad-based research, for example, has been carried out and published in cooperation with UNICRI on the situation of trafficking in human beings in Benin, Brazil, the Czech Republic, Lebanon, Nigeria, the Philippines, Poland, Romania and Togo. As part of this research, various instruments have been designed to systematize and detail different aspects of both the trafficking that occurs and the national counter-trafficking efforts in response. Other research targets key sub-issues such as UNODC’s assessment of how victims are identified and assisted in Moldova, published in February 2007, to support the development of a national referral mechanism in the country [www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Moldova_Assmt_May07.pdf]. Through late 2007 and early 2008, UNODC research in a number of countries in Central America will assess the judicial, institutional, operational, financial and human resource capacities in the criminal justice sector to tackle human trafficking to support the development of national and regional task forces.

For further information, please contact our national and regional offices. Contact details are posted on the UNODC website at www.unodc.org.

Most recently, under the umbrella of UNGIFT, UNODC launched a global assessment effort to deepen the understanding of national responses to human trafficking. The

research will result in a report providing an overview of national responses to human trafficking, the available data and possible information gaps. In particular, the data collection will focus on: (a) the legal and institutional framework; (b) the criminal justice response to human trafficking and (c) the services provided to victims of human trafficking.

The research will have a global coverage. It will make use of a delocalized structure of regional focal points in charge of identifying and inquiring the sources of human trafficking information for all the countries under study. A report structured into regional sections will be tentatively published by the end of 2008.

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International Organization for Migration (IOM)

Mandate and main activities related to human trafficking

Established in 1951, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) is the leading intergovernmental organization in the field of migration, and works closely with governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental partners. With 120 member States, a further 20 States holding observer status and present in over 340 field locations, IOM is dedicated to promoting humane and orderly migration for the benefit of all.

IOM has been working actively to counter trafficking in human beings since 1997. The Organization has implemented almost 500 projects in 85 countries since then, and has provided direct assistance to approximately 15,000 persons.¹ IOM's primary aims are to prevent trafficking in human beings and protect its victims while offering them options of safe and sustainable reintegration and/or return.

Counter-trafficking: our vision

To fight against exploitation of migrants in all its forms, especially the severe human rights violations suffered by trafficked persons.

Building on our individual commitment and global presence, we strengthen the capacities of our partners in government and civil society and set operational standards to achieve sustainable results that will:

- Provide protection and empower trafficked women, men, girls and boys
- Raise awareness and understanding of the issue
- Bring justice to trafficked persons

¹Please see *The IOM Handbook on Direct Assistance for Victims of Trafficking* (2007). This Handbook provides guidance and advice necessary to effectively deliver a full range of assistance to victims of trafficking from the point of initial contact and screening to the effective social reintegration of the individuals concerned.

IOM carries out information campaigns in destination, transit and source countries to, inter alia, promote respect for the rights of migrants, counter xenophobia, encourage safe migration as well as equip vulnerable populations with the information necessary to protect themselves from the recruitment tactics of traffickers and educate the general public about trafficking in persons. Mass media ensures that the information quickly reaches large sections of the population, while IOM uses small media, such as community theatre, posters, and interpersonal communicative methods to sensitize particular populations with more sophisticated messages.

IOM's technical cooperation activities build the capacity of both government and civil society institutions to better address the challenges posed by human trafficking. This includes the training of non-governmental organizations and government officials, such as police and prosecutors, technical support in the development of policies and procedures, and infrastructural upgrades.

IOM offers direct assistance to victims of trafficking in collaboration with its partners. This includes accommodation in places of safety, medical and psychosocial support, skills development and vocational training, reintegration assistance, and the options of voluntary and dignified return to the country of origin, or resettlement to a third country in extreme cases.

All IOM counter-trafficking activities are developed and implemented within a framework centred on the human rights and well-being of the trafficked person.

Human trafficking research and data collection initiatives and activities

Human trafficking research publications

IOM conducts both quantitative and qualitative research on human trafficking to better inform its own work and the work of others. Specific areas of focus have included: human trafficking routes and trends; the causes and consequences of human trafficking, both for the individual trafficked person and for society at large; the issue of demand;² and the structures, motivations and modus operandi of traffickers and organized criminal groups. IOM has also done considerable research in the areas of legislation and policy. While much of its research work has been carried out at the national level,³ the Organization increasingly conducts research of human trafficking at the regional level⁴ and supports cooperation between States in combating cross-border manifestations of this trade in human beings.

²Please see *Migration Research Series (MRS) 15: Is Trafficking in Human Beings Demand Driven? A Multi-Country Pilot Study* (2013).

³Please see *Out of Sight, Out of Mind? Child Domestic Workers and Patterns of Trafficking in Cambodia* (2007); *MRS 29: Trafficking in Human Beings and the 2006 World Cup in Germany* (2007).

⁴Please see *MRS 23: Migration, Human Smuggling and Trafficking from Nigeria to Europe* (2006); *Second Annual Report on Victims of Trafficking in South-Eastern Europe* (2005); *Fertile Fields: Trafficking in Persons in Central Asia* (2005).

Over the last decade there has been a tremendous increase in research on trafficking in response to growing worldwide concern about the problem. *Data and research on human trafficking: A global survey (2005)* provides a synthesis and analysis of the main types of research on trafficking in different parts of the world. It includes papers from more than a dozen experts, which were first discussed at an international conference held in Rome, 2004 and sponsored by the Italian Government.

In 2005, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) member countries commissioned IOM to conduct a pilot research project to identify best practices in data collection on trafficking, and to prepare a situation report on data collection by government agencies in four ASEAN member countries (Cambodia, Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand). The recently published *ASEAN and Trafficking in Persons: Using Data as a Tool to Combat Trafficking in Persons (2007)* presents the findings of this research and reflects the work of four national research teams based in Phnom Penh, Jakarta, Manila and Bangkok.

The IOM Global Victim-Centred Database:

Since 2000, the IOM has collected data on victims of trafficking who have been assisted through the Organization's counter-trafficking programmes. The IOM Counter Trafficking Module (CTM) database is a unique tool that facilitates the management of assistance, voluntary return and reintegration activities for victims of trafficking, and strengthens the research capacity and understanding of the causes, processes, trends and consequences of trafficking. The functions of CTM are manifold. It stores information collected from assisted victims, thus enhancing understanding of their background, trafficking experience and needs in terms of assistance. Concurrently, it is a tool that ensures effective coordination between IOM missions on individual cases, tracks activities, as well as monitors and evaluates programme effectiveness. It serves as a knowledge bank from which statistics and detailed reports can be drawn, informing research, programme development and policymaking on counter trafficking. It is a standardized tool available to all IOM missions and to those that run CT assistance programmes in particular. Most importantly, the CTM database is the world's largest database containing only primary human trafficking data.

In 2008, IOM will publish a number of reports that form part of the CTM Thematic Research Series. Drawing upon non-personal data held within the CTM, the series will specifically address the issues of re-trafficking, trafficking and social exclusion, the trafficking of males, and traffickers and organized crime. A number of country and regional reports will also be published in 2008. All documents will be available at www.iom.int.

IOM publications including the Migration Research Series (MRS) can be found in the *IOM Publications Catalogue 2007*. Further information on IOM research activities, including counter trafficking projects, can be found in the *IOM Research Compendium 2005-2007*. Both are also available on IOM's Publications page at www.iom.int.

Current activities

- Through the global database (CTM), IOM is actively working towards the setting of best practices for the secure collection, storage and processing of standardized and comparable data on human trafficking.
- IOM, in collaboration with UNODC and the International Labour Organization (ILO), were organizing an experts group meeting, Developing New Approaches to the Study of Human Trafficking, which was held in Cairo on 11 and 12 January 2008, as a research initiative funded by UN.GIFT.

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International Labour Organization (ILO)

Mandate and main activities related to human trafficking

The International Labour Organization (ILO) brings together governments, employers and workers from its 181 member states in common action to promote decent work and workers' rights, including action against forced labour, child labour and human trafficking. Guided by its Forced Labour Convention (No. 29), Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention (No. 182) and the Palermo Protocol, ILO works towards the effective elimination of trafficking in human beings, with a particular focus on the labour dimensions. ILO's Committee of Experts monitors compliance of member states with ILO Conventions. In addition, technical assistance is offered to member states through ILO's International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC), the Special Action Programme against Forced Labour (SAP-FL) and the International Migration Programme. Currently, ILO implements 28 anti-trafficking projects around the world, some in collaboration with other United Nations or international agencies.

