

SECTIONS

- HOME
- TUNAS NEWS
- CUBA NEWS
- WORLD NEWS
- OPINION
- CULTURE
- SPORTS
- HEALTH
- EDUCATION
- HISTORY
- FEATURES
- OFFBEAT
- NEWS



LAS TUNAS

- Local Tourism
- Museums
- Las Tunas Profile
- Sculptures
- Rural Balladry
- Faces of Cuba

PERIÓDICO 26

SERVICES

- Telephones

PERIÓDICO 26

CUBA PROFILE

- A look at Cuba
- Symbols

Head of UN Agency Calls for Greater Efforts against Human Trafficking

Vienna, Feb 18 (RHC).- The head of the United Nations anti-crime agency has urged governments, businesses and civil society to boost their efforts to combat human trafficking, including by increasing awareness of the problem and providing greater resources to tackle it. Antonio María Costa, Executive Director of the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), said that momentum must be generated "to ensure that people's lives will not be for sale."

Costa spoke at the conclusion of the Vienna Forum to Fight Human Trafficking. The three-day gathering brought together 1,400 experts, legislators, law enforcement teams, business leaders, non-governmental organization (NGO) representatives and trafficking victims from 116 countries.

The conference also drew the participation of celebrities and public figures such as Egypt's First Lady Suzanne Mubarak, Academy Award-winning British actress Emma Thompson, and international pop star Ricky Martin, who joined the outcry against the global scourge.

Calling the Forum "just the beginning of a process," Costa called for practical measures to prevent trafficking, such as self-certification by businesses to take slave-made products off the shelves and developing new technology to monitor human trafficking routes. He also proposed the tracking and blocking of credit card payments for Internet human trafficking transactions and codes of conduct to curb sex tourism.

Stressing the need to strengthen partnerships among governments, businesses and civil society in the fight against trafficking, the Executive Director hailed the launch during the Forum of the Women Leaders' Council. The group brings together political figures, diplomats, trade union representatives, business leaders and entertainers from around the world to work together to tackle the problem and help the victims.

The Forum was convened by the UN Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking (UN.GIFT), an initiative launched by UNODC and several UN partners last year to bring governments, the private sector, academia, civil society and the media together to combat a practice that is viewed as modern-day slavery.



Copyright © PERIÓDICO 26, founded on March 15th, 2000

Address: Carlos J. Finlay s/n Las Tunas, Las Tunas, Cuba 75100 e-mail cip224@cip.enet.cu

| Director: Ramiro Segura García | Assistant Directors: Gerardo González Quesada and Oscar Góngora Jorge |

| Editor - in - Chief: [Leonardo Mastrapa](#) | Editor: [Maryla García](#) | Webmaster: [Reynaldo López](#) |