

**THE VIENNA FORUM TO FIGHT HUMAN TRAFFICKING
13-15 February 2008**

Vienna, Austria

AIDE MEMOIRE

TITLE OF THE PANEL:

From Protection to Prosecution – A Strategic Approach

BACKGROUND

The Vienna Forum to Fight Human Trafficking to be held at United Nations Headquarters in Vienna from 13 to 15 February 2008 will focus on the three overriding themes of vulnerability, impact and action. It will offer plenary sessions and a series of panels and workshops on different aspects of the three themes.

This event is part of the United Nations Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking (UN.GIFT). The Global Initiative aims to mobilize state and non-state actors to eradicate human trafficking by i) reducing the vulnerability of potential victims and the demand for exploitation in all its forms; ii) ensuring adequate protection and support to those who do fall victim, and iii) supporting the efficient prosecution of the criminals involved, while respecting the fundamental human rights of all persons.

UN.GIFT is part of a wide partnership by the UN-System and other international and regional organizations (ILO, IOM, OSCE, OHCHR, UNICEF, UNODC). These organizations, which form part of UN.GIFT Steering Committee, are responsible for the organization of the panels and workshops of The Vienna Forum.

This panel is organized by the Anti-Human Trafficking Unit (AHTU) of UNODC.

CONTEXT

From the perspective of criminals, human trafficking is a most attractive crime: the profits are high and the risks of detection and punishment are low. Human trafficking is a high-profit-low risk crime. From the perspective of victims, human trafficking is all too often a crime that made them traumatized, stigmatized, suffering and helpless. All too often victims do not receive justice or compensation for the suffering they had to endure. Destroying these equations must be the objective of the criminal justice response to human trafficking.

OBJECTIVES

The panel aims at raising awareness of the need for adopting comprehensive criminal justice response strategies to prevent and combat human trafficking in order to yield sustainable results in terms of reducing the number of victims of trafficking and increasing the number of convicted perpetrators. For this purpose, the panel also aims at identifying the key elements that should form part of such a comprehensive and effective criminal justice response while shedding light on different approaches of developing and implementing such a response and highlighting good examples of its key elements.

EXPECTED OUTPUTS

A concise statement of key policy messages and recommendations will be elaborated and a summary of the panel discussions will be prepared by the organizers and be incorporated into the overall final report of the Vienna Forum.

STRUCTURE AND CONTENT

The panel will take place on Wednesday, 13 February 2007, 16.00-17.30 without break. The room for the panel will have a capacity of 200 to 250 persons.

Translation will be provided into all six UN languages.

From a criminal justice perspective, a range of approaches and good practices will be presented in order to highlight and discuss key elements that should form part of a comprehensive and effective criminal justice response strategy to prevent and combat human trafficking.

The panel session will be structured into three parts:

- I. Introduction of the topic and panellists by the moderator (15 min.)
- II. Four presentations by the panellists (each presentation will be limited to max. 10 minutes)
- III. Discussion among panellists and questions from the audience (30 minutes)

THEMES

Topics addressed will include awareness raising among criminal justice actors, large scale awareness raising and contributing to gather anonymous information to start and help trafficking investigations, coordination among relevant criminal justice actors and with other key actors, specialized anti-human trafficking agencies, NGO-police

cooperation in supporting victims and investigating cases, as well as coordinated law enforcement operations on a national level.

PARTICIPANTS

Approximately 200 - 250 participants are expected.

WORKING LANGUAGE

All six UN languages.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Moderator and Panellists:

Mr. Nick Kinsella (Head of the UK Human Trafficking Centre) will moderate the panel. In addition to introducing the topic and speakers, Mr. Kinsella will also present the UK Pentameter operations as examples of a nation-wide coordinated police cooperation that are aimed at identifying VoT, dismantling trafficking networks and increasing awareness to key audiences within the UK including law enforcement.	Confirmed
Ms. Heidi De Pauw (Director of the NGO PAG-ASA in Brussels. PAG-ASA helps victims in the courts and over various administrative hurdles. PAG-ASA assists victims of human trafficking and is part of the Belgium model.) Ms. De Pauw will present the Belgium model of NGO-police cooperation an example of effective and institutionalized cooperation between the police and NGOs in assisting and protecting victims and investigating human trafficking.	Confirmed
Ms. Deana P. Perez (Senior State Prosecutor National Prosecution Service, Department of Justice, Philippines). Ms.Perez will present Philippines' criminal justice response to human trafficking while identifying challenges and recommendations from the prosecutorial perspective.	Confirmed
Mr. Muhammed Babandede (Director, Investigation and Monitoring, National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Person and other related Matters (NAPTIP), Nigeria). Mr. Babandede will present NAPTIP as an example of an effective specialized anti-human trafficking agency while paying particular attention to the investigative perspective.	Confirmed
Mr. Guus Wesselink (working for Meldmisdaad - Crimestoppers Netherlands). Mr. Wesselink will present Crimestoppers as an example of large scale awareness raising and contributing to gather anonymous information to start and help trafficking investigations.	Confirmed