Since their inception, these programmes have successfully:

- Raised global awareness and understanding of modern forced labour, child labour and trafficking;
- Assisted governments to develop and implement new laws, policies and action plans;
- Developed and disseminated guidance and training materials on key aspects of forced labour, child labour and trafficking;
- Implemented targeted, field-based projects to prevent trafficking related to forced and child labour, as well as to identify and rehabilitate trafficked persons.

Human trafficking research and data collection initiatives and activities

In 2005, ILO estimated for the first time in its history that at least 12.3 million people are in forced labour around the world, and that 2.4 million are victims of human trafficking. Almost half of the trafficked victims are children. According to the estimate, forced commercial sexual exploitation affects 1.4 million people, mostly girls and women. Asia has the highest number of estimated victims (1.36 million), followed by industrial countries (270,000), Latin America (250,000), the Middle East and North Africa (230,000), transition countries (200,000) and sub-Saharan Africa (130,000). In the absence of robust

country figures, the estimate was calculated by a methodology involving a double sampling of reported cases. The global estimate was also used to calculate profits generated from trafficking that amount to \$US 32 billion annually. ILO also conducts qualitative research on a wide range of trafficking-related subjects, such as factors of vulnerability and demand, root causes and economic sectors at risk.

ILO global estimates have been widely quoted in the media and have helped to raise global awareness. The global figures have also been used to draw attention to the urgency of developing more reliable statistics at the national level, providing guidance to policy-makers as well as benchmarks for measuring progress over time. The Special Action Programme to combat Slave Labour (SAP-FL) has now embarked on a number of country-specific statistical research programmes, often in close collaboration with national bureaus of statistics, in order to test national surveys on forced labour and trafficking. To the extent possible, they will be linked to national labour force surveys. ILO emphasizes national ownership and seeks to promote sustainability, so that in the future, national estimates can be replicated by national stakeholders without ILO involvement. Experience to date shows that producing national estimates is not only a technical challenge, but also a political process.

IPEC's Statistical Information Monitoring Programme on Child Labour (SIMPOC) includes research-based studies on child trafficking and other worst forms of child labour in select countries and the development of statistical methodology to derive reliable national-level estimates of children in these forms. IPEC/SIMPOC has also provided technical support to estimate migrants at risk of trafficking in studies of migration on the Thailand-Lao People's Democratic Republic border, and of the movement of young women among selected provinces within China.

In addition to country-level technical cooperation, ILO continues to maintain a global database related to country-level information, such as ratified ILO conventions and other international instruments, national action plans, routes of trafficking and reported forms of forced labour. Furthermore, the database contains information about trends in media reporting on different forms of forced labour, child labour and human trafficking, in different geographical regions.

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United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM)

Mandate of UNIFEM and main activities related to anti-trafficking

The United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) was established in 1984 by General Assembly (GA) Resolution 39/125. GA Resolution 50/166 mandated UNIFEM “to strengthen its activities to eliminate violence against women as part of system-wide efforts of the United Nations towards this goal, in accordance with the measures set out in the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action and the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women and focusing on activities (...) at the national and community levels.”

UNIFEM provides financial and technical assistance to innovative programmes and strategies to foster women's empowerment and gender equality. Placing the advancement of women's human rights at the centre of all of its efforts, UNIFEM's work focuses its activities on four strategic areas: reducing feminized poverty, ending violence against women, reversing the spread of HIV/AIDS among women and girls, and achieving gender equality in democratic governance in times of peace as well as war. UNIFEM plays a catalytic role in connecting micro-level issues and macro-level policies through supporting women in making their voices heard at the policy level and advocating for changes in laws and policies.

“Fighting gender-based violence is a major concern for UNIFEM, because violence against women is a universal problem and one of the most widespread violations of human rights. One in three women will suffer some form of violence in her lifetime, becoming part of an epidemic that devastates lives, fractures communities and stalls development. Despite some progress on this issue over the past decade, its horrendous scale remains mostly unacknowledged. New dimensions include the global trafficking of women and girls.”

Source: Ending Violence Against Women, www.unifem.org

UNIFEM's anti-trafficking work is positioned within the broader framework of violence against women, focusing on a women's human rights approach and women's empowerment. UNIFEM advocates and lobbies governments to support the adoption and implementation of laws, policies and action plans; enhances the capacity of government and civil society partners; facilitates and strengthens multi-stakeholder anti-trafficking alliances and networks; and strengthens the knowledge base on trafficking through legal analysis, qualitative and quantitative research and documenting promising practices.

UNIFEM also facilitated the formation of the National Legal Professionals' Colloquium,⁵ a national network of legal professionals working on violence, trafficking and HIV/AIDS, and towards engendering legal and courtroom proceedings in India and the interfaith leaders' network in India, Nepal and Bangladesh.⁶ Capacity development activities supported by UNIFEM in South Asia have focused on institutionalizing gender sensitivity in the training curricula of the police and judiciary, and on integrating a focus on mental health in the training of service providers. At the regional level, UNIFEM has provided support for recommendations to widen the scope of the SAARC (South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation) Convention on Trafficking, to broaden its definition of trafficking and ensure a rights-based response to survivors. Following the Convention's ratification by SAARC countries, UNIFEM has been supporting the Government of India to draft the Common Standard Operating Procedures to facilitate regional implementation of the Convention.

Examples of UNIFEM's work on anti-trafficking in other regions include South-East Asia, where UNIFEM is a member of and functions as a technical adviser on gender and human rights to the United Nations Inter-Agency Project on Human Trafficking in the Greater Mekong Subregion (UNIAP), established in June 2000 to facilitate a stronger and more coordinated response to human trafficking in the Greater Mekong Subregion (Cambodia, China, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam). In 2006, UNIFEM worked with partners supporting the inclusion of provisions to protect women migrant workers in the drafting of a provincial anti-trafficking law in Indonesia.

Research and data collection initiatives supported by UNIFEM

Research and data collection initiatives recently supported by UNIFEM, in particular in South Asia, have focused on analyses of national law and policy frameworks as well as research and data collection on trends and root causes of trafficking in women. Selected works include: Analysis of the Laws Related to Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation against Women and Children in Bangladesh - Bangladesh National Women Lawyers Association (BNWLA), 2004; Traffic in persons for commercial sexual exploitation: Legislation, role and effectiveness of the law enforcement and law adjudication machinery—Lawyers' Collective, India, 2003; Effectiveness of Existing Laws and Institutional Mechanism to Combat Trafficking in Women and Children in Nepal—Forum for Women, Law and Development (FWLD), 2002; Trafficking in Women and Children in India: An Action Research by National Human Rights Commission, Institute of Social Science and UNIFEM, 2005; Study on Female Trafficking—MARGA, Sri Lanka, 2004; Trafficking in

⁵There are more than 100 members in the Legal Professionals' Colloquium on GBV, Trafficking and HIV. <http://legalcolloquium.blogspot.com/>

⁶There are presently more than 2,000 members in the interfaith leaders' networks on GBV, Trafficking and HIV in India, Nepal and Bangladesh.

Women in Orissa–Institute for Socio-Economic Development (ISED), 2002; Creating Economic Opportunities for Women in Albania: A Strategy for the Prevention of Human Trafficking, by Milva Ekonomi, Eglantina Gjermeni, Ermira Danaj, Elvana Lula, Ledia Beci, 2006

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United Nations Division for the Advancement of Women (UNDAW)

Mandate and main activities related to human trafficking

The Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW) of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) provides substantive support to the Commission on the Status of Women, the central intergovernmental body responsible for follow-up to and monitoring of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly in 2000, “Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century” (the outcome document). The Division also supports the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council in relation to their work on gender equality and the empowerment of women.

Beijing Platform for Action

The Beijing Platform for Action devotes one of its 12 critical areas of concern to the question of violence against women. One of the three strategic objectives in this area calls for the elimination of trafficking in women, and assistance to victims of violence due to prostitution and trafficking.

Within its strategic objectives, the Platform for Action sets out a series of concrete actions to be taken by Governments, including: ratifying and enforcing international conventions on trafficking in human beings and slavery; addressing the root factors that encourage trafficking; enacting or strengthening legislation on trafficking; stepping up cooperation to dismantle trafficking networks; and allocating resources for comprehensive programmes for the rehabilitation of victims of trafficking.

