

**Work programme  
of the Global Initiative  
to Fight Human Trafficking  
(UN.GIFT)**

**May 2008**



UNITED NATIONS  
New York, 2008



## Contents

	<i>Page</i>
I. Background.....	1
II. Mandate.....	2
III. Coordinating a global response.....	3
IV. Objectives of the Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking.....	4
V. Preparatory phase of the Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking.....	5
VI. Vienna Forum to Fight Human Trafficking.....	6
VII. Implementation phase of the Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking.....	8
VIII. Institutional mechanisms of the Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking.....	14
Annexes	
I. Workplan of the Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking for 2008-2009.....	17
II. Key findings and recommendations from the regional events organized in the framework of the Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking.....	21



*“We acknowledge that peace and security, development and human rights are the pillars of the United Nations system and the foundations for collective security and well-being. We recognize that development, peace and security and human rights are interlinked and mutually reinforcing.”*

2005 World Summit Outcome

## I. Background

In 2000, in the United Nations Millennium Declaration (General Assembly resolution 55/2), Heads of State and Government resolved to intensify efforts to fight transnational crime in all its dimensions. Also in 2000, the General Assembly adopted the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.<sup>1</sup>

In the 2005 World Summit Outcome (Assembly resolution 60/1), Member States expressed their grave concern at the negative effects on development, peace and security and human rights posed by transnational crime, including trafficking in human beings. The three pillars of the United Nations identified in the World Summit Outcome – security, development and human rights – intersect in the crime of human trafficking and in all efforts to deal with it.

In that same document, Member States also recognized that trafficking in persons continued to pose a serious challenge to humanity and that it required a concerted international response. They urged all States to devise, enforce and strengthen effective measures to combat and eliminate all forms of trafficking in persons to counter the demand for trafficked victims and to protect them.

Far from being a new phenomenon, human trafficking has nevertheless only recently been brought to the attention of the international community. Mechanisms for collecting data on the severity of the problem are still being developed and require a better understanding of the nature of human trafficking, its root causes and the profiles of traffickers and victims.

What is known is that human trafficking is not unique to any region or country and that it can be seen in various forms around the world. It remains a low-risk, high-profit crime that violates the basic human rights of its victims.

The present document outlines the work programme for the Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking (UN.GIFT) for 2008-2009 aimed at enabling the Initiative to achieve its objectives: (a) to reduce the vulnerability of potential victims and the demand for exploitation in all its forms; (b) to ensure adequate protection of and support for victims

---

<sup>1</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2237, No. 39574.

of trafficking; and (c) to support the efficient prosecution of criminals involved in trafficking. The detailed UN.GIFT workplan for the same period is contained in annex I.

In carrying out its objectives, UN.GIFT aims to increase knowledge and awareness of human trafficking, promote effective rights-based responses, build the capacities of State and non-State actors and foster partnerships for a joint response against this crime.

The present document draws on the mandated work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), on the guidance provided by Member States and on key findings from UN.GIFT in the initial phase of its implementation.

## II. Mandate

The Trafficking in Persons Protocol, which entered into force on 25 December 2003 and currently has 118 parties, has three main purposes:

(a) To prevent and combat trafficking in persons, paying particular attention to women and children;

(b) To protect and assist the victims of such trafficking; and

(c) To promote cooperation among States parties in order to meet those objectives.

In its resolution 58/137 of 22 December 2003 on strengthening international cooperation in preventing and combating trafficking in persons and protecting victims of such trafficking, the General Assembly urged States to employ a comprehensive approach that included prevention, protection and prosecution measures.

In the 2005 World Summit Outcome, all States that had not yet done so were urged to consider becoming parties to the relevant international conventions on organized crime and, following their entry into force, to implement them effectively, including by incorporating the provisions of those conventions into national legislation and by strengthening criminal justice systems.

In its resolution 61/144 of 19 December 2006 on trafficking in women and girls, the General Assembly recognized the importance of adopting a gender- and age-sensitive approach in all efforts to fight trafficking.

Subsequently, the General Assembly adopted its resolution 61/180 of 20 December 2006 on improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons, recognizing that broad international cooperation between Member States and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations was essential and inviting them to foster a global partnership against trafficking in persons and other contemporary forms of slavery. In that resolution, Member States were also invited to consider the advisability of a United Nations strategy or plan of action on preventing trafficking in persons, prosecuting traffickers and protecting and assisting victims of trafficking.

### III. Coordinating a global response

The High-level Committee on Programmes of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination has endorsed a series of measures aimed at forging a strategic system-wide response to transnational organized crime.

In 2004, United Nations entities identified focal points to be responsible for following up on those measures. As the custodian of the Trafficking in Persons Protocol, UNODC was entrusted with coordination responsibilities and was later encouraged by the Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 2006/27 of 27 July 2006, to continue its close cooperation and coordination with relevant international and regional organizations, non-governmental organizations and other members of civil society in its efforts to combat trafficking.

The General Assembly, in its resolution 61/180, requested the Secretary-General to improve the inter-agency coordination group on trafficking in persons and to entrust the Executive Director of UNODC with coordinating the activities of the group.

In March 2007, UNODC, in partnership with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the International Labour Organization (ILO), the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), launched the Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking (UN.GIFT). Launching the Initiative was made possible with the generous contribution of the Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi.

The work programme of UN.GIFT is in line with the three themes identified in the strategy for the period 2008-2011 for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (Economic and Social Council resolution 2007/12, annex): rule of law; policy and trend analysis; and prevention, treatment and reintegration and alternative development. It is consistent with decisions 1/5, 2/3, 3/3 and 3/4 of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and follows decisions 16/1, 16/2 and resolution 17/1 of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.

The present work programme is also in line with the strategic framework of the United Nations for the period 2008-2009, under which UNODC facilitates policymaking on issues relating to crime prevention and ratification of and compliance with international legal instruments. UNODC also carries out research and analysis and provides technical assistance.

## IV. Objectives of the Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking

Given that some States have yet to ratify the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime<sup>2</sup> and the Trafficking in Persons Protocol, the implementation of the Protocol is a priority within the framework of UN.GIFT.

Based on various assessments, evaluations and practical experience on the ground, the fight against trafficking in persons requires:

- (a) Accurate data and better knowledge of the state of human trafficking worldwide;
- (b) Adequate regional and national legal frameworks;
- (c) Policies and capacity to respond;
- (d) Better protection for and assistance to victims;
- (e) More international cooperation and better coordination;
- (f) A revision of those economic processes which currently allow for human exploitation in its worst forms.

