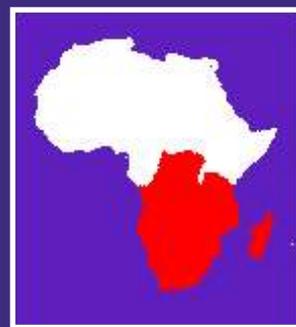


# On Human Trafficking

A Bulletin of News, Information and Analysis on Trafficking in Persons in Southern Africa  
International Organization for Migration • Pretoria • South Africa



Issue 15 / 2007

## SA marks 2nd annual Human Trafficking Awareness Week

Themed "BLOW THE WHISTLE - 0800 555 999", South Africa's second annual human trafficking awareness week (HTAW) ran from 2 - 8 September 2007, and was supported by the private sector, inter-governmental organisations and NGOs.

### Inside

#### COUNTRY PROFILE

Mozambique 2

South Africa 3

#### FEATURE / ANALYSIS

Human trafficking vs Human smuggling 4

#### PERSPECTIVES

Legalisation of prostitution is a gift to traffickers. 5

#### CIVIL SOCIETY VOICES

Salvation Army: Faith soldiers begin march against human trafficking 6

NGOs work to reduce human trafficking 6

Africa wants global fight against human trafficking 7

#### BEYOND THE REGION

Nigeria 8  
France 8

The views expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the views of IOM



The event, aimed at raising awareness of the growing threat of human trafficking and encouraging members of the public to report suspected cases through the IOM's national toll-free helpline number, 0800 555 999, garnered support from the media as well as the soccer fraternity, with METRO FM and Kaizer Chiefs as official partners. Matona Ntshona, station manager of METRO FM, noted: "As a station of the people, we are proud to take up this challenge to protect our valued listeners against the threat of this modern day slavery as well as empower them with the knowledge that will enable them to play their role in putting an end to this devastating practice"

Joint organisers, Diasporafric and IOM hope to continually attract other segments of the South

African community to lend their support, as well as to reach out to all areas of South Africa, especially the rural areas.

The HTAW kicked off with a Press Conference in Pretoria hosted by the International Labour Organization. Joined by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the International Organization for Migration, the three international organizations pledged to work together to combat human trafficking in South Africa. Other key activities included Film Festivals in Pretoria and Cape Town, with movies like Hollywood blockbuster, *Human Trafficking*, featuring Donald Sutherland. A live video conference hosted by the US Consulate and IOM drew participants in Durban, Pretoria

Cont on p 2

## MOZAMBIQUE: The path to legislation

A draft anti-trafficking bill was approved by the council of ministers of Mozambique on 24 July, 2007. The draft bill, which is a culmination of co-operative efforts between civil society and government since 2006, is scheduled to be tabled in parliament when the next parliamentary session begins on the 8th of October 2007.

Mozambique does not yet have anti-trafficking legislation although it has ratified the Convention against Transnational Organized Crime. Since 2006, the government has been making strides to address

this situation. The Government's 2006 Economic and Social Plan makes provision for a specific law to punish and prevent the trafficking of persons.

In May 2006, a Mozambican NGO, Rede Came, in partnership with the Ministry of Justice, and with the financial support of the Women and Legal Rights Initiative (WIRL), organized a meeting to map a way forward for anti-trafficking legislation. Government ministries including Education, Interior,

Cont on p 2



## Editorial

Awareness of human trafficking is definitely growing in the Southern African region and beyond. Many agencies are responsible for this. The first week in September marked the second annual Human Trafficking Awareness Week in South Africa. Many members of the public, including businesses in the private sector, participated in activities aimed at arming the public with critical information about the dangers of human trafficking.

Throughout the region there are also many NGOs which work tirelessly to raise awareness of human trafficking and to assist victims of the trade. Faith-based organizations are coming the forefront of this fight; the work of both the Salvation Army and the nuns of Benin City in Nigeria is highlighted in this issue.

While raising awareness, this issue also underscores the differences between human trafficking and human smuggling, in order to generate a better understanding of these profitable and criminal phenomena, and to ensure that adequate and relevant measures are taken against both.

This issue is dedicated to all corporate and non-corporate organizations that are helping to raise awareness of this awful practice, and in doing so, are contributing to the prevention of human trafficking.

Sue-Ann Meehan  
Program Coordinator  
IOM Cape Town



Bureau for Population, Refugees, and Migration Department of Foreign Affairs - South Africa



## SA's 2nd Human Trafficking Awareness Week

*Cont. from p 1*

and Cape Town to discuss the 4 Ps of human trafficking (prevention, protection, prosecution and policy) and commence the creation of a referral system for counter-trafficking stakeholders. Outdoor promotions were held at different venues and locations in Johannesburg and Cape Town. A musical concert featuring local stars Zami Mdingi and Afro-fiesta rounded up the week in Cape Town on Saturday 08 September. Meanwhile, Metro FM ran a week-long public awareness campaign and hosted several human trafficking experts to educate the public about human trafficking. IOM's Regional Representative, Hans-Petter Boe and Programme Manager for IOM's Southern African Counter-Trafficking Assistance Programme, Mariam Khokhar gave numerous TV and radio interviews throughout the week, including interviews on SABC 2 (Morning Live), SAFM and Metro FM.