DAW/DESA provides substantive and technical servicing to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (the Committee) the treaty body that monitors implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (the Convention).⁷ Article 6 of the Convention states that “State Parties shall take all appropriate measures, including legislation, to suppress all forms of traffic in women and exploitation of prostitution of women.” The Committee addresses the issues of trafficking in women and exploitation of prostitution of women in its constructive dialogue with reporting States and in its concluding comments to them.

⁷Beginning January 2008, this function will be transferred to the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR).

Human trafficking research and data collection initiatives and activities

In the past decade, DAW/DESA has regularly been mandated to report to the General Assembly on trafficking in women and girls. The last report was submitted to the fifty-ninth session of the General Assembly in 2004⁸ and covered measures taken by Member States, entities of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations to address trafficking in women and girls (see A/RES/59/66). The next report will be submitted to the sixty-third session (see A/RES/61/144).

The Secretary-General's in-depth study on all forms of violence against women prepared by DAW/DESA and presented to the General Assembly during its sixty-first session in October 2006, addressed trafficking as one of the forms of violence against women. The study points out that available statistics on trafficking are often unreliable, but that the adoption of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, has helped to find a common definition of trafficking that may improve how trafficking is measured. The study also notes the lack of comprehensive laws on trafficking in women, the inadequacy of protective measures for trafficked women, the treatment of trafficked women as criminals rather than victims, and the obstacles victims of trafficking encounter in accessing services. In preparation for the study, DAW/DESA commissioned an expert brief on data on trafficking in women, convened a multi-stakeholder dialogue that focused on enhancing collaboration between government and civil society stakeholders in combating trafficking, and reviewed good practices in this regard.⁹

In 2005, on the occasion of the review of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome document, DAW/DESA prepared a report¹⁰ based on information provided by Member States, highlighting progress made and obstacles remaining to the implementation of the Platform for Action and the outcome document. This includes an assessment of work done to achieve Strategic Objective D.3 of the Beijing Platform for Action, "Eliminate trafficking in women and assist victims of violence due to prostitution and trafficking." The report highlights the need for States to adopt and actively implement comprehensive, multidisciplinary and gender-sensitive strategies in order to combat trafficking, and notes that approaches should include adoption and consistent enforcement of anti-trafficking legislation in line with international instruments to which States are party, as well as the implementation of policy measures aimed at preventing trafficking, punishing offenders and protecting victims.

⁸Report of the Secretary-General on trafficking in women and girls (A/59/185). This report, together with the two prior reports of the Secretary-General on trafficking in women and girls (A/55/322 and A/57/170), are available at www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/vaw/reports.htm#Trafficking.

⁹See Christiana E. Okojie, "Trafficking in women for sexual exploitation and good practices for addressing the problem by all stakeholders", available online at www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/egm/vaw-gp-2005/docs/experts/okojie.trafficking.pdf. This paper was prepared for the expert group meeting "Violence against women: Good practices in combating and eliminating violence against women", co-organized by DESA/DAW and UNODC, Vienna, Austria, 17-20 May 2005.

¹⁰Report of the Secretary-General on Review of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century" (E/CN.6/2005/2), available at www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/csw/csw49/documents.html.

In 2004, DAW/DESA prepared its World Survey on the Role of Women in Development,¹¹ which focuses on women and international migration and includes a section on human trafficking and smuggling. The survey states the need to address trafficking at three levels: the supply of trafficked persons, the demand for trafficked persons, and the traffickers and officials involved.

In November 2002, DAW/DESA collaborated with UNODC to organize an Expert Group Meeting on “Trafficking in women and girls,” in Glen Cove, New York, United States. The meeting adopted a number of recommendations to better prevent trafficking, prosecute traffickers, and protect victims of trafficking, while emphasizing that the protection of the human rights of trafficked persons and the promotion of gender equality must be at the core of any anti-trafficking strategy.¹²

DAW/DESA, in collaboration with UNODC is preparing a publication on trafficking in women and girls, to be addressed to policymakers and practitioners. The publication will identify necessary elements of good practices to prevent trafficking in women and girls, prosecute traffickers and protect victims of trafficking.

Focal point on anti-trafficking research and activities

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¹¹DESA/DAW 2004 *World Survey on the Role of Women in Development. Women and International Migration*, United Nations publication Sales No. E.04.IV.4 (2005) (A/59/287/Add.1, ST/ESA/294).

¹²The documentation related to this expert group meeting is available at: www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/egm/trafficking2002/index.html.

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

Mandate and main activities related to human trafficking

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) is mandated to lead and coordinate international action to protect refugees and resolve refugee problems worldwide. Its primary purpose is to safeguard the rights and well-being of refugees. It strives to ensure that everyone can exercise the right to seek asylum and find safe refuge in another State, with the option to return home voluntarily, integrate locally or to resettle in a third country. The United Nations General Assembly has, moreover, given UNHCR a specific and global mandate relating to the prevention and reduction of statelessness and the protection of stateless persons. On numerous occasions, UNHCR has also been called upon by the General Assembly to provide humanitarian assistance and protection to internally displaced persons (IDPs).

There are two facets to UNHCR's involvement in the area of human trafficking

First, UNHCR works to ensure that persons of concern to the Office do not fall victim to trafficking. It is well known that many of the factors that put an individual at heightened risk of becoming trafficked are present in the types of situations in which asylum-seekers, refugees, IDPs, returnees and stateless persons find themselves. Displaced persons often live in dire social and economic conditions where self-reliance and livelihood opportunities are scarce or non-existent, and dependency on humanitarian aid for survival is a daily reality. Displacement resulting from persecution or conflict frequently results in the break-up of family structures and social support networks that should create an environment that helps protect individuals from exploitation and abuse. Refugees may also find themselves in a legal limbo for years, lacking a proper legal status and residence permit that would otherwise provide them with the rights to which they are entitled under international law. UNHCR strives to prevent persons of concern from becoming trafficked through various operational responses, and aims at removing the factors that puts individuals at heightened risk. Such responses include: the effective use of registration to identify individuals who may be vulnerable to trafficking; tracing and family reunification; facilitation of birth registration to prevent statelessness; promotion of refugees' and stateless persons' access to and enjoyment of their human rights, including the right to work and education; and the proactive search for durable solutions. UNHCR also engages in public information and awareness-raising initiatives and campaigns with its partners.

Second, UNHCR strives to ensure that victims of trafficking or potential victims of trafficking, who fear being subjected to persecution upon a return to their country of origin, have access to asylum procedures. For example, if the victim risks becoming re-trafficked and reprisals from members of the trafficking network, or becoming socially excluded or discriminated as a result of his or her trafficking experience, he or she may qualify for international protection under the 1951 Convention and/or 1967 Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees, or under one of the international human rights instruments. Such a possibility is not least implicit in the saving clause in Article 14 of the United Nations Protocol on Trafficking in Persons, which refers to States' obligations under international human rights law, humanitarian law and refugee law and the principle of non-refoulement. UNHCR therefore promotes the development of rights-based and protection-sensitive identification and referral mechanisms, and fair and efficient asylum procedures. This is done through advocacy, capacity-building and the provision of technical assistance, including training and comments on national legislative proposals, and through supervising States' implementation of the 1951 Convention and/or 1967 Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees.

UNHCR's Guidelines on International Protection on "The Application of Article 1A(2) of the 1951 Convention and/or 1967 Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees to Victims of Trafficking and Persons at Risk of Being Trafficked" endeavour to enhance the understanding of all actors in contact with victims of trafficking of the links between the trafficking experience, the human rights violations involved, and international protection needs of victims and obligations of States. The identification of child victims of trafficking, and the assessment of their potential international protection needs can be particularly challenging, both because a child cannot be expected to assess and articulate the risks he or she may face in the same way as an adult, and because the child's family may have sold or given the child to the trafficker in the hope that the child would send remittances back. UNHCR therefore advocates for the development of identification and referral mechanisms that incorporate a best interests determination for child victims of trafficking, and for age- and gender-sensitive asylum procedures that recognize child-specific forms and manifestations of persecution.