Thus, a comprehensive response to trafficking in persons calls for concerted and collective efforts to address the underlying causes, ensure that victims receive protection and assistance, and criminalize the perpetrators in order to guarantee long-term results.

To meet such challenges, the specific objectives of UN.GIFT are:

- (a) *To ensure ownership.* Member States must take ownership of the implementation of the Initiative, thus creating long-term momentum;
- (b) *To raise awareness.* It must be demonstrated to the world that human trafficking exists and people must be mobilized to stop it;
- (c) *To strengthen prevention.* Vulnerable groups must be given the information they need and the factors that make people vulnerable to trafficking must be alleviated;
- (d) *To reduce demand.* The problem must be attacked at its source by lowering incentives to trade in human beings and decreasing demand for the products and services of exploited people;
- (e) *To support and protect victims.* Victims must have medical, psychological and material assistance, keeping in mind the special needs of women, children and people at risk, such as those in refugee camps and conflict zones;
- (f) *To improve law enforcement.* Law enforcement needs to be strengthened in order to improve information exchange on trafficking routes, trafficker profiles and victim

---

<sup>2</sup> Ibid., vol. 2225, No. 39574.

identification, aimed at dismantling criminal groups, convicting more traffickers and ensuring that the punishment fits the crime;

(g) *To implement international commitments.* International commitments need to be reflected in national laws and practice by targeting legal and technical assistance to States in greatest need and by improving the monitoring of implementation;

(h) *To improve data.* A deeper understanding of the scope and nature of trafficking in persons needs to be achieved by collecting and analysing more data, improving mechanisms for sharing data, carrying out joint research initiatives and producing evidence-based reports on global trafficking trends;

(i) *To strengthen partnerships.* Regional and thematic networks involving civil society, intergovernmental organizations and the private sector need to be built up;

(j) *To increase resources.* Resources for sustainable funding of projects around the world committed to ending human trafficking must be attracted and leveraged.

## V. Preparatory phase of the Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking

Throughout 2007, a number of events took place around the world in the framework of UN.GIFT. Key recommendations and findings of those events can be found in annex II of the present document and on the UN.GIFT website ([www.ungift.org](http://www.ungift.org)). The first event, which was held in Kampala from 19 to 22 June 2007, took up the issue of human trafficking in conflict and post-conflict countries. It considered training of peacekeeping forces to prevent and detect trafficking. During the conference, which was organized by UNODC, the Eastern Africa Police Chiefs Cooperation Organization and the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), a regional action plan was developed that included concrete steps to tackle issues such as prevention, legislative frameworks and law enforcement techniques.

From 2 to 4 October 2007, a regional event took place in Brasilia, where efforts focused on the development of a national action plan for Brazil. The national policy and plan of action against trafficking represented an important step by the Government of Brazil to strengthen its national agenda on this issue.

In Bangkok, a regional event, also held from 2 to 4 October 2007, focused on criminal justice responses to trafficking in persons. The workshop, which was hosted by UNODC and the Government of Thailand, with support from the Government of Australia, looked at the investigation, prosecution and adjudication of trafficking cases within the framework of international standards and emerging good practices.

A major event, entitled "Interfaith dialogue: what religious communities can do to combat human trafficking", took place in Cape Town from 3 to 5 October 2007. The Government of South Africa and the Archbishop of Cape Town organized the event,

which was the first to have brought together religious leaders from all faiths and various non-governmental organizations working on human trafficking. Participants agreed on a Cape Town Declaration.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkey hosted, in Istanbul on 9 and 10 October 2007, a conference on human trafficking in the Black Sea region to identify ways to improve cooperation between law enforcement agencies and non-governmental organizations for the referral of victims of trafficking. Participants agreed to place the issue of human trafficking high on the agenda of the Budapest Process, an intergovernmental forum on migration in the European region.

On 10 and 11 October 2007, a major conference in New Delhi looked at how to respond to trafficking for sexual exploitation in South Asia. Participants considered ways to raise awareness of the problem through new partnerships with the private sector, media and artists. Many prominent figures showed their support for UN.GIFT. The Delhi Declaration, the outcome of the conference, recognized, among other things, the need to reduce demand for prostitution and the use of child and forced labour.

In Vilnius, another conference, held on 25 and 26 October 2007, emphasized the role of the media in preventing trafficking in persons. The event was jointly organized with the Government of Lithuania and OSCE.

At the end of October 2007, the League of Arab States, with UNODC support, held a workshop in Egypt to review the status of legislation in Arab States for combating trafficking in persons. A regional action plan was discussed.

From 26 to 28 November 2007, a UN.GIFT regional conference in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, picked up the theme of the conference held in June in East Africa on conflict and post-conflict zones, but focused more particularly on trafficking in children for use in armed conflict. Participants recommended setting up a trust fund for child victims.

On 13 and 14 December 2007, a round table against human trafficking aimed at strengthening cooperation and coordination among partners in Belarus, Moldova, the Russian Federation, Ukraine and the Central Asian countries was held in Bishkek.

These events served as stepping stones to the Vienna Forum to Fight Human Trafficking, held from 13 to 15 February 2008 to raise awareness and facilitate cooperation and partnerships among stakeholders.

## **VI. Vienna Forum to Fight Human Trafficking**

Over 1,600 representatives of Member States, non-governmental organizations, academic institutions, United Nations entities and international and regional organizations, together with senior officials, journalists, activists and trafficking victims from over 116 countries, gathered at the Vienna Forum to Fight Human Trafficking.