"Human Trafficking is a problem that cannot be looked at in isolation. It is therefore very encouraging to see private sector organizations like Diasporafric, METRO FM and Kaizer Chiefs playing a central role in this campaign," explained Karen Blackman,

Information and Awareness Raising Specialist at IOM.

Tasso Evangelinos, COO of Cape Town Central Improvement District (CCID), which sponsored the concert, has reiterated the commitment of the CCID to programmes like the HTAW as a means of combating human trafficking in Cape Town and in South Africa. "Recognising that human trafficking is a blight which affects the community, especially women and children who are trafficked from rural areas and foreign countries into the inner city, we are very proud to lend our support to this social cause."

South Africa's Human Trafficking Awareness Week 2006 was named a best practice to combat human trafficking by the United States Department of State, in June 2007. Nosipho Theyise, project coordinator for this campaign says that this week demonstrates what can be achieved when government, non-governmental organizations and the private sector work together towards the achievement of one common goal.

## MOZAMBIQUE: The path to legislation

*Cont. from p 1*

Women and Social Welfare, and the Attorney's General Office joined civil society organizations including the Women's Forum, MULEIDE, FDC/SANTAC, Save the Children Norway, Terre Des Hommes, and the International Organization for Migration (IOM), to form an anti-trafficking legislation drafting group. The drafting group also included two lawyers and a social worker hired by the Ministry of Justice.

On the 20th of June 2006, the drafting process kicked off when IOM was tasked to present an overview of human trafficking and related concepts to the different stakeholders. Thereafter three public debates were held to engage the public in the growing problem of human trafficking in Mozambique and to gather input for the draft bill. On 8 February the first public debate was held in Maputo with 75 participants from Maputo, Gaza and Inhambane provinces in the south of Mozambique; on 12 February the second one was held in Beira with 50 participants from Sofala, Manica, Tete and Zambezia provinces in the centre of Mozambique, and the final one was held on the 14th of February with 47 participants from Nampula, Cabo Delgado and Niassa provinces in the north of Mozambique. Finally, a draft bill was submitted to the Ministry of Justice in May 2007.

construction of two centres (one in the south and the other in the centre of Mozambique) to cater to victims of trafficking, "whistle blowers" and witnesses.

Following the Council of ministers' approval, it is likely that parliament will pass the law, since the government has a majority in parliament. However, there are many challenges that Mozambique will still have to meet if the law is passed. One imminent challenge is developing strategies to effectively disseminate the law. On one hand, the public will need to be informed and educated on the new law, and on the other hand, law enforcement agencies that will be responsible for the implementation of the law will need to be informed and trained.

In addition, considering the low level of literacy in Mozambique, it is important to develop ways of reaching out with information to the rural areas where the people are most vulnerable to trafficking. A recent rapid assessment carried out by IOM from the 11th to the 20th of May, 2007 in flood affected areas of Mozambique found that many people are still not familiar with phenomenon of human trafficking although they narrated incidents related to the phenomenon.

The highlights of the draft bill include severe punishment for traffickers and the

*For more information relating to the anti-trafficking bill, please contact: Nely Chimedza at [nchimedza@iom.int](mailto:nchimedza@iom.int)*

# Unpacking South Africa's new Children's Act

The anti-trafficking provisions of South Africa's new Children's Act will soon come into force. We take a look at what these provisions are, and what counter-trafficking stakeholders should pay attention to.

A 2003 UNICEF study found that children are trafficked at twice the rate of adults globally. Child trafficking has emerged as one of the greatest challenges today. In South Africa, child prostitution, sex tourism, forced labour and domestic servitude are only some of the exploitative purposes for which children are trafficked.

In 1997, the South African Law Reform Commission was requested to investigate and review the Child Care Act of 1983 and to make recommendations to the Minister for Social Development for the reform of this particular branch of the law. That legislative process has resulted in the new Children's Act, which was passed by the President of the Republic in 2005. Recently in July 2007, certain sections of the Act came into force. The others will come into force as soon as their Regulations are finalised by Parliament, hopefully during the course of this year. Chapter 18 of the Act, which criminalises child trafficking, is one of the sections of the Act which is yet to come into force. It is important, however, for counter-trafficking stakeholders and the public to understand the essential components of this Chapter.