"Asylum claims lodged by victims of trafficking or potential victims of trafficking should thus be examined in detail to establish whether the harm feared as a result of the trafficking experience, or as a result of its anticipation, amounts to persecution in the individual case. In cases where the trafficking experience of the asylum applicant is determined to be a one-off past experience, which is not likely to be repeated, it may still be appropriate to recognize the individual concerned as a refugee if there are compelling reasons arising out of previous persecution, provided the other interrelated elements of the refugee definition are fulfilled. Apart from the persecution experienced by individuals in the course of being trafficked, they may face reprisals and/or possible re-trafficking should they be returned to the territory from which they have fled or from which they have been trafficked. Reprisals at the hands of traffickers could amount to persecution depending on whether the acts feared involve serious human rights violations or other serious harm or intolerable predicament and on an evaluation of their impact on the individual concerned. In addition, the

victim may also fear ostracism, discrimination or punishment by the family and/or the local community or, in some instances, by the authorities upon return. Such treatment is particularly relevant in the case of those trafficked into prostitution. In the individual case, severe ostracism, discrimination or punishment may rise to the level of persecution, in particular if aggravated by the trauma suffered during, and as a result of, the trafficking process.

Source: UNHCR Guidelines for Prevention and Response, May 2003, www.unhcr.org/protect/PROTECTION/3f696bcc4.pdf

Human trafficking research and data collection initiatives and activities

UNHCR does not collect data in general on victims of trafficking or on the presence of trafficking in a particular region. The Office may nonetheless collect confidential data on individual victims of trafficking who come in contact with UNHCR field offices, for example, for refugee status determination and/or resettlement, or who apply for asylum with national asylum authorities that regularly provide UNHCR with statistics. In addition to the Guidelines on International Protection: The Application of Article 1A(2) of the 1951 Convention and/or 1967 Protocol to the Status of Refugees to Victims of Trafficking and Persons at Risk of Being Trafficked (HCR/GIP/06/07, 7 April 2006).¹³

UNHCR has also published the report “Combating Human Trafficking: Overview of UNHCR Anti-Trafficking Activities in Europe”¹⁴ and two independent studies in the New Issues in Refugee Research series, “The trafficking and smuggling of refugees: the end game in European asylum policy?”¹⁵ and “The trafficking of women for sexual exploitation: a gender-based and well-founded fear of persecution?”¹⁶ Other UNHCR publications relating to the topic include: “Observations by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the Proposal for an EU Council Framework Decision on Combating Trafficking in Human Beings”¹⁷ and the “Proposal for an Executive Committee Conclusion on the Protection of Victims of Trafficking Seeking Asylum.”¹⁸

¹³HCR/GIP/06/07, 7 April 2006. Available at www.unhcr.org/publ/PUBL/443b626b2.pdf

¹⁴Published in December 2005. Available at www.unhcr.org/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/refworld/rwmain/opendocpdf.pdf?docid=43fd782d4

¹⁵Working Paper No. 39 by John Morrison and Beth Crosland, April 2001. Available at www.unhcr.org/research/RESEARCH/3af66c9b4.pdf

¹⁶Working Paper No. 80 by Jenna Shearer Demir, March 2003. Available at: www.unhcr.org/research/RESEARCH/3e71f84c4.pdf

¹⁷Published 27 June 2001. Available at: www.unhcr.org/protect/PROTECTION/43662b032.pdf

¹⁸Published 16 January 2007. Available at: www.unhcr.org/excom/EXCOM/45a753642.pdf

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United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF)

Mandate and main activities related to human trafficking

The mandate of the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) is the protection of children from all forms of violence, abuse and exploitation, and is derived from the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. UNICEF believes that the best way to protect children from trafficking is to create a protective environment for all children—one that safeguards them from exploitation and abuse before it happens.

UNICEF advocates and supports the creation of a protective environment for children in partnership with governments, national and international partners including the private sector, and civil society. National child protection systems, protective social practices and children’s own empowerment coupled with good oversight and monitoring are among the elements of a protective environment and enable countries, communities and families to prevent and respond to violence, exploitation and abuse. Vulnerability of trafficked children to HIV/AIDS is integral in several manifestations of exploitation and abuse.

An estimated 300 million children worldwide are subjected to violence, exploitation and abuse—including the worst forms of child labour in communities, schools and institutions, and during armed conflict—and to harmful practices such as female genital mutilation/cutting and child marriage. Millions more, not yet victims, also remain without adequate protection.

UNICEF does not address trafficking as an isolated issue. Instead, its work against trafficking is integrated into all facets of work to create a protective environment for children. For example, the major thrust on the education of girls is a preventative intervention, which incorporates life skills training specifically designed to enhance the self-confidence and ability of children to protect themselves.

Some examples of UNICEF anti-trafficking work are found below. This is not an exhaustive list, but demonstrates the kind of geographical spread of its operations.

- Central and Eastern Europe/Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS)/Baltic States: UNICEF has taken a multifaceted initiative in combating child trafficking in this region by focusing on an integrated approach involving prevention, protection of victims, and the recovery and reintegration of child victims.

- Latin America and the Caribbean: UNICEF's approach in the area involves collaborating with NGOs and local government, legislative reform, and the promotion of awareness and information on exploitation.
- West and Central Africa: UNICEF takes a multifaceted strategy approach to combat the multidimensional causes of child trafficking in this region. Such a strategy includes an emphasis on education, raising awareness on the issue, strengthening current partnerships, supporting intra-state cooperation, and advocating for the improvement of care for child victims of trafficking.
- Eastern and Southern Africa: UNICEF's strategies include collaboration with government institutions and NGOs, and raising awareness
- East Asia and the Pacific: UNICEF's strategies in this region have been broad-based. Strategies include community action for prevention and reintegration, legal protection, capacity building for social work/psychosocial response services, data collection, monitoring trends, and advocacy, cooperation and coordination.
- South Asia: UNICEF's approach in the area involves raising awareness, advocacy, supporting compliance with international law, youth empowerment, monitoring trends in trafficking, and increased cooperation with NGOs and governments.
- The Middle East and Northern Africa: UNICEF's efforts in the region have involved raising awareness of this issue.

UNICEF partners include ILO, End Child Prostitution, Child Pornography and the Trafficking of Children for Sexual Purposes (ECPAT) International, IOM, Save the Children, Terre des Hommes, the European Union, the Organization for the Directorates of Migration of Central America (OCAM), the NGO Group for the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Catholic Relief Services, Defence for Children International (DCI), and World Vision. Regional partners include the NGO Casa Alianza, the Inter-American Children's Institute (IIN) in Latin America and the Caribbean and the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission in Afghanistan.

Human trafficking research and data collection initiatives and activities

UNICEF collaborated closely with OHCHR and the World Health Organization (WHO) on the UN Study on Violence against Children, a landmark effort to provide a detailed global picture of the nature, extent and causes of violence against children, and propose clear recommendations for action to prevent and reduce such violence.

The UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre is the main research arm of UNICEF. It was founded in 1988 to improve international understanding of children's rights and promote

the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in both industrialized and developing countries. It advocates for children worldwide, identifying and examining current and future areas of UNICEF's work and informing UNICEF advocacy and policy. The Innocenti Research Centre hosts the Child Trafficking Research Hub website (www.childtrafficking.org), which is dedicated to data collection, knowledge transfer and the development of methodologies related to research on child trafficking. It is intended for international researchers, policymakers and operational personnel involved in counter child trafficking activities.

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United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)

Mandate and main activities related to human trafficking

The United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) was established in 1965 as an autonomous body within the United Nations with the aim of enhancing the effectiveness of the Organization through appropriate training and research. UNITAR is governed by a Board of Trustees and is headed by an Executive Director. The Institute is supported by voluntary contributions from governments, intergovernmental organizations, foundations, and other non-governmental sources.

UNITAR conducts training programmes in multilateral diplomacy and international cooperation for diplomats accredited to the United Nations and national officials involved in work related to United Nations activities; carries out a wide range of training programmes in the field of social and economic development; carries out result-oriented research, in particular, research on and for training and to develop pedagogical materials, including distance-learning training packages, workbooks, as well as software and video training packs; and, establishes and strengthens cooperation with other intergovernmental organizations, faculties and academic institutions, in particular for the development of research on and for training.

Training for civilian personnel in peacekeeping operations on the special needs of women and children in conflict:

- This UNITAR Training Programme familiarizes peacekeepers with the specific needs of women and children in and after conflict, encourages them to work with women and children as valuable partners in peace-building, and teaches them to become effective, gender-sensitive and responsible peacekeepers.
- UNITAR provides intensive, interactive and highly practical training seminars so that the participants can apply their newly learned skills immediately.
- These UNITAR seminars play an important role in spreading the UN's message of "zero tolerance" towards any acts of sexual exploitation and abuse committed by UN peacekeepers.