The following key findings and recommendations emerged from the more than 25 sessions of the Forum:

(a) The Vienna Forum set the stage for future efforts to combat trafficking. The Chairperson's summary emphasized the need to address aggressively all forms of exploitation, including forced labour, and underscored the critical role of UN.GIFT in continuing to build and expand alliances;

(b) Emphasis was placed on the need for adequate national legislation to cover all aspects of trafficking, including through the ratification and implementation of the Trafficking in Persons Protocol and other relevant international instruments;

(c) Raising awareness was considered a cross-cutting activity that touched on all aspects of the fight against human trafficking, whether in terms of helping law enforcement officers to identify victims, of enlightening the private sector or of alerting potential victims and the general public;

(d) The need for a victim-centred, human rights approach to preventing and combating trafficking in persons was emphasized, with the understanding that supporting victims could also have a positive impact on criminal justice;

(e) It was agreed that more research was essential for improving the effectiveness of action against trafficking in persons. Evidenced-based knowledge was necessary to fill the serious information gaps and allow for the design of adequate anti-trafficking policies;

(f) Research needed to lead to achievement indicators that could be used as a baseline against which appropriate evaluation and monitoring mechanisms could be developed and implemented. The precise nature of the mechanisms to monitor progress and assess the impact of efforts to combat human trafficking needed to be addressed more thoroughly;

(g) There was a need for increased cooperation between relevant agencies, civil society and the private sector within countries and on an international level. UN.GIFT was seen as an important facilitator for expanding cooperative and innovative alliances;

(h) Labour market stakeholders (such as employers' organizations, trade unions and businesses) needed to become more active partners in ensuring that labour rights and protections were respected in order to prevent human trafficking for the purpose of forced labour and to address it where it already existed;

(i) There was widespread agreement that the underlying causes of human trafficking needed to be confronted using a balanced approach and that more attention needed to be paid to reducing demand for trafficked persons in destination countries;

(j) As stated by the Chairperson, the Vienna Forum met its immediate objectives; however, action was needed to follow through with technical assistance and international cooperation, both of which were essential for building national capacity for the implementation of the Organized Crime Convention and the Trafficking in Persons Protocol.

## VII. Implementation phase of the Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking

In order to map out the direction of UN.GIFT, UNODC has been collecting data and information on human trafficking and on best practices to combat it. This has included identifying knowledge gaps, reviewing lessons learned from programmes and projects and analysing the findings and recommendations that have emerged from events held in the framework of UN.GIFT, including the Vienna Forum. On that basis, the main sources used for the present document include:

(a) Decision 3/3 on, inter alia, the Trafficking in Persons Protocol, and decision 3/4, adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime at its third session, held in Vienna from 9 to 18 October 2006 (CTOC/COP/2006/14) and the report on the meeting of the Open-ended Interim Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance, held in Vienna from 3 to 5 October 2007 (CTOC/COP/2008/7);

(b) The first and second round of questionnaires on the implementation of the Organized Crime Convention and the Trafficking in Persons Protocol, and the background paper prepared by the Secretariat containing proposals for technical assistance activities (CTOC/COP/WG.2/2007/2);

(c) Preliminary findings gained from UNODC data collection exercises;

(d) Detailed reports on six regional events, held in Brazil, Côte d'Ivoire, India, South Africa, Thailand and Uganda;

(e) Preliminary assessments of technical assistance needs undertaken by the Anti-Human-Trafficking Unit of UNODC and regional and field offices;

(f) *The Vienna Forum Report: A Way Forward to Combat Human Trafficking.*

### Course of action

During the next phase of UN.GIFT (2008-2009), the delivery of technical assistance will be at the centre of all activities in order to ensure the sustainability and maximum impact of ongoing efforts.

The technical assistance to be provided in the framework of UN.GIFT is premised upon the underlying need to adopt a comprehensive approach to combating trafficking in persons and involves coordinated action on multiple fronts.

Core UN.GIFT activities will concentrate on developing joint programmes that are designed, planned and implemented by its member organizations. These programmes, to be funded with additional resources, will lead to greater, measurable impact and increased coordination among all partners.

The work programme of UN.GIFT is based on four pillars:

- (a) Global and collective advocacy efforts to help raise awareness about human trafficking;
- (b) Evidence-based knowledge on human trafficking to be used to inform national and international policymaking efforts;
- (c) Greater coordination among international organizations and innovative public-private partnerships;
- (d) System-wide, institutional and individual capacity-building by stakeholders through the provision of technical assistance.

## **1. Global and collective advocacy efforts**

Awareness about trafficking-related crimes must be raised among all segments of the population, in particular among people working in law enforcement, the judiciary, migration and social services, educational institutions, the media, the private sector, employers' associations and trade unions.

It is necessary to raise awareness about the dangers of human trafficking within communities as a means of prevention and to allow community members to monitor and ensure the implementation of the law. In addition, an analysis of awareness-raising campaigns has indicated that although campaigns focusing on decreasing demand were most numerous, these were not necessarily the most effective. Anti-trafficking measures and messages tackling demand should be consistent with broader policies that show intolerance for exploitation, racism and discrimination.

UN.GIFT will continue to work on global advocacy efforts, targeting different groups, to boost awareness of the problem of human trafficking. This is critical for preventing potential victims from being trafficked, to increase awareness among consumers of the existence of products made by victims of trafficking and to support law enforcement and other Government officers in identifying victims.

## **2. Evidence-based knowledge**

The data collection exercise conducted in the framework of UN.GIFT will provide a global overview of the human trafficking situation based on official information and data. It will also highlight where there continue to be big gaps in information.

The data collected includes the number of investigations, prosecutions and convictions conducted against traffickers in the past few years. Where available, information is also being gathered on the number of victims officially identified and assisted by the competent authorities during the same period of time, on profiles of offenders and victims and on institutional frameworks to combat human trafficking, including legislation and specific action plans.

The research activities conducted in the framework of UN.GIFT complement the reporting cycle mandated by the Conference of the Parties to the Organized Crime

Convention and are in line with the proposals for technical assistance activities determined by it.

The data collection exercise and the research activities will feed into policymaking and strategic planning efforts made by States to fight human trafficking. It will provide a basis from which progress can be monitored and knowledge gaps filled.

In addition, the joint programmes developed under UN.GIFT will be designed to contain data collection activities at the relevant level. This will serve not only to increase knowledge and information sharing, but also to ensure a results-based management in monitoring and evaluating the impact of the joint programmes.

### **3. Coordinating the response to human trafficking**

UN.GIFT is owned and guided by Member States. It is a response to the need for coherence among all United Nations entities and for improving international cooperation and services provided to States in tackling the human trafficking challenge.

Based on the recommendations of the High-level Committee on Programmes of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination on the need for improved coordination and cooperation among the organizations concerned, UN.GIFT is an alliance of organizations from within and outside the United Nations system.

UN.GIFT works within the framework of the Inter-Agency Cooperation Group against Trafficking in Persons to improve coordination and cooperation between United Nations agencies and other international organizations in order to facilitate a holistic approach to preventing and combating trafficking in persons, including by providing protection for and support to victims of trafficking.

