

High-Level Meeting of the General Assembly

Launch of the United Nations Global Plan of Action against Trafficking in Persons

Conference Room 1, UN Headquarters, New York
10:00am, Tuesday, 31 August 2010

Program

10:00 – 10:30 Formal segment

Opening Statements

- H.E. Dr. Ali Abdussalam Treki, *President of the General Assembly*
- H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-moon, *Secretary-General*

10:30 – 13:00 Informal segment

Welcome performance by artist Primitiva, singing “E Ala E”

Remarks by guest speakers

- Dr. Saisuree Chutikul, *Chair of the National Subcommittee on Combating Trafficking in Children and Women, Thailand*
- Ms. Maria Grazia Giammarinaro, *OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Being*
- Dr. Aleya Hammad, *Co-founder and Board Member of the Suzanne Mubarak Women's International Peace Movement*

Remarks by Member States



The Office of the President of the sixty-fourth session of the General Assembly presents its compliments to the Permanent Missions and Observers to the United Nations and has the honour to attach herewith the draft resolution A/64/L.64, entitled “United Nations Global Plan of Action against Trafficking in Persons”, which will be considered by the General Assembly on Friday, 30 July 2010, at 3 p.m.

The Office of the President of the sixty-fourth session of the United Nations General Assembly avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Permanent Missions and Observers to the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the name of the President of the General Assembly.

New York, 29 July 2010

All Permanent Representatives
and Permanent Observers to the
United Nations

Sixty-fourth session

Agenda Item 104

Crime prevention and criminal justice

Draft resolution submitted by the President of the General Assembly

United Nations Global Plan of Action against Trafficking in Persons

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and reaffirming its role under the Charter, including on issues related to development, peace and security and human rights,

Reiterating its strong condemnation of trafficking in persons, especially women and children, as it constitutes a serious threat to human dignity, human rights and development,

Recognizing that poverty, unemployment, lack of socio-economic opportunities, gender-based violence, discrimination and marginalization are some of the contributing factors that make persons vulnerable to trafficking in persons,

Recalling the Millennium Declaration, adopted in September 2000, where Member States resolved to intensify efforts to fight transnational crime in its entire dimension including trafficking in human beings,

Recalling the World Summit Outcome Document of 2005 adopted by the General Assembly noting that trafficking in persons continues to pose a serious challenge to humanity and requires a concerted international response and urging all States to devise, enforce and strengthen effective measures to combat and eliminate all forms of trafficking in persons to counter the demand for trafficked victims and protect the victims,

Reaffirming General Assembly Resolution 55/25 of 2000, adopting the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (hereinafter "UNTOC") and its supplementing Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children (hereinafter "Trafficking Protocol"), and recalling other related conventions and instruments such as ILO Convention 29 and 182, Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery of 1956, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and its Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography, its Optional Protocol on Children in Armed Conflict and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,

Recognizing the crucial importance of the Trafficking Protocol, having entered into force on 25 December 2003, which provided for the first time an internationally agreed definition of the crime of trafficking in persons, aiming at the prevention of trafficking in persons, protection of its victims and prosecution of its perpetrators,

Recalling all General Assembly resolutions on measures to eliminate trafficking in persons, including resolutions 61/180, 63/194 and 64/178 on "Improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons, 61/144 on "Trafficking in women and girls" and 58/137 on "Strengthening international cooperation in preventing and combating trafficking in persons and protecting victims of such trafficking",

Reaffirming Commission on Human Rights resolution 2004/110, to appoint a Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially in women and children to highlight the importance of a victims-centered, rights-based approach to combating trafficking in persons, especially women and children, Human Rights Council resolution 6/14 of 2007 to appoint a Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences, Commission on Human Rights resolution 1990/68, to appoint a Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, General Assembly resolution 62/141 of 2008, to appoint a Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children and noting the appointment of a Secretary General's Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict,

Recalling that pursuant to a request from Economic and Social Council resolution 2006/27 "Strengthening international cooperation in preventing and combating trafficking in persons and protecting victims of such trafficking", reinforced by GA Resolution 61/180 "Improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons", the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons (ICAT) was established to foster coordination and cooperation among relevant United Nations agencies and other international organizations involved in combating human trafficking,

Recognizing that the launch of "UN.GIFT" (the Global Initiative to Fight human Trafficking) by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in partnership with the International Labor Organization, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, United Nations Children's Fund, Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and International Organization for Migration, in March 2007, and the Vienna Forum of 13-15 February 2008, provided all anti-trafficking actors including the United Nations, governments and civil society organizations a global forum to share respective experiences and further highlighted the need to collectively address human trafficking in a multi-faceted and holistic manner,

Recalling the General Assembly Thematic Debate on Human Trafficking of 3 June 2008 giving Member States a forum for discussion concentrating on the "three P's" (prevention, protection and prosecution), and the General Assembly Interactive Thematic Dialogue on "Taking Collective Action to End Human Trafficking" held on 13 May 2009, which underlined the importance of strengthening collective action by Member States and other stakeholders, including regional and international organizations, NGOs, the private sector and media,