The Chapter gives effect to the UN Protocol to Prevent Trafficking in Persons. Section 284 of the Act expressly prohibits the trafficking of children. A child is defined by the Act as anyone under the age of 18. According to the Act, a person is guilty of trafficking in children even if the child consented to the intended exploitation or adoption secured by illegal means, or even if the intended exploitation or adoption secured by illegal means did not in fact, occur. It further provides that an agent acting on behalf of an employer who engages in human trafficking may render that employer liable, and that may serve as a ground for revoking the license or registration of the employer. A notable feature of this Chapter is that it adds to the definition of the Protocol by including, as means of exploitation, the adoption of a child facilitated or secured through illegal means, and the removal of their body parts and other organs.

The state is given the responsibility of facilitating the safe return of any child who is a citizen or permanent resident of the country, where the legal guardian of the child does not have the financial means to travel to the place where the child is in order to escort the child back. This responsibility includes assigning an adult escort where necessary to accompany the child, and referring the child to a designated social worker for investigation upon arrival.

Under this new Act, the court is given the power suspend the rights of a parent or guardian, or place a child in temporary safe care pending enquiry, where it determines that the parent or guardian has trafficked or allowed the child to be trafficked. The Act criminalises that act of knowingly leasing or subleasing or allowing property to be used to harbour child victims of trafficking in Section 285(1)(a). It also enables the South African government to prosecute South African citizens and those permanently residing in South Africa who commit an act of trafficking in children in a country where it is not a crime, if such an act would have constituted an offence if committed in South Africa.

One important provision of the Act relevant to foreign children is section 289 which provides that if an investigation is contemplated and an illegal foreign child brought before the children's court, the court may order that the child be assisted in applying for asylum in terms of the Refugees Act of 1998. It also provides that the children's court may, considering the best interest of an illegal foreign child, order the child to stay in the Republic for any given duration if it finds that the child is in need of care and protection.

As in the case of South African children trafficked abroad, the Act provides that foreign illegal children who have been trafficked may not be returned by the state unless the state has ascertained that the best interest of the child is being pursued without prejudice. This includes ensuring that there are sufficient care arrangements in the country of return, ensuring the child will be safe and free from the risk of being re-trafficked, harmed or killed, and providing an escort if necessary.

However, that the Act does not address the issue of compensation to child victims of trafficking. According to Advocate Lowesa Stuurman of the South African Law Reform Commission (SALRC) who drafted chapter 18 of this Act, compensation will be dealt with in the comprehensive legislation on trafficking in persons that is currently being pursued by the SALRC. She also states that the Act deals only with the trafficking of children and that matters relating to adult victims of trafficking will be addressed in the comprehensive legislation. The comprehensive legislation will also incorporate the provisions relating to trafficking in children contained in the child care legislation.



There is also a potentially contentious provision of the Act (285(1)(b)), which prohibits the advertisement, publication, printing, broadcast or distribution of information, or the causal of any of the above "that suggests or alludes to trafficking by any means". While this provision is useful in controlling publication of pornographic material for which trafficked children are used, the wording appears to unwittingly prohibit even the publication of mere reports that may not facilitate any trafficking process, but seek to expose them.

Section 305 of the Act deals with enforcement, and makes it an offence if an owner, lessor, manager, tenant or occupier of a premises gains information of the commercial sexual exploitation of a child on that premises and fails to promptly take reasonable steps to report the occurrence to the South African Police Service. The most severe penalty in the Act is for the offence of human trafficking, drawing a fine or imprisonment for a maximum of 20 years, or both, in addition to the sentence for any other offence of which an offender may be convicted. Other offences are punishable with a fine or imprisonment for a maximum period of ten years, or both, and second time offenders are liable to a fine or prison sentence of a maximum of twenty years, or both.

# Human trafficking vs Human smuggling

It is important for all counter-trafficking stakeholders to have a clear understanding of the concept of human trafficking in order to ensure that effective measures are designed and implemented to combat it. Quite often, the public and stakeholders, including the media, humanitarian actors, and even policy makers, conflate human trafficking with related phenomena like human smuggling.

## What is human trafficking?

Jamila Dube\* was only sixteen when she left Zimbabwe. Her uncle, Thomas\* was well respected by her family because he claimed to run several successful businesses in South Africa, where he lived. During one of his trips back home, he offered to take Jamila to South Africa so that she could attend a good school under his guardianship. The Dubes could not afford to pay Jamila's school fees, so they gladly accepted Thomas' offer. An excited Jamila accompanied her Uncle on his way back to the "Promised Land". They travelled in a minibus taxi that drove them directly into the luminous streets of Johannesburg. Jamila was certain that her dream of a better education in a big city, far from the poverty of her family in Harare, was about to come true.