The UN.GIFT alliance draws upon the comparative advantages of key international and regional organizations working to combat human trafficking and will continue to coordinate its activities through the work of its Steering Committee, which is composed of UNODC, OHCHR, UNICEF, ILO, IOM and OSCE. The Steering Committee has the role of ensuring coherence and coordination among all UN.GIFT activities.

In addition, UN.GIFT has established a Women Leaders' Council, whose membership comprises 30 prominent women from developed and developing countries, including ministers, business leaders, parliamentarians and artists. The objective of the Council is to use the individual capacity and leadership of its members to advance the anti-human-trafficking agenda in their spheres of action. Other important groups involved in UN.GIFT include parliamentarians, the business community and civil society organizations.

### **4. Technical assistance: joint programmes**

At the country level, donor Governments and organizations of the United Nations system have recognized the need to establish coordination mechanisms in order to, among other things, share information and leverage the comparative advantages of each organization. The Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness stresses the importance of

donor coordination, stating that excessive fragmentation of aid at the global, country or sector level impairs its effectiveness. It further states that a pragmatic approach to the division of labour and burden sharing increases complementarity and can reduce costs in the delivery of technical assistance.

In order to build the institutional and individual capacity of stakeholders across the United Nations system, UN.GIFT will develop and implement joint technical assistance programmes in a few regions and countries, in line with the Paris Declaration, with a series of system-wide actions endorsed by the Chief Executives Board for Coordination in 2005 to counter transnational organized crime and with responses to questionnaires filled out by the United Nations specialized agencies, which referred to coordination of technical assistance and joint programming.

The first phase of operational work by UN.GIFT in the field will prioritize technical assistance, taking into consideration a regional, thematic and programmatic balance. This will contribute to a broader thematic coverage, given the complexity of the problem of human trafficking and its many dimensions.

Technical assistance will be provided in the form of joint programmes, drawing on the different areas of expertise of the members of the UN.GIFT Steering Committee and other relevant partners. Although joint programming is a common practice within the United Nations system, by involving other international and regional partners (such as IOM and OSCE), UN.GIFT will contribute to United Nations reform and much more.

By targeting different aspects of efforts to combat human trafficking (for example by focusing on regions or countries where trafficking for the purposes of forced labour is more prominent than other forms of exploitation or on post-conflict countries), UN.GIFT will learn and share good practices in its work devoted to combating human trafficking.

The joint programmes aim to increase the coherence, synergy, effectiveness and impact of anti-human trafficking responses. Joint programmes reduce transaction costs for Governments, donors and other partners by using common programming, coordination, operational and reporting processes and tools, thus promoting efficiency gains.

The initial selection of the programmes will be based on the following aspects: a regional balance in coverage; the identification of needs and priorities using, among other sources, the preliminary data from data collection exercises; regional and field office assessments; findings and recommendations from the UN.GIFT regional events and the Vienna Forum; the technical assistance needs and priorities identified through joint programme development mission(s); and potential for innovation, replication and scaling up.

It is recommended that at least one UN.GIFT programme should be implemented in a “one-United-Nations country”, to draw on the advantages of United Nations system-wide coordination in the field and to assess its impact in the provision of technical assistance to fight human trafficking.

The programmatic areas of work of UN.GIFT are based on the priorities defined by Member States, as set out in the sources cited above, as well as the knowledge and

experience accumulated by UNODC in the field and a preliminary assessment based on regional and field office responses to technical assistance priority needs, as shown in the results outlined below.

<b>Regional and field office identified priority technical assistance needs</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
International cooperation	78.57
Data collection and improved knowledge on human trafficking	71.43
Prevention and awareness-raising	64.29
Pre-ratification assistance and legislative framework	42.86
Strategic planning and policy development	21.43
Criminal justice system responses	35.71
Victim protection and support	35.71

## **5. Technical assistance priorities**

Based on the above, the technical assistance provided in the framework of UN.GIFT will focus on seven key priority areas as described below.

*Pre-ratification assistance.* Pre-ratification assistance includes assessment of existing and relevant legislation, evaluation of the requirements for ratification, and consultation with and advising multiple parties on implementation.

*Data collection.* Data collection includes building the capacity of law enforcement authorities to collect and analyse data on organized crime in general and specifically on human trafficking in particular, in addition to building the capacity of States to manage knowledge on human trafficking trends and threat assessments, bridging gaps in the coverage of existing data collection and analysis systems.

*Strategic planning and policy development.* This includes analysing and developing regional and national policymaking and coordination mechanisms to facilitate and coordinate all activities conducted under the Trafficking in Persons Protocol, to produce viable national action plans supported by national inter-agency coordination mechanisms, to provide the assistance needed to implement such policies and to disseminate best practices on all specific aspects of the comprehensive response required.

*Prevention and awareness-raising.* This includes information campaigns, awareness-raising for policymakers, criminal justice practitioners and other authorities, and adopting measures to reduce the demand for products and services produced by exploitative and forced labour and other long-term prevention methods, such as creating employment opportunities for groups at risk and victims of trafficking in persons, to lessen the likelihood of such trafficking.

*Criminal justice system responses.* Responses of the criminal justice system include support for the adoption of necessary legislation and the establishment of related institutions, special police units and prosecutorial structures, the provision of legislative assistance

and tools and building capacity of criminal justice practitioners, including by developing and providing specialist training materials.

*Victim protection and support.* This includes assisting in the review and revision of domestic legislation on support and protection for victims, developing identification and referral practices, providing housing, physical, psychological, social, employment and educational assistance for victims, including through cooperation with civil society organizations, establishing measures to avoid immediate deportation in cases of repatriation and securing the safety of victims.

*International cooperation.* International cooperation includes fostering cooperation among officials of different States in carrying out action involving investigation, prosecution, prevention and victim and witness protection (including regional action plans) by enabling effective information exchange and joint efforts to combat trafficking in persons. It also includes the establishment or strengthening of central authorities for mutual legal assistance and extradition.

## **6. Joint programme monitoring and evaluation**

Monitoring and evaluating the impact of projects and programmes to combat trafficking is difficult owing to several factors. According to a report on human trafficking,<sup>3</sup> these factors include questionable project-level estimates of the number of trafficking victims. Such estimates are required in order to establish baselines by which to evaluate how effective specific interventions are in reducing trafficking.

In order to address weaknesses in project design that impede monitoring and evaluation, a panel of experts convened by the Government Accountability Office of the United States of America has suggested that officials should design projects that clearly link activities to intended outcomes, identify measurable indicators and establish procedures for setting and modifying targets.