Source: UNITAR Programme 06-07
www.unitar.org/documents/WorkProg_06-07Anglais.pdf.

While UNITAR is not currently pursuing any activities in the field of human trafficking, through its migration work, it has and will provide capacity development in this field. Specifically, its work includes seminars relating to trafficking issues through the Migration and Development Policy Seminar Series that takes place at United Nations Headquarters, in addition to past activities in the context of the multiagency training programme on migration and refugee issues, known as the International Migration Policy Programme (IMP).¹⁹

Seminars on migration and development, UN Headquarters

Since 2005, UNITAR, IOM, UNFPA and the MacArthur Foundation have hosted the Migration and Development Policy Seminar Series at UN Headquarters. The Series is intended to inform the international community in New York on key migration issues, in preparation for events such as the High Level Dialogue on Migration and Development, the Global Forum on Migration, and the General Assembly's biennial resolution on migration and development.

As part of this series, a seminar on international trafficking in human beings was organized on 18 October 2005. This seminar was organized jointly with the United Nations University (UNU) and the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). The focus of the seminar was divided into legal aspects and programmatic components of the Trafficking Protocol. Case studies included anti-trafficking in Indonesia and Serbia (see www.unitar.org).

Country Reporting System (CRS) Study: The International Migration Policy Programme (IMP)

UNITAR also undertook a study in 2005 entitled "Country Reporting System" (CRS) in the context of the work of the International Migration Policy Programme (IMP). From 2000 to the end of 2004, IMP, a programme of UNITAR, IOM, ILO and UNFPA, provided training and capacity-building activities on migration and refugee issues to government officials in mainly two areas of the world: Central Asia, the Caucasus and neighbouring region, also known as the "Issyk-Kul Dialogue", and the East and Central Africa and Great Lakes region.

At the conclusion of IMP in 2005, with the support of UNFPA, UNITAR undertook a study (CRS) based on hundreds of questionnaires sent to the ministries involved, to report back on progress made in achieving the recommendations established over the five-year period during which they had received training from IMP. The CRS reports for both

¹⁹In addition, UNITAR through IMP was a member of the Stability Pact Task Force on trafficking in human beings. Together with the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD), it was responsible for the "training" component of the Task Force.

regions were produced in 2005. In the reports, the status of counter-trafficking efforts is presented in the following manner: the current legal framework (and whether the country has signed relevant international legal instruments); the status of implementation of legal instruments; and whether data on human trafficking are collected.

Focal point on anti-trafficking research and activities

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United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI)

Mandate and main activities related to human trafficking

The objective of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI) is to contribute to the formulation and implementation of improved policies in crime prevention and control through research, training, field activities and the collection, exchange and dissemination of information, with due regard to broader policies for socio-economic change and development, and to the protection of human rights. UNICRI sets its activities in accordance with the priorities indicated by the United Nations Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. Since 1999, UNICRI has been carrying out projects on trafficking of women and children for sexual exploitation in various countries around the world.

In the field of human trafficking, UNICRI carries out action-oriented analysis and applied scientific research; technical assistance activities; awareness-raising initiatives and tailor-made specialized training.

Human trafficking research and data collection initiatives and activities

To improve evidence-based knowledge on the situation relating to human trafficking and organized criminal groups involved, UNICRI projects include action-oriented research and data collection activities. In particular, research on the issue of trafficking in women and minors for sexual exploitation has been conducted in various countries, including Czech Republic, Germany, Italy, Nigeria, Philippines, Poland and Romania.

The main objective of the analysis has been collecting the elements that permit a better outline of the dynamics and routes of the traffic, the organizational procedures of the criminal management structure, and the conditions and needs of the victims. To this end, UNICRI has designed specific research instruments, including questionnaires, outlines for face-to-face interviews, and guidelines for case files analysis, which have been adapted to the specific context and used in each of the above countries. Sources of data collection have been victims of human trafficking, privileged witnesses (e.g. NGOs officials and experts working in the field), law enforcement agencies and personnel, and case files of particular interest.

The following research reports have been published: “Trafficking in Women: the Czech Republic Perspective” (available at www.unicri.it/wwd/trafficking/czech/index.php), “Trafficking of Nigerian Girls to Italy” (available at www.unicri.it/wwd/trafficking/nigeria/index.php), “Rapid Assessment: Human Smuggling and Trafficking from the Philippines”, “Criminal Justice Responses to Trafficking in Human Beings in Poland”, and “Trafficking in Women from Romania into Germany”. All publications can be requested from the Institute’s Documentation Centre (documentation@unicri.it).

In addition, UNICRI has also implemented other data collection initiatives on human trafficking. Within the framework of a wider technical assistance programme, data collection on the issue of sexual exploitation of Nigerian women trafficked to Italy has also been carried out at the local level through outreach activities (the “street units”) aimed at assisting and supporting victims working on the street, and monitoring and mapping the territory. Collected data concern demographic aspects (e.g. age, place of birth, education, family status) and personal experience (e.g. recruitment, trafficking routes, exploitation modalities at destination, awareness of services available). The relevant research report is available online at www.unicri.it/wwd/trafficking/nigeria/streetunits.php.

Finally, UNICRI maintains three regularly updated on-line databases: The Bibliography on Trafficking in Human Beings, including a selection of reports, documents, articles and materials on the topic (updated on monthly basis—available at www.unicri.it/wwd/trafficking/bibliography/index.php); the International Legal Repository (ILR), containing a list of relevant international, regional and subregional legal instruments (updated on a quarterly basis—available at www.unicri.it/wwd/trafficking/legal_framework/index.php); and the International Repository of Institutions against Sexual Exploitation of Minors (IRISEM) (updated on a quarterly basis—available at www.unicri.it/wwd/trafficking/irisem/index.php).

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United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

Mandate and main activities related to human trafficking

UNESCO was founded on 16 November 1945. It functions as a laboratory of ideas and a standard-setter to forge universal agreements on emerging ethical issues. The Organization also serves as a clearing house—for the dissemination and sharing of information and knowledge—while helping member States to build their human and institutional capacities in diverse fields. In short, UNESCO promotes international cooperation among its member States and associate members in the education, science, culture and communication.

In terms of tackling human trafficking, UNESCO:

- Conducts multidisciplinary research on the factors related to human trafficking;
- Collects and evaluates successful practices in tackling those factors, in order to inspire innovative and effective responses;
- Develops culturally sensitive prevention programmes, taking into account the socio-cultural backgrounds of vulnerable and at-risk populations, while using appropriate language and channels of communication;
- Informs and trains NGOs, religious and community leaders, government officials and decision makers in order to equip them with appropriate tools to fight trafficking in their communities and at the policy level.

When it comes to statistics, trafficking of girls and women is one of several highly emotive issues that seem to overwhelm critical faculties. Numbers take on a life of their own, gaining acceptance through repetition, often with little inquiry into their derivations. Journalists, bowing to the pressures of editors, demand numbers, any number. Organizations feel compelled to supply them, lending false precisions and spurious authority to many reports. As part of its mandate to strengthen research, UNESCO is conducting a literature review and meta-analysis of statements on trafficking. UNESCO is tracing the origin of numbers cited by various sources, attempting to ascertain the methodology by which these numbers were calculated, and evaluating their validity. The aim is to clarify the bases on which estimates of the numbers of trafficked persons are derived, and to separate trafficking myths from trafficking realities. The UNESCO Trafficking Statistics Project is a first step toward clarifying what we know, what we think we know, and what we don't know about trafficking.

Source: UNESCO Trafficking Statistic Project (www.unescobkk.org)

Human trafficking research and data collection initiatives and activities

UNESCO conducts two main programmes against human trafficking: one focuses on the Greater Mekong Subregion (Cambodia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Thailand, Viet Nam and Yunnan Province in China); the other, on Western and Southern Africa (Benin, Lesotho, Mozambique, Nigeria, South Africa, Togo).