However, when they stepped out of the minibus taxi, Uncle Thomas took his innocent niece immediately to a notorious brothel in Hillbrow, a dilapidated suburb infested by drugs, crime and prostitution. Money changed hands. Jamila was ushered into a room. The brothel owner raped her before explaining to her that she would have to live and work for him there as a prostitute. Overwhelmed and disorientated, she was forced to submit to her new 'owner'.

For two years, Jamila was forced to work as a prostitute within the confines of a brothel, closely guarded by heavily built men, and too scared try to escape into the dangerous streets of Hillbrow. She had to take as many clients as she was ordered to, and all the money she made was paid to the brothel owner, who only fed and clothed her. She had to please the clients, even if it meant having unprotected sex with them, and she was seriously beaten whenever she tried to resist any of their demands. The brothel owner fed her with drugs to make sure that she could keep up with the demand of the clients. Jamila's life became a living nightmare. She had no one to turn to.

One day, Jamila escaped after a client took her out of the brothel. She spent two days on the streets, before realising that she had nowhere else to go. She contacted her family in Zimbabwe. They told her that her uncle had informed them that she was undisciplined, that she had run away from him, and that he was unaware of her whereabouts. She was deeply hurt, especially because she could not tell them the truth. She was afraid of the stigma attached to prostitution, although she had been forced into it. She decided to avoid her family. In her bid to survive, Jamila returned to the brothel.

Rose\* works for an NGO that assists trafficked women. When Rose met Jamila, she had already resigned herself to a life of prostitution. She rejected Rose's offer for assistance: "I don't know how to do anything else. Even if I did, I have completely lost my dignity. Please leave me alone. This is my life."

Jamila's sad story is an example of human trafficking. But people are not only trafficked to be used in prostitution; forced labour, removal of organs, forced marriages, illegal adoption, and sex slavery are some of the forms of exploitation into which eight hundred thousand people are trafficked across international borders every year. Many more persons are trafficked within their national borders.

According to UNICEF, half of all the persons trafficked across international borders are children, some as young as seven.

## How does human trafficking happen?

Human trafficking, otherwise called trafficking in persons, is a new form of slavery that involves three stages: recruitment, transportation, and exploitation.

Jamila's uncle recruited her by deceiving her that he wanted to send her to school. This is recruitment by deception. Some victims are recruited by false promises of marriage or jobs, while others are simply abducted. Sometimes, a victim is recruited by partial deception; the recruiter may inform the victim that he or she would be doing a particular kind of work, but may not disclose the deplorable conditions and full exploitative nature of the work that he or she will be subjected to. This is common in the case of women who are recruited to work as prostitutes in distant areas and promised lucrative wages, but end up being threatened with violence, working long hours under deplorable conditions, with their all earnings seized by the traffickers.

The second phase of human trafficking is transportation. Jamila's uncle moved her from Zimbabwe to South Africa because he knew that in her new, strange environment, she will be defenceless. Jamila had no friends or family to turn to, she could not speak the local language, and when she did escape, she had no shelter. She was too scared to run to the police because her uncle had smuggled her into the country without appropriate documentation. Transporting a victim from a familiar environment to an unfamiliar environment makes it easy to exploit that person. People are usually trafficked within their own national borders, for example, from rural areas to big cities with which they are not familiar.

In the new environment, the trafficker's true intention is revealed. Exploitation is the third phase and the ultimate purpose of human trafficking. The trafficker could use the victim for financial gain or sexual gratification, or sell the victim, or both. As mentioned above, forced prostitution and forced labour are common forms of exploitation. *\*Not their real names*

## How is human trafficking different from human smuggling?

Human smuggling, by contrast, is a process where an organized criminal group transports a client to a desirable foreign destination in exchange for payment. Once the client has arrived in the destination country and the fee has been paid, the relationship between client and smuggler ends. There is no exploitation of the smuggled person or client. The client merely relies on the smuggler to move him or her illegally through the border of a desirable foreign country in exchange for a fee. Human trafficking is a violation of the victim's human rights while human smuggling is a violation of the immigration laws of the destination country. The diagram below illustrates the similarities and differences between human trafficking and human smuggling.

Trafficking and Smuggling: Similarities and Differences



# Legalisation of prostitution is a gift to traffickers

This is an excerpt of the article, *Ten Reasons for Not Legalizing Prostitution and a Legal Response to the Demand for Prostitution*, by Janice G. Raymond, published simultaneously in *Journal of Trauma Practice*, 2, 2003: pp. 315-332, and in *Prostitution, Trafficking and Traumatic Stress*. Melissa Farley (Ed.). Binghamton: Haworth Press, 2003. **The views expressed in this article do not necessarily reflect the views of IOM.**

Since the mid-1980s, the debate about how to address prostitution legally has become a subject of legislative action. Some countries in Europe, most notably the Netherlands and Germany among others, have legalized and/or decriminalized systems of prostitution, which includes decriminalizing pimps, brothels and buyers, also known as "customers" or "johns". Other governments, such as Thailand, legally prohibit prostitution activities and enterprises but in reality tolerate brothels and the buying of women for commercial sexual exploitation, especially in its sex tourism industry. Sweden has taken a different legal approach - penalizing the buyers while at the same time decriminalizing the women in prostitution.