Thus, developing better data about the incidence of human trafficking at the project and programme levels, applying rigorous evaluation methodologies and developing frameworks that clearly link activities with project and programme goals, indicators and targets are central to effective programme implementation. At the programme management level, this will be taken into account in all UN.GIFT joint programmes so as to ensure that impact monitoring and evaluation forms part of design, planning and implementation.

## **7. Cross-cutting issue: South-South and triangular cooperation**

The potential of South-South cooperation has been recognized and encouraged by Member States as an effective contribution to sharing best practices and providing

---

<sup>3</sup> United States of America, Government Accountability Office, Human Trafficking: Monitoring and Evaluation of International Projects are Limited, but Experts Suggest Improvements, GAO report GAO-07-1034 (Washington, D.C., July 2007).

enhanced technical cooperation. This was reflected in a decision adopted at the Second South Summit of the Group of 77, held in Doha from 12 to 16 June 2005, and contained in the Doha Declaration<sup>4</sup> and the Doha Plan of Action,<sup>5</sup> to intensify efforts in South-South cooperation in order to support the efforts of developing countries, inter alia, through triangular cooperation.

UN.GIFT will promote South-South and triangular cooperation through policy research and dialogue, sharing of practices used in the joint programmes and promoting cooperation across regions and among States.

Triangular cooperation is used for technical cooperation when a developing country enters into partnership with either another developing country or a developed counterpart to lend technical assistance to a third country.

South-South and triangular cooperation will enable UN.GIFT to maximize its outreach and impact by assisting States to identify, document and disseminate their experiences in critical areas and to build partnerships for scaling up technical assistance.

## **VIII. Institutional mechanisms of the Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking**

UN.GIFT is managed by UNODC, which serves as its secretariat. UN.GIFT activities are coordinated by its Steering Committee composed of four United Nations organizations (UNODC, OHCHR, UNICEF and ILO), one international organization (IOM) and one regional organization (OSCE). An official from the Executive Affairs Authority of the Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi (the donor that has made UN.GIFT possible) is also represented at Steering Committee meetings.

### **Steering Committee Technical Working Group**

The specific tasks of the Steering Committee Technical Working Group are:

- (a) To coordinate human trafficking interventions among its members and their respective networks and alliances;
- (b) To create synergies and avoid duplication in order to ensure the most cost-effective delivery of activities and actions to counter human trafficking;
- (c) To coordinate further development of the knowledge base on trafficking in human beings;

---

<sup>4</sup> A/60/111, annex I.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid., annex II.

(d) To promote UN.GIFT, advocate its goals and advise on the global advocacy strategy and development of communication messages;

(e) To undertake assessments of gaps and needs to ensure relevance in the initiatives supported by UN.GIFT;

(f) To develop a monitoring mechanism, including the setting of indicators, to assess the impact of UN.GIFT;

(g) To ensure sustainability of UN.GIFT objectives and mobilize resources for joint programmes and projects to counter human trafficking.



# Annex I Workplan of the Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking for 2008-2009

<i>Output</i>	<i>Output description</i>	<i>Activity</i>
<b>PILLAR 1: Global and collective advocacy efforts to help raise awareness of human trafficking</b>		
OUTPUT 1 <sup>a</sup>	Increased awareness of human trafficking	<b>Awareness-raising to support prevention efforts.</b> Engaging public opinion through special groups and markets such as law enforcement, media, sports, youth and regional anti-trafficking networks and groups.
<b>PILLAR 2: Evidence-based knowledge on human trafficking to feed into global and national policymaking</b>		
OUTPUT 1	Increased knowledge base on human trafficking	<b>Development of a global report through collection of data on human trafficking.</b> Completion of the data collection exercise that started in September 2007. Quantitative indicators include information on criminal justice response (investigations, prosecutions and conviction rates) and victim support (number of service providers, number of beds provided to victims and number of victims assisted). Qualitative indicators include information on legislation, special law enforcement structures and national coordination. The exercise will include the establishment of a sustainable monitoring capacity and a programme to further develop indicators, provide ongoing data and develop approaches to analysis.

<sup>a</sup> The UN.GIFT project document is divided into the five outputs: (a) increase awareness of human trafficking; (b) increase political commitment and capacity of Member States to counter human trafficking and implement the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime; (c) mobilize resources to implement the action required to combat trafficking at the international, regional and national levels; (d) organize a global conference to assess the trafficking situation and promote global action against human trafficking; and (e) increase support to victims of trafficking through non-governmental organizations and other service providers.

<i>Output</i>	<i>Output description</i>	<i>Activity</i>
		<p><b>Research forum.</b> Establish an interdisciplinary advisory research network on human trafficking to promote a new global agenda for research on trafficking and to develop measures, including tools and guidelines, to enhance research capacities in developing countries in order to support more and better research and data on human trafficking.</p> <p><b>Socio-economic impact of human trafficking.</b> Review of existing studies on national, regional and global economic implications of human trafficking and their methodologies. Development of a background paper researching the dynamics of the market for human trafficking and estimating the value of the market.</p> <p><b>Technical publications and practical tools.</b> Production of guidelines, background papers and practical tools for practitioners on organized crime, money-laundering, corruption and human trafficking.</p> <p><b>Trafficking in persons profiling indicator system.</b> Exploring methodologies and mechanisms to trace, identify, track and disrupt clandestine transfers of persons (based on the system developed by the South Eastern and Eastern Europe Clearinghouse for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons for arms smuggling).</p>
<b>PILLAR 3: Greater coordination among international organizations and more innovative public-private partnerships</b>		
OUTPUT 2	Increased political commitment and support to Member States through technical assistance and capacity-building	<p><b>Ownership by Member States</b> of UN.GIFT efforts to combat human trafficking efforts, including regular consultations and briefings, mandated reporting and participation in discussions and meetings of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, among other forums.</p>
OUTPUT 3	Enhance coordination and partnerships for more effective response to combat human trafficking	<p><b>Inter-agency coordination</b> and stakeholder involvement to facilitate, build and expand cooperative alliances. Establish a network of field focal points to serve as information conduits for UN.GIFT at the subregional and regional levels.</p> <p><b>Strategic partnerships</b> with the private sector. Build a private sector coalition against human trafficking, including a study on financial and resource allocation by businesses. Development of a best practice compendium award for business leaders. Work with the Global Compact on business cases for private sector involvement on human trafficking.</p>