Under the Trafficking and HIV/AIDS Programmes in the Greater Mekong subregion (www.unescobkk.org/index.php?id=475), UNESCO's special mandate for ethnic and indigenous minorities, the Programme tackles the linked triad of problems—HIV/AIDS, trafficking, and non-traditional drug use in the Greater Mekong subregion, by researching, developing and implementing programmes that crosscut these issues to address the needs of at-risk and vulnerable populations disproportionately represented among victims of human trafficking. UNESCO has initiated a system of linked databases with information related to trafficking, rates of HIV/AIDS incidence, interventions and their coverage, and the distribution of at-risk populations (migration, population in sex work) in order to discover, record and map related trends. It also conducts research on interstitial populations by designing evidence-based interventions for them that can “catch” these populations at the right place and right time with culturally and linguistically appropriate HIV/AIDS and trafficking prevention information, such as radio dramas written in minority languages of the Mekong region. Finally, UNESCO has been addressing the structural vulnerability of minority peoples in Thailand and promoting highland birth registration to prevent their exploitation.

Under the UNESCO Project to Fight Human Trafficking in Africa (www.unesco.org/shs/humantrafficking), UNESCO focuses on the analysis of factors leading to human trafficking, and assists governments and communities in building or strengthening national prevention campaigns. UNESCO's actions include: best practices collection and analysis in order to inspire innovative and better policymaking; research on the root cause of trafficking and evidence-based policy recommendations; culturally-appropriate awareness-raising campaigns; and a comparative study of historical and contemporary slavery.

Third, UNESCO completed a communication and information pilot project in the Balkans, in the framework of the Eurovision Regional News Exchange for South-East Europe (ERNO), to promote the exchange of news items among 12 South-Eastern European public service broadcasters and to enhance professionalism, cooperation and dialogue among Balkan journalists. UNESCO has supported the co-production and exchange of an investigative documentary and TV news stories on trafficking of women and girls.

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International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol)

Mandate and main activities related to human trafficking

The International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol) is the world's largest international police organization with 186 member countries. The General Secretariat is located in Lyon, France. Interpol currently operates six Subregional bureaus in Argentina, Côte d'Ivoire, El Salvador, Kenya, Thailand and Zimbabwe. Each Interpol member country maintains a National Central Bureau (NCB), which is staffed and operated by the member country and serves as the designated contact point for the General Secretariat and other member countries requiring assistance.

The mandate and the primary task of Interpol is to support police and law enforcement agencies in its member countries in their efforts to prevent crime and conduct criminal investigations as efficiently and effectively as possible. Specifically, Interpol facilitates cross-border police cooperation and, as appropriate, supports governmental and intergovernmental organizations, authorities and services whose mission is to prevent or combat crime.

In order to carry out its mandate, Interpol provides its member countries and designated partner organizations with four core functions or services:

(a) *Secure global police communications services*

A global communications system for the law enforcement community called "I-24/7" to which all member countries are connected provides police around the world with a common platform through which they can share crucial information about criminals and criminality.

(b) *Global databases and data services*

Global databases cover information such as names, fingerprints, photographs, DNA profiles of individuals under investigation or wanted for arrest as well as data concerning stolen and lost identification and travel documents, stolen vehicles, stolen works of art and illicit weapons related to criminal cases.

(c) Operational police support services

Interpol supports law enforcement officials in the field with emergency support and operational activities. The Command and Coordination Centre operates out of Interpol's General Secretariat 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

(d) Training and Development

Interpol provides focused police training initiatives and on-demand advice, including the sharing of knowledge, skills and best practices in policing via Interpol channels and the establishment of global standards on how to combat specific forms of crimes.

Interpol has a dedicated Sub-Directorate working in its General Secretariat to provide support on law enforcement matters related to the crimes of human trafficking, people smuggling, and crimes against children. Interpol is currently undertaking projects aimed at identifying and bringing child sex offenders to justice. This is to be achieved both by capacity building within national police services, with a special aim to track travelling sex offenders, and by reaching out to the public to help member countries identify unknown child sex offenders where all other avenues of investigation nationally and internationally have been exhausted.

In further reference to Interpol's data services, in 2006, Interpol created the Human Smuggling and Trafficking Message, which provides police with a standardized format for the easy exchange of information, thereby facilitating police cooperation and the reporting of these crimes to Interpol. The message is accessible to all authorized users in Interpol's member countries via the Organization's global communications system I-24/7.

Interpol criminal intelligence officers proactively raise awareness, conduct targeted training courses and establish international expert networks in conjunction with Interpol National Central Bureaus (NCBs) and Sub-Regional Bureaus (SRBs). The Interpol Specialist Working Group on Crimes against Children convenes annually, as does the Interpol Specialist Working Group on Trafficking in Women for Sexual Exploitation. Both of these Specialized Working Groups have developed Manuals for Investigators, which are updated regularly.

In the way of training, Interpol's Sub-Directorate Trafficking in Human Beings has developed partnerships with organizations such as the International Center for Missing and Exploited Children (ICMEC) in the United States, and conducts joint induction workshops on computer-facilitated crimes against children for investigators on a monthly basis and in various countries around the world. The General Secretariat also hosts best practices and victim identification workshops, which bring together experts to work in a concerted and concentrated manner to devise strategies and identify victims of sexual abuse.

Another resource that can facilitate investigations and help catch traffickers, smugglers and child sex offenders is Interpol's system of International Notices, of which the most widely known is the Interpol Red Notice which seeks the arrest or provisional arrest of wanted persons with a view to extradition. However, two other notices are of particular importance for cases dealing with human trafficking, smuggling and crimes against children. These are the Green Notices, which provide police with warnings or criminal intelligence about persons who have committed criminal offences and are likely to repeat these crimes in other countries; and the Yellow Notice, which informs police of missing persons, especially minors, or provides information on persons who might not be able to identify themselves.

A recent Interpol initiative, Project Childhood, addresses the issue of sex tourism from the victims' perspective and aims to develop partnerships with police authorities and other stakeholders, arrest abusers and rescue victims.

Interpol has developed additional tools that can facilitate the exchange of information among law enforcement in member countries. The new Human Smuggling and Trafficking (HST) message provides a standardized format for reporting cases. MIND/FIND technical solutions enable first-line control law enforcement agencies dealing with people smuggling, such as border police or immigration, to receive instant responses for queries on stolen or lost travel documents, stolen motor vehicles and wanted criminals. Both are accessible to authorized users of Interpol's I-24/7 global police communications system.

Several member countries have passed legislation against trafficking or implemented victim protection programmes to encourage victims to testify against traffickers. The enactment of extra-territorial laws allows the prosecution of criminals in home countries for crimes committed abroad.

Source: Interpol's Trafficking in Human Beings Fact Sheet

Interpol provides a clearing house for intelligence on traffickers and other criminals such as sex offenders worldwide, which is stored in Interpol's databases—a vital tool for making international links in investigations. One of the Organization's primary tools in combating computer-facilitated crimes against children is the Interpol Child Abuse Image Database (ICAID). Created in 2001, ICAID provides unparalleled means for national law enforcement to internationally exchange criminal intelligence on online child abuse material. The database contains hundreds of thousands of images of child sexual abuse submitted by member countries. Once the images have been sent to Interpol's Trafficking in Human Beings Sub-Directorate, highly-trained officers use the ICAID's image recognition software to compare details of where the abuse took place and connect images from the same series of abuse or images taken in the same location with different victims. As a result of using the ICAID, investigators worldwide have been able to identify and rescue hundreds of victims from their abusive situations. In recognition of its success, the G8 countries have endorsed the ICAID and pledged approximately € 1.7 million of the € 3 million required to help Interpol operate and expand the database.

Interpol also carries out strategic analytical studies to gather factual information to support law enforcement in international investigations. These studies are regionally focused and are becoming increasingly operational in nature. Through its global network of National Central Bureau (NCBs), Interpol is currently in the process of collecting data on Trafficking in Women for Sexual Exploitation for subsequent analysis and intends to create an online International Contact Directory of specialists in this crime area for law enforcement purposes.

Finally, Interpol's databases of stolen and lost travel documents, DNA profiles and fingerprints, as well as the Organization's expertise in money-laundering also provide essential tools for international investigations dealing with criminal networks who are involved in human trafficking, smuggling or crimes against children.

Focal point on anti-trafficking research and activities

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United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

Mandate and main activities related to human trafficking

The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) is an international development agency that promotes the right of every woman, man and child to enjoy a life of health and equal opportunity. UNFPA supports countries in using population data for policies and programmes to reduce poverty and to ensure that every pregnancy is wanted, every birth is safe, every young person is free of HIV/AIDS, and every girl and woman is treated with dignity and respect.