Recognizing the importance of the Conference of Parties to the UNTOC which is established to improve the capacity of States Parties to combat transnational organised crime and to promote and review the implementation of the Convention, including the Trafficking Protocol,

Recognizing the relevant decisions adopted at the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime: Decision 1/5, Decision 2/3, Decision 3/3, and Decision 4/4 on the implementation of the Trafficking Protocol,

Recalling relevant sub-regional, regional and cross-regional mechanisms and initiatives, such as the Arab Initiative for Building National Capacities to Combat Human Trafficking: The Doha Founding Forum; Asia-Europe Meeting Action Plan to Combat against Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children; ASEAN Declaration against Trafficking in Persons, Particularly Women and Children; Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime; Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization Action Plan on Cooperation in Combating Crime; Council of Baltic Sea States Task Force against Trafficking in Human Beings; CIS Agreement on Cooperation in Combating Human Trafficking, Trafficking in Organs and Tissues; Central American Coalition against Trafficking in Persons; Coordinated Mekong Ministerial Initiative against Trafficking; Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings; ECOWAS Declaration on the Fight against Trafficking in Persons; ECOWAS/ECCAS Joint Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children; Manama Conference on Human Trafficking at the Crossroads: The Public-Private Partnership; MERCOSUR's Plan of Action to Fight Trafficking in Persons; Organization of American States' Work Plan to Combat Trafficking in Persons in the Western Hemisphere; Ouagadougou Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings, Especially Women and Children; OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings; Plan of Action of the Regional Conference on Migration (the Puebla Process multilateral regional forum of all Central and North American countries and the Dominican Republic); SAARC Convention on Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Women and Children for Prostitution; Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe Task Force on Trafficking in Human Beings, in Particular in its Organized Forms; and the European Union's Stockholm Program and its Action Plan setting up priorities in the field of justice and home affairs (for 2010-2015) and establishing a Trafficking in persons coordinator ,

Recognizing the need to develop a global plan of action against trafficking in persons that will:

- promote universal ratification of UNTOC and its Trafficking Protocol, as well as other relevant international instruments that address trafficking in persons and reinforce the implementation of existing instruments against trafficking in persons,*
- help Member States to reinforce their political commitments and legal obligations to prevent and combat trafficking in persons,*
- promote comprehensive, coordinated and consistent responses, at the national, regional and international levels, to counter trafficking in persons, ,*
- promote a human rights and gender- and age-sensitive based approach while addressing all factors that make people vulnerable to trafficking in persons and strengthening the criminal justice response which are necessary to prevent trafficking in persons, protect its victims and prosecute its perpetrators,*
- raise awareness within the UN system and also among States and other stakeholders such as the private sector, civil society and the international and national mass media and the public at large,*
- foster cooperation and coordination among all relevant stakeholders including Member States, international organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector, and within various entities of the UN system, taking into account existing best practices and lessons learned,*

1. *Adopts the present resolution and its annex as the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons ("the Plan of Action"), and*

2. *Decides* to formally launch the Plan of Action in a one day High-Level meeting of the General Assembly and urges Member States, the United Nations and other international, regional and sub-regional organizations as well as civil society, including NGOs, the private sector and media to fully and effectively implement the relevant provisions and activities of the Plan of Action

3. *Urges* Member States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding as a matter of priority to the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its Trafficking Protocol, taking into consideration the central role of those instruments in the fight against trafficking in persons, and further urges State Parties to those instruments to implement them fully and effectively.

4. *Decides* to establish, in accordance with paragraph 36 of the annex of the present resolution, the “United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, especially women and children”, requests the SG to take all necessary measures for its effective operation, and acknowledges previous and ongoing contributions made to other funding sources that support efforts to combat trafficking in persons,

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include a section on the implementation by the UN system of the Plan of Action within already existing reporting obligations to the General Assembly, under the “crime prevention and criminal justice” agenda item.

OP6. *Decides* to appraise in three years time the progress achieved in the implementation of this Plan of Action and requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures in this regard.

7: *Request* the Secretary General to present proposals to finance the staffing and programmatic requirements of the Secretariat necessary to strengthen the capacity of UNODC as described in the Plan of Action through reallocation of resources in the context of the proposed programme budget for the Biennium 2012-2013.

ANNEX: Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons

We the States Members of the United Nations, reaffirm our commitments to put an end to the heinous crime of trafficking in persons, especially women and children, are determined to prevent and combat trafficking in persons, protect and assist victims of trafficking in persons, prosecute crimes of trafficking in persons and promote partnerships to strengthen coordination and cooperation, and resolve to translate our political will into concrete actions by adopting an action plan to:

1. Consistently and strongly condemn trafficking in persons, as it constitutes a criminal activity violating human dignity and has negative effects on development, peace and security, and human rights;
2. Recognize that “trafficking in persons” shall mean the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation, which includes, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs as set forth in the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, Supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (hereinafter “Trafficking Protocol”);
3. Ensure that the promotion and protection of the human rights of victims of trafficking in persons, the prevention of trafficking in persons through addressing the social, economic, cultural, political and other contributing factors and the strengthening of the criminal justice response are at the center of all efforts to prevent and combat trafficking in persons and to protect, assist and provide redress to its victims;
4. Take urgent action to prevent trafficking in persons, protect its victims and prosecute its offenders and strengthen partnership to these ends by promoting and considering, as a priority, ratifying or acceding the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (hereinafter “UNTOC”) and the Trafficking Protocol as well as other relevant international instruments, including ILO convention 29 on Forced Labour; ILO Convention 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labour; Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery of 1956; the Convention on the Rights of the Child; its Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography; its Optional Protocol on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict; and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;
5. Recognize that, in accordance with Article 32 of UNTOC, the Conference of Parties to the Convention is established to improve the capacity of States Parties to promote and review the implementation of the Convention, including the Trafficking Protocol and take note of ongoing initiatives aimed at exploring options regarding an appropriate and effective mechanism to assist the Conference of Parties to UNTOC in the review of the implementation of the Convention;
6. Take into account the activities and recommendations of the open-ended interim Working Group on Trafficking in Persons established by the Conference of the Parties to UNTOC;

7. Support the Human Rights Council and contribute to its work on the question of the promotion and protection of human rights for all in the fight against trafficking in persons;

8. Support the role and mandates of the Special Rapporteur on Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, the Special Rapporteur on Contemporary Forms of Slavery, Including its Causes and Consequences, Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women, its Causes and Consequences, Special Rapporteur on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography, Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence Against Children, Special Representative of the Secretary General on Sexual Violence in Conflict and other relevant Special Rapporteurs and Representatives. The mandate holders should assist States by offering concrete advice, liaising with the United Nations and regional organizations, and reporting on these issues;

9. Reaffirm the central role of the work of United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in the global fight against trafficking in persons particularly in providing technical assistance to implement UNTOC and the Trafficking Protocol, by making use of existing capacity building tools, lessons learned and expertise available in international organizations, including inter alia, the International Framework for Action to Implement the Trafficking in Persons Protocol;

10. Reaffirm the important work of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the International Labor Organization, and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in the global fight against trafficking in persons;

11. Strongly urge all responsible UN entities to coordinate their efforts to fight trafficking in persons effectively and protect the human rights of its victims, including via the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons (hereinafter "ICAT") and "UN.GIFT" (the Global Initiative to Fight human Trafficking);

i) I. Preventing trafficking in persons

12. Address the social, economic, cultural, political and other factors that make people vulnerable to trafficking in persons, such as poverty, unemployment, inequality, humanitarian emergencies including armed conflict and natural disasters, sexual violence, gender discrimination, social exclusion and marginalization as well as a culture of tolerance towards violence against women, youth and children;

13. Make a commitment to address all forms of trafficking in persons wherever they occur;

14. Mainstream the issue of trafficking in persons into the broader policies and programmes of the UN aimed at addressing economic and social development, human rights, rule of law, good governance, education, natural disaster and post-conflict reconstruction;

15. Adopt and implement comprehensive policies and programmes at the national level and as appropriate at the sub-regional and regional levels to prevent all forms of trafficking in persons that are in line with relevant policies and programmes on migration, education, employment, gender equality, empowerment of women, and crime prevention in accordance with relevant international human rights instruments;

16. Conduct research and collect suitably disaggregated data that would enable a proper analysis of the nature and extent of trafficking in persons;

17. Develop or strengthen processes for the identification of victims such as those developed, inter alia, by UNODC and other organizations, including appropriate and non-discriminatory measures that help to identify victims of trafficking in persons among vulnerable populations;

18. Promote awareness-raising campaigns aimed at persons at risk of being trafficked and the general public through education and effective involvement of mass media, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and community leaders to discourage the demand that fosters exploitation of persons, especially women and children and that leads to trafficking as well as collect and disseminate best practices of the implementation of these campaigns;

19. Stress the role of education in raising awareness on the prevention of trafficking in persons and to promote education in particular human rights education, and human rights learning as a sustainable way to prevent trafficking in persons;

20. Reinforce efforts for the provision of identity documents such as the registration of births in order to lower the risk of being trafficked and help identify victims of trafficking in persons;

21. Increase and support prevention efforts in countries of origin, transit and destination by focusing on the demand that fosters all forms of trafficking and the goods and services produced as a result of trafficking in persons;

22. Adopt and implement specific measures at the national level to combat trafficking for labour exploitation and strive to educate consumers on these measures;

23. Strengthen or continue to strengthen the capacity of law enforcement, immigration, education, social welfare, labour and other relevant officials in the prevention of trafficking in persons, taking into account the need to respect human rights and child- and gender-sensitive issues and encourage cooperation, where appropriate, with civil society, non-governmental organizations and other relevant organizations;

24. Encourage the United Nations to intensify work with Member States and relevant international, regional and sub-regional organizations to identify and share best practices to prevent trafficking in persons;

ii) II. Protecting and assisting victims of trafficking in persons

25. Reaffirm that the promotion and protection of human rights for all and effective measures to respond to trafficking in persons are complementary and mutually reinforcing;

26. Stress the need to promote and protect the rights of victims of trafficking in persons and to reintegrate victims into the community, by taking into account the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights Recommended Principles and Guidelines on Human Rights and Human Trafficking and the UNICEF Guidelines on the Protection of Child Victims of Trafficking;