<i>Output</i>	<i>Output description</i>	<i>Activity</i>
		<p><b>Resource mobilization</b> from donor countries for technical assistance to be implemented through joint programmes.</p> <p><b>Women Leaders' Council.</b> Establish a network of prominent women to serve as a catalyst to strengthen the capacity and contribution of leadership by women to combating human trafficking through the implementation of individually identified actionable items ranging from public awareness-raising events, innovative government policies, fund-raising support, business strategies and cross-sectoral collaborative efforts.</p> <p><b>Reporting on the outcome of the Vienna Forum</b> to Member States at the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and organization of side events, including the preparation and dissemination of the outcome report.</p>
OUTPUT 4	A global conference is organized to assess the global trafficking situation and to promote global action against human trafficking	
<b>PILLAR 4: System-wide, institutional and individual capacity development of stakeholders, through the delivery of technical assistance</b>		
OUTPUT 1	Increased awareness of human trafficking	<p><b>Regional initiatives</b> based on specific sector and thematic focus areas, designed to evaluate, understand and develop actions to deal with the causes of vulnerability and undertake effective responses, including the response in South Asia, which is to strengthen business and corporate partnerships to combat human trafficking and build an “artists against human trafficking coalition”.</p> <p><b>Joint programmes.</b> Technical assistance provided through joint programmes with partnering organizations covering national legislative and institutional frameworks, criminal justice responses and support services provided to victims, including results-based management and impact-monitoring and evaluation to assess performance of joint programmes, document lessons learned and disseminate good practices.</p> <p><b>Development of capacity-building tools:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Supply chain management toolkit;</li> <li>(b) Training resources on child trafficking;</li> <li>(c) Guidelines on better identification of vulnerabilities and delivery of multi-disciplinary international training;</li> <li>(d) Law enforcement “first aid kit”;</li> <li>(e) Advanced training manual for law enforcement, judges and prosecutors.</li> </ul>
OUTPUT 2	Increased political commitment and support to Member States through technical assistance and capacity-building	

<i>Output</i>	<i>Output description</i>	<i>Activity</i>
OUTPUT 3	Enhance coordination and partnerships for more effective response to combat human trafficking	<p><b>Development of assessment tools</b> to evaluate the national trafficking situation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Legislative assessment tool and checklist;</li> <li>(b) National human trafficking assessment tool;</li> <li>(c) Rapid response needs assessment;</li> <li>(d) International reporting system on case law.</li> </ul> <p><b>Support to parliamentarians.</b> Finalization of the “Parliamentarian handbook” to support measures on the implementation of the Trafficking in Persons Protocol in cooperation with the Council of Europe and the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU). Support IPU to administer a questionnaire for parliamentarians to collect best practices and technical assistance needs of parliamentarians.</p> <p><b>Innovative technology coalitions and cybercrime response.</b> Technology-based initiatives to stem trafficking, child pornography and child sexual exploitation. Work with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children in the United States in the application of the “Cyber Tipline” and the financial and technology coalition for anti-human-trafficking efforts in targeted regions and countries.</p>
OUTPUT 5	Increased support to victims of trafficking through non-governmental organizations and other service providers	<p><b>Develop tools to support victims of trafficking:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Rights of victims of human trafficking handbook;</li> <li>(b) Health and human trafficking, including HIV/AIDS.</li> </ul> <p><b>Increase cooperation between non-governmental organizations and authorities for the protection of victims.</b> Develop a non-governmental organizations and law enforcement model cooperation agreement.</p> <p><b>Ensure standard agreements for repatriation of trafficked victims.</b> Replication of the model used by a crisis management centre based in Vienna to help identify and repatriate trafficked children to their home countries.</p>

# **Annex II Key findings and recommendations from regional events organized in the framework of the Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking**

## **UN.GIFT East Africa**

### **First Regional Anti-Human Trafficking Conference in Eastern Africa: Vulnerabilities of Conflict and Post-Conflict Countries, held in Kampala from 19 to 22 June 2007**

General recommendations of the Conference were as follows:

- (a) Undertake further research on the linkages between conflict and post-conflict conditions and trafficking in persons to foster evidence-based efforts to combat human trafficking;
- (b) Tailor anti-trafficking activities to conflict and post-conflict settings that may exacerbate common underlying causes of trafficking;
- (c) Create customized, sensitive and timely awareness-raising material regarding the risks of trafficking among especially vulnerable groups (children, women, orphans, refugees etc.);
- (d) Work closely with Governments to re-establish the rule of law in order to facilitate prosecution of traffickers and assistance to and protection of victims;
- (e) Provide specialized training of peacekeeping forces on preventing and detecting trafficking;
- (f) Encourage regional cooperation to seek peaceful resolution of conflicts and ensure there is no safe haven for traffickers;
- (g) Ensure that countries experiencing conflict and countries in the same region prevent the trafficking of children, both across and within national borders, for use in combat operations through:
  - (i) Awareness-raising campaigns on international, regional and national instruments that prohibit the use of children in combat;
  - (ii) Memorandums of understanding and other bilateral and multilateral agreements;
- (h) Involve the private sector more actively in conflict and post-conflict settings, by raising knowledge of trafficking and its consequences among private sector stakeholders and getting their support in preventing and combating trafficking through:
  - (i) Awareness-raising, training, reintegration and other programmes;

- (ii) Developing business codes of conduct;
- (iii) Creating effective control mechanisms for monitoring compliance with codes of conduct.

The Conference also recommended development of a regional action plan to combat trafficking in persons, targeting the following:

- (a) Identification of geographical areas and children and adults at risk;
- (b) Addressing vulnerability factors through provision of employment and livelihoods for adolescents and parents, safe labour migration, job placement, decent jobs for adolescents, provision of training in life skills and empowerment, community mobilization and awareness-raising, education for children less than 15 years of age and resolution of conflicts;
- (c) Better monitoring of movements;
- (d) Monitoring and reporting by transport union;
- (e) Better enforcement of laws and policies;
- (f) Sensitization of travellers through messages, announcements and information booths;
- (g) Licensing, registration and independent monitoring of recruitment agencies;
- (h) Ensuring that informal and unregulated work activities are brought within the protection of labour laws to ensure that all workers enjoy the same labour rights;
- (i) Encouraging the creation of ethical employer associations that will adhere to codes of conduct which ensure protection of the rights of workers;
- (j) Develop public awareness campaigns on products and services that are produced by exploitative and forced labour and develop guidance to assist consumers in identifying goods or services that have not been produced through exploitation.