The close links between the main areas of UNFPA's work—population, sustainable development and reproductive health and gender equality—were affirmed at the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) in Cairo, Egypt. UNFPA is guided in its work by the Programme of Action adopted there. At the conference, 179 countries agreed that meeting needs for education and health, including reproductive health, is a prerequisite for sustainable development over the longer term. They also agreed on a roadmap for progress with the following goals:

- Universal access to reproductive health services by 2015;
- Universal primary education and closing the gender gap in education by 2015;
- Reducing maternal mortality by 75 per cent by 2015;
- Reducing infant mortality;
- Increasing life expectancy;
- Reducing HIV/AIDS infection rates.

"Sylvia's descent into the dark world of trafficking began when a neighbour told the then 19-year-old he could help her find a good job as a sales girl in Moscow. Unemployed, broke, with a baby daughter and no husband or employment prospects in her hometown of Ungheni, Sylvia (not her real name) decided to journey to the Moldovan capital of Chisinau where she was to meet two men who would arrange for her travel to Russia. What followed was a nightmare of beatings, rape, privation and sickness. Sylvia had fallen into the hands of traffickers and was eventually smuggled with 11 others to Moscow—and straight into the murky underworld of globalized sexual servitude.

Although the exception rather than the rule, Sylvia's ordeal is one that hundreds of thousands of women and girls undergo every year. While migration can be an empowering experience for millions of people worldwide, when it "goes bad", migrants can find themselves trapped in situations of extreme exploitation and abuse. Trafficked women and domestic workers are two groups that are particularly susceptible to major human rights violations and slave-like conditions."

Source: State of World Population 2006, Chapter 3. UNFPA

UNFPA sees trafficking as a human rights violation and a gender and development problem. It advocates for the prevention of trafficking and greater cooperation among and within countries in order to bring traffickers to justice and to provide protection and services for victims.

Although slavery has been formally abolished from the world, the trade in human misery continues. Women, still considered property in some places, may be sold into marriage. Men or women may be coerced into working in brothels, sweatshops, construction sites and fields. As unregistered migrant workers, they may be subjected to sexual violence, horrific living conditions, threats against their families and dangerous workplaces.

Because of their often subordinate position, women and girls are most vulnerable. In view of the clear link between trafficking and the violation of reproductive health and rights, UNFPA is working to draw attention to and address the problem. Trafficking in women and girls was the topic of an international workshop in Bratislava organized by UNFPA in October 2002. More than 60 parliamentarians, government officials and NGO representatives from 25 countries attested to the detrimental effects of trafficking on their populations and agreed that its elimination should be a matter of national policy. Eliminating this widespread and clandestine activity, which often involves organized crime and political corruption, will require collaborative efforts, with participation from international organizations, governments, NGOs and communities.

UNFPA is positioned to take a larger role in addressing this issue, particularly by strengthening the capacities of its programme countries. Strategies and interventions to address trafficking should include:

- Information and awareness-raising campaigns on the health consequences of trafficking;
- Campaigns targeting men;
- Provision of reproductive health services and counseling to victims of trafficking;
- Technical assistance and training for governments, and cooperation between countries who are receivers and senders of trafficked individuals.

UNFPA is one of several United Nations agencies working to address trafficking, both through partnerships and by promoting dialogue to bring greater visibility to the issue and share information about it.

Human trafficking research and data collection initiatives and activities

The 2006 edition of UNFPA's State of World Population report focused on women and international migration, and showed how women can both benefit from migration and be subject to discrimination and abuse when migrating. The report examined the impact of female labour migration on source and destination countries and addressed issues such as: empowerment and risks, including trafficking; and the social and economic implications of women's migration, including disruption of families, on the one hand, and benefits of remittances, on the other. The report mentions UNFPA's work with IOM to sponsor "safe houses", where trafficking victims can receive counselling and health care, and how UNFPA is keeping girls safe from traffickers in Nepal.

UNFPA organized two meetings, the Expert Group Meeting on International Migration and the Millennium Development Goals and the Expert Group Meeting on Female Migrants: Bridging the Gaps Throughout the Life Cycle, both of which addressed the topic of human trafficking.

UNFPA has published numerous reports, many of which are relevant to human trafficking, gender-based violence, and sexual health. These can all be found online at www.unfpa.org/publications/index.cfm.

UNFPA collaborates with UNITAR and IOM, and offers training workshops on key migration issues, including trafficking, for government delegates at the Permanent Missions to the United Nations. These workshops are intended to provide government officials with a better understanding of the relationship between migration and development.

Focal points on anti-trafficking research and activities

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United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Mandate and main activities related to human trafficking

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) advocates for change and connects countries to knowledge, experience and resources to help people build better lives. UNDP works with countries to build their own solutions to global and national development challenges and achieve the Millennium Development Goals. It does this by helping developing countries attract and use aid effectively and encouraging the protection of human rights and the empowerment of women in all its activities.

The policy framework for UNDP to work on the elimination of human trafficking, and particularly female trafficking, is derived from the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), the Beijing Platform for Action (BPfA) and the 1993 Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women, as well as General Assembly Resolutions and Conventions/Protocols on Human Trafficking.

UNDP conducts research to inform its policy advocacy, to legitimize and support the advice it provides to policymakers in the preparation of national anti-human trafficking legislation, and to provide the evidence behind national strategies for the protection of survivors of human trafficking. It also supports efforts to collect more comprehensive, gender-disaggregated data on human trafficking and to develop gender-disaggregated databases using this data, so that it can improve its ability to monitor and report on progress towards eliminating human trafficking. This will not only provide powerful evidence of the need for greater investment in this cause, but also assist UNDP to better target its activities to the different needs of women and men victims.

UNDP both supports and develops training modules to raise awareness of human trafficking issues and international conventions and protocols on combating human trafficking among policymakers, law enforcement agencies and communities. It also provides the necessary support for the creation and provision of free legal services, counseling, mediation and rehabilitation for victims, and micro-enterprise activities. Access to micro-financing provides alternative employment opportunities for vulnerable groups so they are able to stay in the formal, local labour market, rather than seek out informal employment in the absence of alternatives, which can often lead them into the hands of human traffickers.

Human trafficking research and data collection initiatives and activities

Regional Bureau for the European Economic Community (EEC)/ Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS)

The project entitled “Human Trafficking in the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) through a Human Development Lens” aims to build knowledge on human trafficking in the region. As part of the project, an analytical study based on recent surveys is being prepared to explore the links between trafficking and human development, because poverty has been found to be a major causal factor for human trafficking. This research will therefore form the basis of future preventative interventions focused on improving human development outcomes. A group of researchers from the CIS region, with expertise in economic migration, poverty and human development, who are affiliated with the Academy of Science in the Russian Federation, are implementing the project. The results of their research have been published in a report, “Human Development versus Human Trafficking: Modern Slavery in the CIS”.

Regional Bureau for Asia and Pacific

In June 2000, the United Nations Inter-Agency Project on Human Trafficking in the Greater Mekong Subregion (UNIAP) was established to facilitate a stronger and more coordinated response to human trafficking in the GMS (consisting of Cambodia, China, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam). At a regional level, other than UNDP, UNIAP brings together six governments, 13 United Nations agencies and eight international NGOs. Member agencies include ECPAT, Global Alliance Against Traffic in Women (GAATW), ILO, IOM, OHCHR, Oxfam International, Save the Children Alliance, The United Nations Joint Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), UNODC, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNIFEM, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) and World Vision International. The project is now in its third phase, and will run from October 2006 to September 2009. It is managed by the United Nations Resident Coordinator in Thailand and has staff in each of the GMS countries. The project aims to strengthen the regional response to human trafficking, through improved knowledge, effective collaboration and better targeted action, with a view to reducing the incidence and the severity of harm caused by trafficking in the greater Mekong Subregion.

The UNDP report produced by the UNDP Regional Centre, Colombo, Sri Lanka, “Human Trafficking and HIV: exploring vulnerabilities and responses in South Asia”, was released on 22 August 2007. The report reveals that people who are trafficked are highly vulnerable to the risk of HIV/AIDS infection. It explores the link between trafficking and HIV/AIDS in six South Asian countries: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. In all the countries surveyed, the researchers found that there little effort was made to integrate HIV/AIDS into trafficking projects, signifying a knowledge gap on

how they are connected. The report shows that human trafficking and HIV/AIDS infection share many common causes, such as poverty and gender discrimination. In addition, although it is not possible to determine the percentage of HIV/AIDS transmissions that are caused by trafficking, the coercion of thousands of women and girls into unprotected sex with multiple partners is evidence enough that sex trafficking is a major contributor to the spread of HIV/AIDS and the feminization of the pandemic. People who are trafficked for purposes other than sex might also find themselves in situations that increase their vulnerability to HIV/AIDS infection.

