

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

Vienna, Austria

AIDE MEMOIRE

TITLE OF THE PANEL/WORKSHOP

Trafficking in persons for removal of organs and body parts

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.

The workshop on trafficking in persons for removal of organs and body parts is organized by UNODC (ATS).

CONTEXT

As with trafficking for other exploitative purposes, victims come from most vulnerable groups (for instance, those who are suffering from extreme poverty). Traffickers are often part of transnational organised crime networks. In addition to the traffickers, several other actors can be identified committing this type of crime, such as organ 'brokers', doctors and other health-care practitioners, ambulance drivers and mortuary workers. Furthermore, issues of consent and exploitation related to organ removal are complicated by the fact that often victims will consent to the removal of their organs, and or will receive a payment for them. However, as it is common in situations of trafficking in persons for any exploitative purpose, the provision of the 'service' is driven by extreme poverty.

OBJECTIVES

The main objective of the workshop is to discuss cases, in particular problems of detection, investigation and prosecution of this type of crime. Furthermore, the case study should help to determine the modus operandi of organ brokers and traffickers and actors involved. Another issue that will be addressed is how trafficking in persons for removal of organs and body parts can be distinguished from what is called transplant tourism.

EXPECTED OUTPUTS

*Identify main actors involved and modus operandi applied by criminals.
Tools for law enforcement that will help to facilitate detection and investigation of trafficking in persons for removal of organs and body parts.
Identify strategies for prevention and support for victims.*

STRUCTURE AND CONTENT

The workshop will take place on 14 February, for three hours with two sessions.

In order to allow for a highly participatory and dynamic session to add value to the anti-human trafficking efforts, ample time will be devoted to discussions.

THEMES

*During the workshop a number of themes/questions will be addressed:
How to detect, investigate and improve prosecution of trafficking in persons for removal of organs and body parts, identifying potential or actual victims.
Improving data collection.
Improving international cooperation.
Prevention strategies and support for victims.*

PARTICIPANTS

e.g. Approximately 150/200 participants are expected, including government officials, parliamentarians, representatives of the private sector, civil society, academia and international organizations.

WORKING LANGUAGE

English

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Nicole Maric
Division: Anti-Trafficking Section, Division of Operations
Organization: UNODC
E-mail: Nicole.maric@unodc.org