**UN.GIFT Brazil****National Conference: Challenges to the Implementation of the National Plan of Action against Trafficking in Persons, held in Brasilia from 2 to 4 October 2007**

The Conference identified the following priority actions:

- (a) Analyse the impact of policies to combat trafficking on human rights and the mobility of specific social groups, such as migrant women and irregular migrants, in general;
- (b) National Penal Code needs to be harmonized with the definition of trafficking in persons contained in the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;
- (c) Apply labour legislation to the sexual exploitation of adults as a way to deal more effectively with trafficking for that purpose, following the experience of the fight against slave labour in Brazil;
- (d) Recognizing the professional relationship of the prostitute to his/her boss and to the establishment where he/she works will help in the process of applying labour legislation to sexual exploitation;
- (e) Increase control over the movement of children and adolescents across the land frontiers of Brazil with other South American countries;
- (f) Strengthen policies for protection and assistance of people trafficked to Brazil.

The Conference drew the following conclusions:

- (a) National policy against trafficking in persons constituted progress, by establishing guidelines for the intervention of the Federal Government in accordance with the Trafficking in Persons Protocol;
- (b) It is important to note that all the modalities of trafficking described in the Protocol are in some way criminalized in Brazil, but not all are dealt with as trafficking in persons;
- (c) Labour legislation in Brazil has many more measures to protect victims of exploitation than other types of legislation currently in place and hence needs to be more widely used;
- (d) The most important policy to counter trafficking is not in the realm of specific anti-trafficking measures, but in guaranteeing access to basic rights of certain populations historically excluded and vulnerable to trafficking (health, reproductive rights, education, justice, labour etc.);
- (e) Countries should develop their own model of assistance based on their specific needs and not simply follow the guidelines established by international cooperation;
- (f) The National Policy and the National Plan of Action against Trafficking represent an important step by the Government of Brazil to establish a national agenda in this area in accordance with its needs and independent of foreign funding.

## UN.GIFT South Asia

### **Regional Conference: Responding to Trafficking for Sexual Exploitation in South Asia, held in New Delhi on 10 and 11 October 2007**

The Conference identified the following priority actions:

- (a) Call upon all concerned, including the police, prosecutors and the judiciary, to undertake concerted action in law enforcement so that offenders are punished quickly, certainly and severely and in a time-bound manner;
- (b) Make all efforts towards evolving a synergistic approach in dealing with trafficking issues;
- (c) Work towards systemic training and capacity-building of all stakeholders;
- (d) Strengthen the legal processes wherever required, including for the protection of victims;
- (e) Protect all children from sexual exploitation and take all stringent measures against sex selection and violence against the girl child;
- (f) Reduce the demand for prostitution and the use of child and forced labour and strengthen the collaborative efforts of non-governmental organizations, local governments and other institutions to prevent all forms of trafficking for these purposes;
- (g) Recognize the role of youth as agents of change and promote education of the girl child and social and economic empowerment of women, leading to their full participation in economic life and in decision-making;
- (h) Identify vulnerable areas through study of migration and trafficking trends and patterns and undertake focused programmes to target trafficking through planned and evidence-based interventions;
- (i) Ensure the availability of proper protocols and legal processes for rescue and repatriation procedures oriented towards care and protection of victims;
- (j) Devise sustainable processes for reintegration of victims into society in alignment with the work of voluntary organizations, local bodies and community leaders;
- (k) Identify inter-State and intra-State source, transit and destination routes for forced labour and cooperatively work out modalities to prevent labour exploitation in concert with trade unions and employers associations;
- (l) Prevent brokers and intermediaries from indulging in trafficking for forced labour and other forms of illegal purposes, including specifically for domestic child labour;
- (m) Promote safe migration and discourage irregular migration;
- (n) Integrate HIV strategies into anti-trafficking strategies and mitigate the health hazards of trafficked victims through intersectoral collaboration;
- (o) Promote the prevention of commercial sexual exploitation in close alignment with community leaders, health workers and non-governmental organizations;
- (p) Recognize patterns between trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation;
- (q) Build a business coalition against trafficking and develop appropriate codes of conduct and ethical trade practices for business;
- (r) Encourage awareness campaigns to prevent trafficking by way of public-private partnerships;
- (s) Build a coalition of media partners and popular personalities to advocate for the prevention of trafficking.

**UN.GIFT East Asia and the Pacific**

**Regional Workshop on Criminal Justice Responses to Trafficking in Persons, held in Bangkok from 2 to 4 October 2007**

The Workshop agreed on the following priority actions:

- (a) Development of a comprehensive legal framework in compliance with international standards;
- (b) Creation of an effective specialist investigation function within law enforcement agencies;
- (c) To the extent possible and in accordance with domestic law and applicable international legal obligations:
  - (i) Ensure that front-line law enforcement officials understand the crime of trafficking and their powers and responsibilities to provide an effective initial response;
  - (ii) Ensure that systems and procedures are in place to enable effective cross-border, regional and international investigative cooperation on cases involving trafficking in persons;
  - (iii) Organize the prosecutorial and judicial response in a way that promotes effective prosecution and adjudication of trafficking in persons cases in accordance with international standards;
  - (iv) Ensure that victims of trafficking are protected and fully supported as witnesses;
  - (v) Ensure that systems and procedures are in place to enable effective international legal cooperation on trafficking in persons cases;
  - (vi) Ensure that systems and procedures are in place to coordinate support for a more effective criminal justice response to trafficking in persons.

## UN.GIFT West Africa

### **High-level Expert Meeting on Trafficking in Children and Armed Conflict: Preventing and Combating the Illicit Recruitment and Use of Child Soldiers in West and Central Africa, held in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, from 26 to 28 November 2007**

The Meeting noted the need for the following legal and institutional frameworks:

- (a) Ratification of relevant conventions and protocols and ensuring compliance with national legislation;
- (b) Strengthening good governance;
- (c) Elaboration of national action plans on trafficking in children and their use in armed conflict;
- (d) Establishment of a legal network to fight impunity of child traffickers and individuals using children in armed conflict;
- (e) Establishment of a system of assistance to child victims and witnesses.