The following is one of ten arguments for not legalising prostitution, made in the original article. These arguments apply to all state-sponsored forms of prostitution, including but not limited to full-scale legalization of brothels and pimping, decriminalization of the sex industry, regulating prostitution by laws such as registering or mandating health checks for women in prostitution, or any system in which prostitution is recognized as "sex work" or advocated as an employment choice. This essay reviews the ways in which legitimating prostitution as work makes the harm of prostitution to women invisible, expands the sex industry, and does not empower the women in prostitution.

Legalization/decriminalization of prostitution and the sex industry promotes sex trafficking. Legalized or decriminalized prostitution industries are one of the root causes of sex trafficking. One argument for legalizing prostitution in the Netherlands was that legalization would help to end the exploitation of desperate immigrant women who had been trafficked there for prostitution. However, one report found that 80% of women in the brothels of the Netherlands were trafficked from other countries (Budapest Group, 1999)(1). In 1994, the International Organization of Migration (IOM) stated that in the Netherlands alone, "nearly 70 % of trafficked women were from CEEC [Central and Eastern European Countries]" (IOM, 1995, p. 4).

The government of the Netherlands presents itself as a champion of anti-trafficking policies and programs, yet it has removed every legal impediment to pimping, procuring and brothels. In the year 2000, the Dutch Ministry of Justice argued in favor of a legal quota of foreign "sex workers," because the Dutch prostitution market demanded a variety of "bodies" (Dutting, 2001, p. 16). Also in 2000, the Dutch government sought and received a judgment from the European Court recognizing prostitution as an economic activity, thereby

enabling women from the European Union and former Soviet bloc countries to obtain working permits as "sex workers" in the Dutch sex industry if they could prove that they are self employed. Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in Europe report that traffickers use the work permits to bring foreign women into the Dutch prostitution industry, masking the fact that women have been trafficked, by coaching them to describe themselves as independent "migrant sex workers" (Personal Communication, Representative of the International Human Rights Network, 1999).

In the year since lifting the ban on brothels in the Netherlands, eight Dutch victim support organizations reported an increase in the number of victims of trafficking, and twelve victim support organization reported that the number of victims from other countries had not diminished (Bureau NRM, 2002, p. 75). Forty-three of the 348 municipalities (12%) in the Netherlands choose to follow a no-brothel policy, but the Minister of Justice has indicated that the complete banning of prostitution within any municipality could conflict with the federally guaranteed "right to free choice of work" (Bureau NRM, 2002, p.19).

***The sheer volume of foreign women in the German prostitution industry suggests that these women were trafficked into Germany, a process euphemistically described as facilitated migration.***

The first steps toward legalization of prostitution in Germany occurred in the 1980s. By 1993, it was widely recognized that 75% of the women in Germany's prostitution industry were foreigners from Uruguay, Argentina, Paraguay and other countries in South America (Altink, 1993, p. 33). After the fall of the Berlin wall, 80% of the estimated 10,000 women trafficked into Germany were from Central and Eastern Europe and CIS countries (IOM, 1998a, p. 17). In 2002, prostitution in Germany was established as a legitimate job after years of being legalized in tolerance zones. Promotion of prostitution, pimping and brothels are now legal in Germany.

The sheer volume of foreign women in the German prostitution industry suggests that these women were trafficked into Germany, a process euphemistically described as facilitated migration. It is almost impossible for poor women to facilitate their own migration, underwrite the costs of travel and travel documents, and set themselves up in "business" without intervention. In 1984, a Labor government in the Australian State of Victoria introduced legislation to legalize prostitution in brothels. Subsequent Australian governments expanded legalization culminating in the Prostitution Control Act of 1994. Noting the link between legalization of prostitution and trafficking in Australia, the US Department of State observed: "Trafficking in East Asian women for the sex trade is a growing problem...lax laws including legalized prostitution in parts of the country make [anti-trafficking] enforcement difficult at the working level" (U.S. Department of State, 2000, p. 6F).

## SALVATION ARMY: Faith soldiers begin march against human trafficking

Religious and faith-based organisations have a great role to play in educating their followers about the dangers of human trafficking. One faith-based organisation that has taken up this challenge in a commendable manner is Salvation Army.