27. Ensure that victims of trafficking in persons are treated as victims of crime and that national legislation effectively criminalizes all forms of trafficking;

28. Review existing national services available to victims of trafficking in persons, consistent with the UNTOC and the Trafficking Protocol and strengthen those services where needed as well as support the establishment or strengthening of appropriate referral mechanisms;

29. Strengthen or continue to strengthen the capacity of relevant officials likely to encounter and identify possible victims of trafficking in persons, such as law enforcement personnel, border control officers, labor inspectors, consular embassy officials, judges and prosecutors and peacekeepers, and ensure the availability of needed resources to the relevant sectors and institutions, including those of civil society;

30. Urge governments to take all appropriate measures to ensure that identified victims of trafficking in persons are not penalized for being trafficked and that they do not suffer from victimization as a result of actions taken by government authorities;

31. Protect the privacy, identity and safety of victims of trafficking in persons before, during and after criminal proceedings and protect immediate family members and witnesses as appropriate from retaliation from traffickers, by ensuring their safety in accordance with Articles of 24 and 25 of UNTOC;

32. Provide assistance and services for the physical, psychological and social recovery and rehabilitation of trafficked persons in cooperation with non-governmental organizations, and other relevant organizations and sectors of civil society;

33. Consider adopting legislative or other appropriate measures that permit victims of trafficking in persons to remain in their territory, temporarily or permanently, in appropriate cases, consistent with the UNTOC and the Trafficking Protocol ;

34. Ensure that countries of origin accept their nationals who are victims of trafficking in persons back and guarantee such return is conducted with due regard for safety and shall preferably be voluntary, consistent with relevant international legal obligations;

35. Adopt labour laws in countries of origin, transit and destination which provide legal rights and protections for workers that would limit their risk of being trafficked;

36. Provide specialized services to identified victims of trafficking in persons, consistent with the UNTOC and the Trafficking Protocol and other relevant instruments, including access to ~~–suitable~~ health services, such as access to prevention, treatment, care and support services for HIV,AIDS and other blood borne and communicable diseases for those victims of trafficking in persons that have been sexually exploited, taking into account that human trafficking for the purposes of sexual exploitation has serious, immediate and long term implications for health, including sexual and reproductive health;

37. Provide appropriate assistance and protection in the best interest of the child to child victims of trafficking in persons or those at risk of being trafficked, including by ensuring appropriate services and measures for the physical and psychological well-being of child victims of trafficking in persons as well as their education, rehabilitation and reintegration in coordination with existing child protections systems;

38. Establish the “United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, especially women and children”, to provide humanitarian, legal and financial aid to victims of trafficking in persons through established channels of assistance, such as governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations that shall operate as a sub-fund of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund, managed by UNODC, and shall be administered in accordance with the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations and other relevant provisions with the advice of a board of trustees composed of five persons with relevant experience in field of trafficking in persons that shall be appointed with due regard to equitable geographic distribution by the Secretary-General in consultation with Member States and with the Executive Director of UNODC;

39. Adopt measures to ensure that victims of trafficking in persons can seek compensation for the damage suffered consistent with the UNTOC and the Trafficking Protocol UNTOC and the Trafficking Protocol;

40. Acknowledge the important role of civil society organizations in providing assistance and empowerment to victims of trafficking in persons and help them to seek redress as well as facilitate the care of and provision of appropriate services to victims, including close cooperation and coordination with law enforcement officials;

41. Ensure that domestic legal or administrative systems include measures to provide information to victims of trafficking in persons in a language they understand regarding their legal rights and the relevant court and administrative proceedings and facilitate access to assistance to enable their views and concerns to be presented and considered at appropriate stages of such proceedings against offenders in a manner not prejudicial to the rights of the defence consistent with the UNTOC and the Trafficking Protocol ;

42. Provide victims of trafficking in persons with an adequate period of time to recover and the opportunity to consult with appropriate advisors to assist in decision-making regarding cooperation with law enforcement and their participation in judicial proceedings;

iii) III. Prosecuting crimes of trafficking in persons

43. Implement all relevant legal instruments that criminalize trafficking in persons, including by:
- a. Prosecuting crimes of trafficking in persons that encompass all forms of exploitation;
 - b. Enacting, enforcing and strengthening legislation that criminalizes all trafficking in persons, especially that of women and children and adopting legislation and other measures as necessary to establish as criminal offences attempting to commit an offence; participating as an accomplice in an offence and organizing or directing other persons to commit an offence as set out in the Trafficking Protocol, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and its Optional Protocols and other relevant instrument, as applicable.
 - c. Combating and prosecuting organized criminal groups engaged in trafficking in persons;

44. Ensure liability of all categories of perpetrators of trafficking in persons, including the liability of legal persons and entities, as appropriate, in line with relevant international instruments;

45. Enhance efforts to investigate alleged cases of trafficking, strengthen means to combat trafficking, prosecute perpetrators, including through more systematic use of freezing assets for the purpose of eventual confiscation, according to the provisions of Article 12 of UNTOC, and ensure that penalties are proportionate to the gravity of the crime;