Website: www.undp.org/hiv/docs/alldocs/human_traffick_hiv_undp2007.pdf

UNDP has a number of counter trafficking country programmes, including in Argentina, Armenia, Belarus, Ecuador, Moldova, Nepal and Romania. Further information on these country programmes can be accessed from the UNDP website: www.undp.org.

Focal point on anti-trafficking research and activities

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Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)

Mandate and main activities related to human trafficking

The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), a department of the United Nations Secretariat, is mandated to promote and protect the enjoyment and full realization, by all people, of all rights established in the Charter of the United Nations and in international human rights laws and treaties. The mandate includes preventing human rights violations, securing respect for all human rights, promoting international cooperation to protect human rights, coordinating related activities throughout the United Nations, and strengthening and streamlining the United Nations system in the field of human rights. In addition to its mandated responsibilities, the Office leads efforts to integrate a human rights approach within all work carried out by United Nations agencies.

OHCHR works with governments, legislatures, courts, national institutions, civil society, regional and international organizations, and the United Nations system to develop and strengthen capacity, particularly at the national level, for the protection of human rights in accordance with international norms.

At its sixtieth session, the Commission on Human Rights adopted Decision 2004/110, by which it decided to appoint, for a three-year period, a Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, to focus on the human rights aspects of the victims of trafficking in human beings. The Special Rapporteur takes action on violations committed against trafficked persons and on situations in which there has been a failure to protect their human rights, including ensuring adequate redress for the violations suffered and providing adequate medical, psychological, social and other necessary assistance. The Special Rapporteur also takes action in cases in which laws and/or policies might negatively impact on the human rights of persons affected by trafficking, in countries of origin, transit and destination, as well as in cases in which efforts to combat or prevent trafficking might have an impact on the human rights of the persons concerned, be they migrants, asylum-seekers, or all the citizens of a country.

At the end of 1999, OHCHR started a programme under the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights: Eliminating Trafficking and Protecting the rights of Trafficked Persons. The programme was developed in order to enable OHCHR to consolidate and expand its anti-trafficking efforts and to provide leadership in the policy and legal field. With biannualized resolutions on trafficking at the Commission on Human Rights, the OHCHR is mandated to address human trafficking at international, regional and national levels.

Thus far, there are no specific mandates within OHCHR dealing directly with the vulnerability of trafficked persons to HIV/AIDS. OHCHR focuses on legal and policy issues related to trafficking and does not undertake multiple or complex operational projects or technical cooperation activities on its own. Its role is to act as a catalyst in ensuring that the rule of law and human rights are central to the anti-trafficking work of other organizations, including United Nations agencies, international organizations and NGOs. In July 2002, OHCHR issued the Recommended Principles and Guidelines on Human Rights and Human Trafficking (E/2002/68/Add.1), which guide the trafficking programme's activities in the area of prevention, protection and prosecution. The 17 Principles and 11 Guidelines provide a comprehensive road map for integrating human rights in anti-trafficking activities at all levels.

In order to build capacity of its field offices as well as of other international, regional and civil society organizations, OHCHR's trafficking programme undertakes to produce advocacy and training materials with the express objective of integrating human rights into anti-trafficking work. OHCHR has produced user-friendly versions of the Recommended Principles and Guidelines, legal commentaries and handbooks on various aspects of trafficking, as well as case studies to be incorporated into training modules of more comprehensive human rights training packages. From time to time, OHCHR issues briefs and comments on key instruments and declarations that are being drafted or negotiated at regional levels, including the SAARC Convention on Trafficking, the European Convention on Trafficking, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) draft, initiatives of the EU, the Stability Pact, as well as other regional measures. In collaboration with UNICEF and ODIHR, OHCHR has collaborated on in-depth research on trafficking in South-Eastern Europe. Its Bosnia and Herzegovina office has been particularly active in addressing trafficking in human beings. OHCHR has played a founding role in setting up an intergovernmental organization (IGO) group of United Nations agencies and representatives of the NGO caucus, on Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling. This group is coordinated by OHCHR and meets regularly on a monthly basis. OHCHR also prepares modules for training of peacekeepers and humanitarian aid workers on trafficking.

Trafficking is expressly considered in the "Recommendations on integrating human rights into HIV/AIDS responses in the Asia-Pacific region", adopted under a project convened by the OHCHR regional representative and supported by UNAIDS, UNICEF, ILO, UNDP, and UNODC.

(see: www.un.or.th/ohchr/issues/hiv aids/ExperMeeting_2004/index.html)

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World Health Organization (WHO)

Mandate and main activities related to human trafficking

The World Health Organization (WHO) is the directing and coordinating authority for health within the United Nations system. It is responsible for providing leadership on global health matters, shaping the health research agenda, setting norms and standards, articulating evidence-based policy options, providing technical support to countries, and monitoring and assessing health trends. WHO promotes the highest possible standard of health care applies.

WHO supports six key areas of activity: promoting development; fostering health security; strengthening health systems; harnessing research, information and evidence; enhancing partnerships; and improving performance.

People from poor countries, especially girls and women, are at particular risk of being trafficked by organized criminal groups. In addition to the psychological trauma and humiliation they experience, these victims are also at high risk of being infected by sexually transmitted diseases e.g. HIV/AIDS, one of WHO's major concerns.

The reproductive health and research programme is working closely with the regional and global women's health programmes to develop strategies to prevent trafficking and to protect the victims in particular by working with health service providers in high-risk areas such as Kosovo to recognize the signs of trafficking and to provide help as needed.

WHO has no specific mandate on trafficking in human beings and therefore no particular activities on countering trafficking. Rather, there is general support for HIV/AIDS prevention among vulnerable populations, including sex workers, injecting drug users and others, that are meant to be adapted to local conditions and that might, in some cases, address trafficking. WHO activities focus on countering vulnerability to HIV/AIDS. Specific actions to reduce vulnerability to HIV/AIDS would include support for the empowerment of vulnerable populations in general, linked to specific HIV/AIDS prevention services. Peer support and community mobilization are strongly promoted for HIV/AIDS prevention, and often also lead to action on a range of other health and social problems.

WHO does a great deal of advocacy work highlighting gender dimensions of the problem and particular health issues faced by women who have been trafficked. It developed "WHO Ethical and Safety Recommendations for Interviewing Trafficked Women", 2003, with the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and with support from European Commission. IOM and Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe

(OSCE) offices have supported translations into Russian, Romanian, Serbian and Croatian. It appears to be used extensively in training of police officers and counter-trafficking officers.

TEN GUIDING PRINCIPLES TO THE ETHICAL AND SAFE CONDUCT OF INTERVIEWS WITH WOMEN WHO HAVE BEEN TRAFFICKED

1. Do no harm—Treat each woman and the situation as if the potential for harm is extreme until there is evidence to the contrary. Do not undertake any interview that will make a woman's situation worse in the short term or longer term.
2. Know your subject and assess the risks—Learn the risks associated with trafficking and each woman's case before undertaking an interview.
3. Prepare referral information—Do not make promises that you cannot fulfill—Be prepared to provide information in a woman's native language and the local language (if different) about appropriate legal, health, shelter, social support and security services, and to help with referral, if requested.
4. Adequately select and prepare interpreters and co-workers—Weigh the risks and benefits associated with employing interpreters, co-workers or others, and develop adequate methods for screening and training.
5. Ensure anonymity and confidentiality—Protect a respondent's identity and confidentiality throughout the entire interview process—from the moment she is contacted through the time that details of her case are made public.
6. Get informed consent—Make certain that each respondent clearly understands the content and purpose of the interview, the intended use of the information, her right not to answer questions, her right to terminate the interview at any time, and her right to put restrictions on how the information is used.
7. Listen to and respect each woman's assessment of her situation and risks to her safety—Recognize that each woman will have different concerns, and that the way she views her concerns may be different from how others might assess them.
8. Do not re-traumatize a woman—Do not ask questions intended to provoke an emotionally charged response. Be prepared to respond to a woman's distress and highlight her strengths.
9. Be prepared for emergency intervention—Be prepared to respond if a woman says she is in imminent danger.
10. Put information collected to good use—Use information in a way that benefits an individual woman or that advances the development of good policies and interventions for trafficked women generally.

Focal point on anti-trafficking research and activities

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