The Salvation Army is an international movement, an evangelical branch of the Christian Church, that combines gospel-preaching with alleviating human suffering and distress without discrimination. It was started in 1865 in a tent in an unused

graveyard in the east of London, England by a bold Evangelist, William Booth. William Booth saw the members of the Christian Mission as soldiers in the battle against evil and for the salvation of souls, and so he became the General of what came to be known as "The Salvation Army". Today, The Salvation Army marches on in over 100 countries and preaches the Gospel in 116 languages. With its social conscience programmes, the Salvation Army has grown into the largest welfare organisation in the world. On a number of occasions it has been among the final nominees for the Nobel Peace Prize.

2007, The Salvation Army gathered over a thousand people for a "ROOTS" conference, an event of worship, Bible teaching and spiritual renewal. During this conference, The Salvation Army's counter-trafficking program in Southern Africa was launched with the help of world-renown singer and songwriter, Graham Kendrick, popular for the song 'Shine, Jesus shine'. Kendrick gave a concert on the evening of Saturday 07 July, and led a special collection for the Army's human trafficking campaign. The money will be given to shelters that care for victims of human trafficking. The audience were also given covenant cards reminding them of the role they should play in the fight against Human Trafficking. Another feature of the conference was a special break-out on human trafficking, during which IOM officials were invited to make presentations to about 100 persons.

Following this launch, The Salvation Army will be extending activities to raise awareness on human trafficking throughout South Africa, Lesotho, Swaziland, Namibia, and Mozambique. This will go hand in glove with other ministerial activities, like HIV / AIDS programmes, all aimed at transforming human lives and building healthy families and communities.

*For more information, please contact Eva Marseille, head of The Salvation Army's counter-trafficking programme in Southern Africa, at [eva\\_marseille@saf.salvationarmy.org](mailto:eva_marseille@saf.salvationarmy.org)*

The Salvation Army has cared for South Africans since 1883, operating 375 care centres nationwide. It provides nearly 4 million meals and 600 000 beds a year for the poor, the neglected and the marginalised. The Salvation Army is committed to social justice, political neutrality and equal opportunities for both men and women. Human trafficking is the most recent challenge that is has taken on.

From 6 through 8 July



## NGOs Work To Reduce Human Trafficking, Help Victims

Worldwide efforts raise awareness and thwart illegal activities related to human trafficking

The following is an excerpt of an article from the US State Department's website, detailing counter-trafficking best practices by NGOs worldwide during the 2006/2007 reporting period of the US Trafficking in Persons Report (released in June 2007).

### PREVENTING HUMAN TRAFFICKING

In West Africa, the Lutrena Project for the Mobilization and Building Capacity of Road Haulers, a local NGO, formed an alliance with the National Truckers Union in Burkina Faso to intercept and repatriate human trafficking victims.

The project established an anti-trafficking alert system at bus stations in seven of the

13 regions where child trafficking is prevalent and successfully intercepted 549 children, including four girls, in 2006 and enabled the prosecution of 29 traffickers.

The anti-trafficking network in Burkina Faso includes representatives of truckers' unions, security forces and social action and religious groups who identify and report suspected trafficking situations.

In Cambodia, the ChildSafe network, created and managed by the NGO Friends International, helps crack down on child-sex tourism by training drivers of moto-taxis to identify and report suspicious behavior by tourists who may intend to exploit children.

The ChildSafe project has trained 36 moto-taxi drivers and employees of 25 guesthouses to identify and protect children who are at risk of commercial sexual exploitation in Sihanoukville, a beach resort town.

Shakti Samuaha in Nepal is the first NGO in the world formed by trafficking survivors, and more than 120 survivors attended its conference in March to commemorate International Women's Day. Conference participants focused on preventing human trafficking of vulnerable populations, particularly adolescent girls, and providing rehabilitative services for other trafficking survivors.

# Africa wants global fight against human trafficking

Africa cannot stamp out the multi-billion dollar human trafficking trade alone and a global effort is needed, top legal experts from the world's poorest continent said on Saturday, 14th July 2007.

Other countries need to work with Africa, which is the most heavily affected by the illegal sale of people - mainly women and children, they said at a meeting of African prosecutors in the Angolan capital, Luanda.

Many are sold into prostitution or enslaved, while children risk illegal adoption. Some trafficking victims, including youngsters, have been forced to fight in rebel armies active in some African nations.

"Human trafficking isn't a domestic problem, a regional or a continental problem anymore. It is a worldwide, an international problem," Keriako Tobiko, Kenya's director of public prosecutions told Reuters.

"Africa is a source or a transit point but destinations are mostly outside Africa. The only way to effectively combat this is with international collaboration on surveillance, sharing information and intelligence, mutual legal assistance and extradition. It's a problem that cannot be solved by one country alone," he added.

United Nations experts at the third annual conference of the African Prosecutors Association (APA) said criminals raked in between \$7-10 billion annually from the sale of human beings worldwide.