46. Make use of available technical assistance provided to strengthen the criminal justice response to trafficking in persons, including inter alia, by UNODC;

47. Investigate, prosecute and punish corrupt public officials who engage in or facilitate the trafficking of persons, and promote a no-tolerance policy against those corrupt officials consistent with the United Nations Convention against Corruption and UNTOC;

48. Strengthen or continue to strengthen coordination and cooperation among States in combating crimes that might be connected with trafficking in persons, including money laundering, corruption, smuggling of migrants and all forms of organized crime;

49. Encourage law enforcement, immigration, border patrol or other relevant authorities of concerned States to cooperate with one another by exchanging information with full respect for domestic laws, such as data protection laws, and continue to promote cooperation among states of origin, transit and destination in order to enhance investigations, prosecutions, and the detection of trafficking networks;

iv) IV. Strengthening partnerships against trafficking in persons

50. Recognize that capacity-building is a very important component in combating trafficking in persons and encourage and enhance coordination and coherence within the UN system;

51. Encourage effective cooperation and coordination of efforts at the national, bilateral, sub-regional, regional and international level, especially among countries of origin, transit and destination and take advantage of the networks provided by relevant organizations to share best practices in capacity-building for responding to and combating trafficking in persons, while stressing the importance of mutual legal assistance efforts and the exchange of information with full respect for domestic laws, such as data protection laws, including operational information, programs and best practices in supplementing UNTOC and the work done by the Conference of the Parties to that Convention;

52. Conclude and implement mutual legal assistance and extradition agreements, where appropriate, to apprehend and prosecute perpetrators of trafficking in persons, in accordance with the relevant provisions of national and international law, including UNTOC;

53. Promote cooperation and coordination between governmental institutions, civil society and the private sector, including the media, as well as workers and employers organizations to strengthen prevention and protection policies and programmes;

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54. Strengthen cooperation between law enforcement agencies regionally and internationally;
55. Intensify international, regional, and sub-regional cooperation to combat trafficking in persons as well as technical assistance for countries of origin, destination and transit aimed at strengthening their ability to prevent all forms of trafficking in persons;
56. Strengthen and support ICAT to improve coordination and cooperation amongst relevant UN bodies, including UN human rights treaty bodies and mechanisms, and international organizations;
57. Encourage UNODC, other UN Agencies, Funds and Programs as well as international and regional organizations to continue to assist Member States, upon request, to strengthen policy making, legislative arrangements, border-control and law enforcement cooperation, public awareness campaigns and capacity building; and to exchange and build upon best practices in assisting victims of trafficking in persons;
58. Further encourage United Nations Agencies, Funds and Programmes to continue to improve the coherence and efficiency of technical assistance delivery in the field of trafficking in persons in accordance with recommendations of the Working Group on Technical Assistance established by the Conference of the Parties to UNTOC;
59. Urge the Secretary-General to expedite the strengthening of ICAT under the coordination of UNODC, in order to ensure overall organization and coherence in the United Nations system's efforts to respond to trafficking in persons;
60. Request the Secretary-General as a matter of priority to strengthen the capacity of UNODC to collect information and report biennially, starting in 2012, on trafficking in persons patterns and flows at the national, regional and international levels in a balanced, reliable and comprehensive manner, in close cooperation and collaboration with Member States, as well as share best practices and lessons learned from various initiatives and mechanisms;
61. Encourage Member States to consider making voluntary contributions to United Nations anti-human trafficking work, and to explore additional sources of funding in this regard, including reaching out to the private sector for contributions.



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

20 August 2010

Excellency,

Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 64/293 of 30 July 2010, I am pleased to convene a High-Level meeting of the General Assembly to formally launch the United Nations Global Plan of Action against Trafficking in Persons on Tuesday, 31 August 2010.

More details on the programme will be provided shortly. I look forward to your support and participation in this meeting.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ali' followed by a stylized flourish.

Ali Abdussalam Treki

All Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers of the United Nations
New York

UNITED NATIONS

NEW YORK

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY



الأمم المتحدة

نيويورك

مكتب رئيس الجمعية العامة

The Office of the President of the sixty-fourth session of the General Assembly presents its compliments to all Permanent Missions and Permanent Observer Missions to the United Nations and, with regard to the letter of the President of the General Assembly dated 20 August 2010 on the High-Level meeting of the General Assembly to formally launch the United Nations Global Plan of Action against Trafficking in Persons to be held on Tuesday, 31 August 2010, has the honour to convey the programme of the meeting.

The Office of the President of the General Assembly avails itself of this opportunity to renew to all Permanent Missions and Permanent Observer Missions to the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.

New York, 27 August 2010

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a long tail.

