

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

**Vienna, Austria**

**AIDE MEMOIRE**

**Youth Oriented Panel Discussion (Side Event)**

**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.*

*In line with the UN Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children , STOP THE TRAFFIK has a declaration of purpose to: Prevent the sale of people, Protect the victims, Prosecute the traffickers by education, advocacy and resourcing around the world.*

**CONTEXT**

Awareness raising is indicated by a grassroots movement that is bringing particular focus on young people's participation. The Youth Forum has the clear intention of giving profile and platform to the critical place of young people to in the fight against human trafficking.

There will be a series of presentations by young people including film clips made specially for the event and time for questions to those attending.

## **OBJECTIVES**

Through the use of personal testimony and informed presentation the session aims to demonstrate how young people are participating in the fight to stop trafficking. The session will show the potential that young people hold to be the solution to this hideous crime which ensnares millions of children and youth around the world.

- Allow young people to be advocates on behalf of those who have been trafficked or are in danger of being trafficked around the world.
- For young people to have the opportunity to give voice and substance to their passion and action
- To promote the urgent need to embrace young people and enable them to be a movement for action and change
- To connect the participants to the forum with the real story of someone who has been trafficked and how they can become an advocate for change and prevention

## **EXPECTED OUTPUTS**

This session aims to inform what is done in the future drafting of protocols, allocation of budget and selection of models for fighting the traffic in a different way. By listening and learning from young people who have become aware of trafficking either through education or personal experience, delegates will realise young people's potential and needs and act accordingly. Specific expected outputs include:

- Awareness raising on how to initiate and support young people's engagement
- Project management and support by government
- Adequate rehabilitation after rescue
- Improved potential of young people to combat this global crime

## **STRUCTURE AND CONTENT**

The panel will take place on 13<sup>th</sup> February for 90 minutes.

Introduction to the work of Stop-the-traffick and what role do young people play in the movement for change. This would be followed by a presentation by a young woman who works on a project rescuing trafficked women in Thailand. This will include stories of her work, observations on the trade and what needs to change.

i.) Questions and discussion to follow

An introduction to a project in India which will show the involvement of young people in reporting the activity of traffickers and mobilising their community to be more aware of human trafficking and how to stop it. This will include a video clip, a project presentation and an interview.

ii.) Questions and discussion to follow

Presentation from secondary school children from Leicestershire England including clips of a film they produced to raise awareness of trafficking.

iii.) Questions and Discussion to follow

Interview of a young person about her recent experience of being trafficked, her recovery and her future hopes.

Summary of session

## **THEMES**

“The voice of the Youth: You are never too young to take action and effect change”

## **PARTICIPANTS**

Open to all participants at the forum. Present will be the team from Stop-the-traffick, young adults attending, teachers, 3 children from Leicestershire Secondary School England and a Young Woman who has recently escaped after being trafficked from England to Italy.

## **WORKING LANGUAGE**

*English*

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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