They said more than 60 percent of the business is made in Africa,

mostly south of the Sahara.

"One country can't handle it without participation of others -- Europe should also get more involved," said Richard Buteera, director of public prosecutions in Uganda.

"If we are the source of human traffic, the destination should work with us to contain the problem. I think we can work together. The objectives are the same, we just need to work on the mechanisms," he added.

Poverty and conflict, both of which are rife on the continent, are often at the root of the trade in people who sometimes pass through other African countries before reaching their final destinations.

Delegates said organised criminal syndicates - often using false identification documents and taking advantage of porous borders in Africa - are behind much of the activity.

"Those who are doing it, do it to enrich themselves. But for the victim it's usually a question of poverty and unemployment in their own countries," said Mokotedi Mpshe, South Africa's deputy national director of public prosecutors and president of the APA.

"They offer them jobs but when they arrive they are often put into prostitution," he added.

*Source: Reuters July 15 2007*

## NGOs Work To Reduce Human Trafficking, Help Victims

*Cont from p 6*

The NGO INCIDIN, a prominent advocate of children's rights in Bangladesh, works to prevent underage male prostitution in the country. INCIDIN has worked to shed light on this phenomenon and to remove the stigma of discussing it. INCIDIN opened a night shelter for street children in Dhaka and worked with the government of Bangladesh to expand the program to other parts of the country.

### PROVIDING RESOURCES FOR VICTIMS

In Bosnia and Herzegovina, the NGO Vasa Prava provides free legal assistance to victims of human trafficking. Founded in 1996, the organization runs 16 permanent offices and 50 mobile units, staffed by 80 employees. It has assisted more than 400,000 Bosnians. Attorneys from Vasa Prava are available to domestic victims from the time they arrive at a shelter, and they arrange residency permits and asylum applications for foreign victims.

Victims assisted by Vasa Prava are more likely to testify against their traffickers in criminal proceedings, and their testimony has led to the conviction of several notorious traffickers and organized crime rings.

In Malawi, police officers specially trained to recognize child victims of exploitation, including trafficking, are raising community awareness and helping grassroots organizations provide reintegration assistance for victims. Nearly 400 child protection officers in the country's 27 local government districts are serving a critical role by monitoring communities for signs of trafficking, and they identify about half of the reported trafficking cases in Malawi.

### RAISING PUBLIC AWARENESS

Soccer stars in Germany and South Africa are calling attention to the

issue of human trafficking by kicking off public awareness campaigns.

The government of Germany, international organizations and NGOs initiated prevention and protection measures for the 2006 World Cup in mid-2005 that serve as an effective model for future large-scale international sporting events.

More than a year before the World Cup began, German law enforcement authorities developed specialized strategies to prevent and investigate sex trafficking during the games, including an overall World Cup National Security concept, a state-federal law enforcement information-sharing network and greater police presence in prostitution districts.

Politicians and public figures at all levels promoted anti-trafficking efforts during the World Cup, and government-funded public campaigns conducted by NGOs supported 24-hour telephone hotlines for trafficking victims and World Cup attendees. Posters and flyers were displayed in key areas where fans gathered to watch games on large outdoor screens, reaching a much larger audience than previous anti-trafficking campaigns.

South Africa's Kaizer Chiefs wore T-shirts with a countertrafficking message and the toll-free telephone number of the International Organization for Migration during the pre-game warm-up of a Premier Soccer League match in 2006. The game, which was nationally televised, officially inaugurated the country's National Human Trafficking Awareness campaign, aimed at reducing the crime before the 2010 World Cup, which South Africa will host.

Eye on Human Trafficking

is a Quarterly Bulletin published by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) Regional Office for Southern Africa



www.iom.org.za  
www.iom.int

**IOM Regional Office (Pretoria)**

Tel +27 (0) 12 342 2789  
Fax +27 (0) 12 342 0932

**IOM Cape Town**

Tel +27 (0) 21 425 4038  
Fax +27 (0) 21 419 3725

**IOM Durban**

Tel +27 (0) 31 304 4057  
Fax +27 (0) 31 304 6904

**IOM Luanda**

Tel +244 2 370877  
Fax +244 2 370977

**IOM Kinshasa**

Tel +243 81 032 5533  
Fax +243 880 1662

**IOM Maputo**

Tel +258 21 310 779  
Fax +258 21 310 760

**IOM Lusaka**

Tel +260 1 254 055  
Fax +260 1 253856

**IOM Harare**

Tel +263 4 335 044/ 048  
Fax +263 4 335 055

For FREE Electronic Subscription send and email to [eye@iom.int](mailto:eye@iom.int)

Call\* IOM's Human Trafficking Help line for victim assistance & information  
**0800 555 999**  
**TOLL-FREE 7am - 10pm**  
\*South Africa only

Zambia's Talkline  
**990**  
**TOLL-FREE 24hrs**

**NIGERIA: Nuns Set up Home for Victims of Human Trafficking**

Nigerian nuns are celebrating the realization of their dream to set up a home for rescued victims of human trafficking, a worsening problem in the country and West Africa in general.