Permanent Missions to the United Nations
and Permanent Observer Missions
New York

High-Level Meeting of the General Assembly

Launch of the United Nations Global Plan of Action against Trafficking in Persons

Tuesday, 31 August 2010 at 10:00 a.m.
Conference Room 1, UN Headquarters, New York

Programme

10:00 – 10:30 Formal segment

Opening Statements

- H.E. Dr. Ali Abdussalam Treki, *President of the General Assembly*
- H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-moon, *Secretary-General*

10:30 – 13:00 Informal segment

Welcome performance by artist Primitiva, singing “E Ala E”

Remarks by guest speakers

- Dr. Saisuree Chutikul, *Chair of the National Subcommittee on Combating Trafficking in Children and Women, Thailand*
- Ms. Maria Grazia Giammarinaro, *OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Being*
- Dr. Aleya Hammad, *Co-founder and Board Member of the Suzanne Mubarak Women's International Peace Movement*

Remarks by Member States

31 August 2010

**Statement of H.E. Dr. Ali Abdussalam Treki,
President of the 64th Session of the General Assembly,
at the High-level Meeting of the General Assembly to Formally
Launch the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat
Trafficking in Persons**

Excellencies,

We meet here today to launch the United Nations Global Plan of Action against trafficking in Persons. The Plan of Action was adopted by the General Assembly in resolution 64/293 on 30 July 2010, after a broad and consultative process. I would like to again thank the co-facilitators of this process, the Permanent Representatives of Cape Verde and Portugal, for their efforts in facilitating this process. I would also like to thank the Secretary-General and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime for their engagement with this issue.

Excellencies,

The Plan of Action is intended to foster concerted action to defend the rights and freedoms enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The right for all human beings to be born free. The right not to be held in slavery or servitude. The affirmation that slavery and the slave trade are prohibited in all their forms. Fulfilling these commitments must be at the forefront of the international agenda, if we are to protect the world's population, especially the poor and most vulnerable from human trafficking, a modern day slavery.

By adopting the Plan of Action, Governments have resolved to take concrete action to prevent trafficking in persons, to protect and assist victims, to prosecute related crimes, and to strengthen partnerships among Governments, civil society organizations and the private sector, including the media. Governments have also agreed to promote and consider ratifying existing international instruments related to trafficking. The Plan of Action adopts a human rights-centred approach to efforts to prevent and combat trafficking, and agrees to mainstream the issue of trafficking into broader United Nations policies and programmes on economic and social development, human rights, rule of law, good governance, education, and natural disaster and post-conflict reconstruction. To assist victims, the Plan of Action establishes a UN voluntary trust fund for victims of trafficking in persons, especially women and children. I encourage Member States to contribute generously to this fund. Governments are also urged to take all appropriate measures to ensure that victims are not penalized for being trafficked and to protect their privacy, identity and safety.

Excellencies,

I commend all Member States for their efforts and commitment to address this urgent issue. I call on all nations and members of civil society to work together to implement this Plan of Action.

Abduction, coercion, trafficking across national and international borders, forcing women and children into sexual exploitation and servitude- this must not be accepted in today's world. As this heinous crime flourishes, thousands of men, women and children are robbed of their safety, their freedom and their dignity. Human trafficking devastates families and tears communities apart. When the history of this horror calls, we cannot let this period be remembered as one in which the global community knew but did not act.



**PERMANENT MISSION OF THAILAND
TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

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Statement
by

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to the 64th General Assembly of the United Nations

Agenda Item 104:
Crime prevention and criminal justice: High-level
meeting of the General Assembly to formally launch
the Global Plan of Action
to Combat Trafficking in Persons

New York, 31 August 2010

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Excellencies, Dr. Ali Abdussalam Treki, President of the UN General Assembly, Mr. Ban Ki-Moon, Secretary-General, Distinguished Participants and Guests, Friends and Colleagues,

It is an honor which gives me great pleasure to be invited to join you at this important gathering. I wish most sincerely to thank the President of the General Assembly for giving me the opportunity to witness another historic landmark in combating trafficking in persons.

Those of us who have been fighting this heinous crime at the international, national, regional and sub regional levels, as well as working on the ground witnessing the suffering of victims, especially women and children, welcome this Global Plan of Action. We would like to express our deepest appreciation to those who have worked very hard throughout the process of conceptualization, drafting and bringing the plan forward for the approval of the State Parties. All these steps required continuous negotiations and resolving of conflicting ideas. This has taken a great deal of patience and tireless effort. My big applause goes to all of you.

Now the task before us is how to ensure that the Global Plan is implemented comprehensively and effectively. At the global and international level, first of all, for entities that are responsible for monitoring international human rights instruments and/or international standards, to seriously and continuously urge State Parties to utilize the Global Plan of Action in connection with various conventions, protocols and general comments. For example, specifically Articles 32, 34, and 35 of the CRC and its 2 Optional Protocols, Article 6 of the CEDAW and the ILO Convention 182.

Secondly, international, regional and sub regional mechanisms need to be strengthened and linked with one another. The transnational nature of the crime requires transnational cooperation, collaboration and coordination. UNODC has been given a prominent role to carry out a good portion of this agenda. As a member representing Asia, I would like to publicly appeal to the President and the Secretary – General to please see that UNODC have sufficient support and resources to best perform their mandates. If the perpetrators and criminals always outdo global efforts, where do we put our face?