The Meeting highlighted the following actions for prevention measures and enforcement of early warning systems in Western and Central Africa:

- (a) Initiate in the respective countries a situational analysis of children at risk (displaced children, unaccompanied children, street children, working children and youth, abandoned children, child refugees and children in conflict with the law, with a special emphasis on girls);
- (b) Strengthen national awareness-raising campaigns, in collaboration with key stakeholders in the area of protection of human rights and with development partners;
- (c) Undertake the necessary measures to train and equip relevant law enforcement and military State actors with a view to preventing recruitment of children in armed conflict;
- (d) Strengthen international, regional and bilateral cooperation with a view to fighting the phenomenon of the use of child soldiers efficiently;
- (e) Ensure free and compulsory basic education for all children with a special emphasis on vulnerable children;
- (f) Develop structures for social, educational and literacy activities aimed at youth and the development of their full potential;
- (g) Introduce specific learning modules on the rights of the child and human rights in school curricula, including on trafficking in children and recruitment of child soldiers;
- (h) Ensure quality training for educators, social services personnel and welfare structures for child victims;
- (i) Prepare educational material adapted to the needs of vulnerable children;
- (j) Launch sustainable educational and rehabilitation measures for children formerly associated with armed groups or forces with a view to avoiding re-victimization;
- (k) Develop vocational training skills modules to foster employment for children at risk of being recruited;
- (l) Develop sustainable socio-economic programmes to support vulnerable families;

- (m) Implement HIV/AIDS awareness-raising programmes;
- (n) Encourage States to fight against the proliferation of small arms.

The Meeting drew the following conclusions on disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of children associated with armed groups or forces:

(a) The implementation of all programmes for disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR) in post-conflict States should be harmonized with a view to ensuring that all children are included in such programmes and thus benefit from the same treatment;

(b) Protection should be promoted through awareness-raising among children in peaceful States bordering conflict countries;

(c) International legal instruments should be disseminated in all countries (including States that are not stricken by conflict) with a view to preventing trafficking in children for armed conflicts;

(d) Existing community projects should be used to develop specific mechanisms for the identification of children involved in armed conflict;

(e) Dependants (children) of the children demobilized from armed groups and identified at the moment of their liberation should be included for all relevant welfare purposes;

(f) The will of couples formed by children who have been associated with armed groups or forces should be taken into account when considering family reunification in the context of the place of future reintegration;

(g) National DDR programme budgets must take into account all relevant costs, such as board, transportation and medical expenses of the children associated with armed groups or forces during the time they undergo vocational skills training;

(h) Children associated with armed groups or forces must be able to benefit from appropriate psychological assistance when needed;

(i) Synergies should be sought with other existing national programmes in order to ensure the sustainability of reintegration;

(j) The necessary technical and financial resources to implement sustainable socio-economic reintegration programmes must be planned for;

(k) Efforts must be made to seek the final integration of reintegrating youth in the local economy through DDR programmes, subject to specific implementation time frames;

(l) Issues related to child soldiers must be integrated into national sector policies and programmes;

(m) A communications strategy must be developed to raise awareness among relevant community stakeholders of the DDR process;

(n) The DDR process for children must be separate from the DDR process for adults in the preparation, implementation and financing of national programmes;

(o) A community strategy to encourage DDR programmes must be supported;

(p) A framework should be launched for cooperation with international organizations for the identification of the welfare needs of children associated with armed groups or forces living in refugee camps.

The Meeting addressed the following issues related to data collection, monitoring and reporting and the establishment of a trust fund for child victims of trafficking and armed conflict:

- (a) Coordinated mechanisms should be established for proactive identification of child victims of trafficking or recruitment and use in armed conflicts;
- (b) If repatriation is deemed appropriate, children need travel and identification documents and should be accompanied by a temporary guardian. Child victims of trafficking should be given long-term protection upon their return;
- (c) The Commission of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the General Secretariat of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) shall try to render operational a special fund in support of child victims of trafficking and child victims of armed conflicts, as foreseen in the ECOWAS/ECCAS Plan of Action;
- (d) Child victims, former combatants in armed conflicts and girl victims of abuse, rape and sexual exploitation shall benefit from a scheme providing full assistance, based on the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court;
- (e) A criminal database of cases linked to trafficking in persons shall be established, with an easy-to-use methodology to provide for daily and efficient data collection;
- (f) National capacity in data collection methodology must be strengthened.

### UN.GIFT Inter-faith Dialogue

#### **International Forum on the Role of Religious Communities in Fighting Human Trafficking, held in Cape Town, South Africa, from 3 to 5 October 2007**

Representatives of religious communities committed themselves to the following strategic imperatives:

- (a) Development of a rational holistic integrative rights-based plan of action;
- (b) The plan of action should be supplemented with practical, cost-effective strategies and needs-based programmes and projects to combat human trafficking and support victims of human trafficking.

Participants, cognizant that the world is a global village, agreed on the need for religious leaders and representatives of faith-based and non-governmental organizations to:

- (a) Understand and orchestrate paradigmatic shifts within the context of conscious transformative change and development, including changes in the hearts, minds and attitudes of religious leaders, themselves first and the rest of civil society last;
- (b) Understand that human trafficking is organized crime with an estimated value of \$32 billion, the full amount of which is accumulated risk-free profits, all of which must be recouped and repossessed for the benefit of the victims of human trafficking, as no human being is a commodity for sale;
- (c) Understand, pray together and mobilize all of civil society and international organizations to work together in fighting corruption, towards good governance and towards confronting and combating human trafficking at all the identified points of origin, transit and destination points;
- (d) Reach out and network with colleagues in all regions to raise public awareness and develop films and curricula to help educate children and society at large about existing conventions and protocols in order to earnestly combat the scourge of human trafficking in the world;
- (e) Develop and implement practical and positive policies and programmes on caring for victims of human trafficking;
- (f) Urge Governments to harmonize their existing legislation and develop specific relevant international treaties, inter-State, transnational and intra-State legislation, procedures and protocols towards combating human trafficking;
- (g) Develop and share material and messages and train police, prosecutors and immigration officials on all aspects of human trafficking;
- (h) Embark upon or commission basic research on the causes, effects and ramifications of human trafficking;
- (i) Help to upgrade existing web pages and develop and share a database of service providers to victims of human trafficking;
- (j) Realize the need for functional regional task forces consisting of representatives of relevant structures, such as social and security ministries, inter-faith communities, civil society and the Africa Prosecutors Association;
- (k) Report back within six months on the outcome of the International Forum Global Inter-Faith Dialogue and progress on the status of the Cape Town Declaration and its supplementary resolutions;
- (l) Mobilize relevant Government structures towards consensus on an international week to combat human trafficking.