At the opening ceremony on July 11, a Holy Mass was presided over by Archbishop Felix Alaba Job of Ibadan, who is also president of Catholic Bishops' Conference of Nigeria.

The dream came true on July 11, 2007, when the Women Resource Centre was opened. The home is a generous donation from the Italian Bishops' Conference. It was built and supervised by Fr. Vincenzo Marrone and other Salesian Missionaries in Akure/Ibadan. Caritas Italiana bought the land upon which the shelter is built. The Dutch Foundation of Religious against Trafficking in Women (SRTV), Missio Aachen and many other groups gave generous donations.

The archbishop called for the raising of awareness on the dangers of prostitution among youth in schools and universities. He also said statistics showed that Christian women were involved in human trafficking. He urged them to desist from the practice and urged the nuns to look for ways of rescuing trafficked women still wandering on the streets of Europe.

The idea to do something about the problem came about after the nuns came face to face with the reality of Nigerian girls involved in prostitution in Europe. In 1999 the nuns formed the Committee for the Support of the Dignity of Women (COSUDOW) to find concrete ways of addressing the issue of sexual abuse of Nigerian girls in Italy.

Mother Ifechukwu Udorah, president of the Nigerian Conference of Women Religious (NCWR) thanked the committee members of COSUDOW, the Italian Bishops' Conference and Rev. Sister Eugenia Bonnetti, for working tirelessly towards the eradication of human trafficking.

The nuns say Benin City is the worst-hit area of human trafficking in Nigeria.

The administrator of the Archdiocese of Benin City, Fr. James-Mary Okunbor assured COSUDOW that the Archdiocese of Benin would not fail to assist the shelter whenever the need arose.

Source: NIGERIA: BENIN CITY, August 10, 2007 (CISA)

**FRANCE: Tackling The Trafficking of Young Footballers**

On Thursday 4 October, a Paris-based NGO *Culture Foot Solidaire* and the Union of Professional Football Clubs (UPFC) launched "The Welcome Book for the Young African Footballer" at the UPFC Headquarters, 88 Avenue Kléber in Paris, France.

country.

The guidebook will be distributed to professional football clubs in France in order to facilitate the integration of young football players into footballing life in Europe as well to ensure awareness of their rights and the services available to them. It will include information ranging from how to use the metro to where to go for help if and when footballing dreams turn sour.

Many young African footballers are lured to Europe with promises of money and glory only to end up exploited or abandoned. Earlier this year IOM assisted 34 Ivorian adolescents who had been sequestered in the south of Mali after their parents had been tricked into paying a rogue agent to bring them to Europe. *Culture Foot Solidaire* has been in direct contact with at least 800 young Africans in France abandoned by traffickers, middlemen and football clubs.

This is one of the first concrete initiatives to be realized within the framework of recommendations made by the European Parliament's Belet Report and the European Commission's white paper on sport, both of which address the issue of integration of non-European sportsmen and women.

"There has been a lot of talk recently about the exploitation of young African footballers and it is encouraging to see an organization like *Culture Foot Solidaire* actually doing something about it. In line with IOM's goal to raise greater awareness in West Africa of this particular form of exploitation, we are working with *Culture Foot Solidaire* on some innovative ways to tackle the problem. The challenge now is to ensure that the funding is there to put the ideas into action," says IOM's head of counter-trafficking, Richard Danziger.

The guidebook is just one of several activities undertaken by *Culture Foot Solidaire* to support young footballers. The NGO and its president, Jean-Claude Mbvoumin, are also active in Cameroon providing advice and support to both young footballers and clubs throughout the

For more information contact: Richard Danziger, IOM Geneva, tel : + 41 22 717 9334 email : [rdanziger@iom.int](mailto:rdanziger@iom.int) or Jean-Claude Mbvoumin, *Culture Foot Solidaire*, Tel: +33 6 22 70 37 37 or +33 1 34 12 55 73 email: [culturefootsolidaire@wanadoo.fr](mailto:culturefootsolidaire@wanadoo.fr) website: [www.footsolidaire.org](http://www.footsolidaire.org)

**"VERBATIM As a station of the people, we are proud to take up this challenge to protect our valued listeners against the threat of this modern day slavery as well as empower them with the knowledge that will enable them to play their role in putting an end to this devastating practice"**

*Matona Ntshona Sakupwanya, station manager of Metro FM, on the station's involvement in SA's Annual Human Trafficking Awareness Week.*