We also must realize that no one office or agency can undertake this high responsibility alone. Coordinated efforts are required at all levels, vertically and horizontally, including all the way to the UN Country Teams. In this regard, important agencies, within and outside the UN System, will have to work together. UNICEF, former UNIFEM - now UN Women, ILO, IOM, WHO, UNFPA, UNESCO, OHCHR, UNHCR, international NGO's, private sector and dedicated private individuals all play important roles in eradication of this crime.

At the national/domestic level and beyond, we are obligated to put our best foot forward (and best brain forward) as well. The legal framework must be in place in compliance with international instruments and standards. The Palermo Protocol is the key document to consider and follow. Enforcement of laws and regulations is equally crucial. All actors, especially in the entire judicial process, must be on the same page. Leniency, such as suspended sentencing, should not be used at all in my thinking.

We have talked a lot about the 3 p's (i.e. prevention, protection and prosecution) to which I would like to add another 'p' which is national 'policy' which must be clearly stated. Along with concern for the victims, we would like to add the 4 'r's' which are: effective rescue, recovery or rehabilitation, return/repatriation and reintegration measures.

The Global Plan of Action should be used to further or strengthen the national plans of action, where appropriate. The challenges which our countries and our organizations are facing, include, among others:

(i) Emerging issues or long unresolved problems, such as young local men and documented and undocumented migrant workers in forced labor or in debt bondage through unscrupulous agents, brokers or employers; boys and girls engaged in exploitative sexual activities related to pedophiles and commercial sex tourism; stateless persons, persons belong to ethnic minority groups and persons of extreme vulnerability who encounter multiple discriminating laws and practices, etc.

(ii) Consistency in utilizing multifaceted, multi-disciplinary, multi-sectoral, human rights based, participatory and holistic approaches in anti-trafficking efforts and actions must be ensured. These are usually easier said than done.

(iii) This leads to the need for collective coordination among relevant agencies and persons concerned. The word 'coordination' is common and simple but to 'practice' coordination is not so easy. It involves clear divisions of labor, clear referrals, sharing information and sharing common goals. It implies less institutional ego, less personal ego, less territorial protectionism and less credit seeking behavior. If I can be blunt, I would like to state one thing which must be quite obvious to all of us when it comes to coordination. I would have to say with apologies to my host and to all present here that, neither the UN, nor the Member States nor the NGOs have been successful at coordination at either the international, national or local levels. We need to work harder on 'coordination' and I don't think that we need further explanation on how important this is in our work.

(iv) Another challenge is on the contribution to the success of these efforts. The contribution can be in cash or in kind, large or small. It can come from a rich country or a poor country. It can come from an organization or an individual. The important thing is that these contributions be used in a cost effective manner. The results should be vested with the improvement of the lives of the victims, and not on volumes of papers and rhetoric.

One final note is that behind all these nice documents and words, we must have compassion for our fellow human beings, especially women and children. The actions contained in the Plan will be sustained through genuine feelings for others who suffer from injustice and violations of their rights. We would want to work hard for the success of this concerted endeavor. And as stated in the in trend phrase now-a-days, "Together, we can" and indeed, we can, together.



Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe

**Office of the Special Representative and Co-ordinator
for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings**

Dr. Maria Grazia Giammarinaro
OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator
for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings

Crime prevention and criminal justice:
High-level meeting of the UN General Assembly to formally launch the
Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons

New York, 31 August 2010

Mr. President,
Mr. Secretary General,
Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,
Colleagues,

I am delighted and honoured to be standing before the UN General Assembly this morning. I wish to warmly thank you, Mr. President, for inviting the OSCE to participate in this high-level meeting of the General Assembly for the launch of the United Nations Global Plan of Action against Trafficking in Persons.

I believe that today's event initiates a new and focused call to the universal ratification and the effective implementation of the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its supplementing Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children.

The Global Plan is a great opportunity to step up efforts, take concrete actions, allocate resources and take further commitments in the context of the process of ratification and implementation of the Trafficking Protocol, which establishes the binding and common legal framework for the anti-trafficking action. I believe that these efforts will go hand in hand and enhance each other.

We need to take a step forward. Every day, millions of people – among them a significant proportion of children – are deceived, abused, coerced and threatened into sexual and labour exploitation, domestic servitude, and forced begging, or are exploited for any other illicit profitable purpose. Typically their documents are confiscated, and they are forced to work or provide services during long hours, often to pay back an insurmountable debt in conditions that amount to slavery. They are socially isolated and often unable to speak or understand the local language. Often, they are exposed to ill and degrading treatment including rape, psychological and sexual abuse, confinement, and physical punishment. They may also be held captive with subtle psychological coercion, so that the person may not reasonably believe that she or he has the possibility to leave.

This is the reality of human trafficking today. It is a massive phenomenon of modern-day slavery. It is also one of the worst forms of violence against women, who are particularly targeted for sexual and labour exploitation, owing to social vulnerability factors such as feminization of poverty, and to a persistent imbalance of power between the sexes. I am grateful to the UN Secretary General for his commitment on the eradication of violence against women and trafficking.

At what point have we arrived in the struggle against trafficking? We have made significant progress during the last ten years, thanks to the efforts and partnerships of governments, international organizations and NGOs.

However, much important work remains to be done. Trafficking shows no sign of abating world-wide. On the contrary, it is a growing phenomenon, especially when one considers the thousands

of migrant workers entrapped in debt bondage or in a web of coercion and of social, cultural, administrative and economic dependencies, or the thousands of girls and boys sexually exploited or forced to work, and even to commit illicit activities, in circumstances that harm their safety and health, and compromise their development.

Therefore, we have to change our perception of trafficking. It is not a marginal phenomenon but it tends more and more to be linked with economic trends. The risk is that trafficking becomes a structural component of sectors such as agriculture or construction, as organized criminal groups take advantage of the social vulnerabilities of workers, and of the multiple opportunities of a globalized economy.

Against this background, let me discuss some of the most difficult challenges ahead of us.

Trafficking severely undermines and devastates the freedom, dignity and health of millions of people, especially migrants. Yet, only a few of these people are identified as victims of crime and supported, while most are misidentified as irregular migrants, detained and expelled. Once they are repatriated, they are very often easily re-trafficked.

Moreover, trafficking proves mostly a business of transnational organized crime. Prosecutions and convictions are not only low in numbers but they also often only reach individual final exploiters. Corruption and money laundering go hand in hand with trafficking but remain largely undetected, so they continue to fuel this and other crimes, threaten proper functioning of democratic institutions and infiltrate the legal economy. Trafficking has become an inexhaustible source of profits which are constantly reinvested in all kinds of other criminal activities, and has therefore become a threat for international and national security.

In this scenario, we have to admit that although commitments and action have been taken, trafficking in human beings is still not considered a strategic issue, nor does it raise the same level of concern as other human rights issues such as torture, or other transnational threats such as drug trafficking.

Today, we can change this situation, and move forward. To make a difference, it is imperative that anti-trafficking legislation and policy established over the past years now work on a much larger scale, especially in the field of labour exploitation, regarding both transnational and internal trafficking.

But as we move forward, a set of core issues – that are also addressed in the Global Plan of Action – should underpin our anti-trafficking action. Tackling these core issues should pool us together with a common approach and joint efforts.

First, the cornerstone of anti-trafficking policy is the primacy of the human rights of trafficked persons. In other words, the rights of trafficked persons should be at the centre of all efforts to prevent and combat trafficking and to protect, assist and provide redress to victims. This approach is fully reflected in the OSCE Action Plan.

The accomplishments of the past decade have showcased how vital such an approach is, in order to protect victims and to ensure successful prosecution.

Ten years ago I was a delegate representing the Italian Government in the negotiations of the Trafficking Protocol, and I remember that it was only in one of the final negotiating sessions that victim protection was added as one of the objectives of the Protocol. Now, following the essential contribution of the UN OHCHR Recommended Principles and Guidelines on Human Rights and Human Trafficking, the UN Global Action Plan adopts a human rights-based approach and calls for consistent implementation of legal obligations and political commitments.

To give life to this approach we need to ensure that victims receive immediate and unconditional assistance and support as soon as there is the slightest indication that she or he might have been subject to trafficking. Furthermore, we need to improve the protection of victims' rights in legal proceedings. In particular, the right to compensation is a crucial element of an empowerment strategy, enabling trafficked persons to gain ownership of their lives and to pursue their own objectives. I call on all of you to support the forthcoming "United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, especially women and children", to ensure that it brings direct and effective benefit to trafficked persons.

Second, the anti-trafficking struggle requires much more focused and effective law enforcement and criminal justice action. Trafficking investigations and prosecutions need to detect, disrupt and dismantle the entire transnational criminal network, including corruption nodes. More sophisticated investigative techniques and especially financial investigations should be used on a regular basis to find, freeze and forfeit the proceeds of crime. International law enforcement and judicial co-operation are decisive in this domain and full implementation of the UN TOC Convention and the Trafficking Protocol provides the pillars for such co-operation.

Now we come to the third issue: prevention. I appreciate that the Global Plan promotes a broad and mainstreamed approach to the prevention of trafficking including through human rights education, development work, gender equality, and the promotion of the rule of law and good governance. I would like to touch here only on two aspects, namely labour migration and awareness raising.

Prevention policies need to take into account demand for low-skilled workers, especially in so-called "feminized sectors", through the development and promotion of legal, safe, and gender and age sensitive channels of migration and through outreach work with migrant communities to promote knowledge of their rights and self-organization to prevent abuse and exploitation.

Awareness raising is a crucial component of prevention strategy. Trafficking is modern-day slavery and it is a widespread phenomenon. Therefore, we need to build something similar to an anti-slavery abolitionist movement. Intellectuals, media professionals, parliamentarians, artists, educators and students, the private sector, and members of the general public; everyone should feel committed to the abolition of modern forms of slavery.

To fulfil the vision of a slave-free world, we need strong political will, necessary resources and concrete action on the ground. And we all need to come together, and join forces. The OSCE works with 56 States of the world, and has a long standing and fruitful co-operation, within the framework of the *Alliance against Trafficking in Persons*, with the UNODC, the UN agencies and international NGOs. We have also co-operated with UNODC and other organizations in the context of UN GIFT. We are now honoured to stand with the UN as we take the next concrete steps to eradicate modern-day slavery.

Thank you for your attention.