Stop Trafficking News Anti-Human Trafficking News Awareness Tulin 2011 Val. 9 No. 7

Anti-Human Trafficking Newsletter



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This issue highlights information found in the U.S. State Department's annual 'Trafficking in Persons' (TIP) Report.

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- ·Sisters of St. Francis of Redwood City
- ·Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, Los Angeles
- ·Sisters of St. Joseph of Chestnut Hill, PA
- ·Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange, CA
- ·Sisters of St. Mary of Namur, N. / S. Amer. Prov.s
- ·Ursuline Sisters of the Roman Union USA

2011 U. S. Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Report

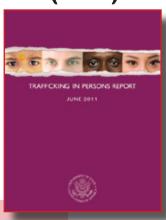
On June 27, 2011 the U.S. Department of State's (DoS) Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, released the 2011 Trafficking in Persons Report (TIP Report).

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton led the meeting and Ambassadorat-Large Luis CdeBaca of the TIP Office also spoke.

Clinton stated, "The world began to change a

little over 10 years ago, and certainly, I'm grateful for the work that my country has done. I'm also very grateful for the work that so many of our partners have done as well. When my husband signed the 'Trafficking Victims Protection Act', we did have tools - we had tools to bring traffickers to justice and tools to provide victims with legal services and other support. Today, police officers, activists, and governments are coordinating their efforts so much more effectively. Thousands of victims have been liberated around the world, and thanks to special temporary visas, many of them are able to come to our country to have protection to testify against their perpetrators."

The DoS prepared this report using information from U.S. embassies, government officials, non-governmental and international organizations, published reports, research trips to every region, and information submitted to tipreport@state.gov — an e-mail ad-



dress by which organizations and individuals can share information with the DoS on government progress in addressing trafficking. U.S. diplomatic posts and domestic agencies reported on the trafficking situation and governmental action to fight trafficking based on thorough research that included meetings

with a wide variety of government officials, local and international NGO representatives, officials of international organizations, journalists, academics, and survivors. U.S. missions overseas are dedicated to covering human trafficking issues.

Around the world, the TIP Report and the best practices reflected therein have spurred legislation, national action plans, implementation of policies and funded programs, protection mechanisms that complement prosecution efforts, and a comprehensive understanding of the issue.

Since the inception of the TIP Report in 2001, the number of countries included and ranked has more than doubled from 82 in 2001 to 184 countries in the 2011. The number of countries on Tier 1 has grown from 12 to 32. (http://www.examiner.com/human-rights-in-washington-dc/clinton-releases-2011-trafficking-persons-report)



'TIP' Rankings

The U.S. State Dept. places each country in the 2011 TIP Report in one of three tiers, as mandated by the *Trafficking Victims Protection Act* (TVPA.) This placement is based more on the extent of government action to combat trafficking than on the size of the problem, although the latter is an important factor. The analyses are based on the extent of governments' efforts to reach compliance with the TVPA's minimum standards for the elimination of human trafficking.

While *Tier 1* is the highest ranking, it does not mean that a country has no human trafficking problem. Rather, a *Tier 1* ranking indicates that a government has acknowledged the existence of human trafficking, has made efforts to address the problem, and meets the TVPA's minimum standards. Each year, governments need to demonstrate appreciable progress in combating trafficking to maintain a *Tier 1* ranking. Indeed, *Tier 1* represents a responsibility rather than a reprieve. (TIP, pg. 11)

Tier 2 countries are those whose governments do not fully comply with the TVPA's minimum standards but are making significant efforts to bring themselves into compliance with those standards.

In 2008, the *William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act* included a provision that any country that has been ranked *Tier 2 Watch List* for two consecutive years and that would otherwise be ranked *Tier 2 Watch List* for the next year will instead be ranked *Tier 3* for the next year. This provision comes into effect for the first time with the 2011 report.

Pursuant to the TVPA, governments of countries on *Tier 3* may be subject to certain sanctions, whereby the U.S. government may withhold or withdraw non-humanitarian, non-trade-related foreign assistance. In addition, countries on *Tier 3* may not receive funding for government employees' participation in educational and cultural exchange programs. Consistent with the TVPA, governments subject to sanctions would also face U.S. opposition to assistance (except for humanitarian, trade-related, and certain development-related assistance) from international financial institutions such as the *International Monetary Fund* (IMF) and the *World Bank*.

Imposed sanctions will take effect on October 1, 2011; however, all or part of the TVPA's sanctions can be waived if the President determines that the provision of such assistance to the government would promote the purposes of the statute or is otherwise in the U.S.' national interest. The TVPA also provides for a waiver of sanctions if necessary to avoid significant adverse effects on vulnerable populations, including women and children.

No tier ranking is permanent. Each and every country can do more, including the United States. All countries must maintain and increase efforts to combat trafficking. (TIP. pg. 13-14)

Overview of TIP Rankings

• • • •	• •		•		•						3,
Country	'01	'02	'03	'04	'05	'06	'07	'08	'09	'10	'11
Afghanistan	3	?	2	2	2	2	2	2	2W	2W	2W
Albania	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2W	2	2	2
Algeria					2	2W	3	3	2W	2W	3
Angola	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2W	2	2W
Antigua & Barbuda									2	2	2
Argentina				2	2	2W	2W	2W	2W	2	2
Armenia		3	2	2	2W	2W	2W	2W	2	2	2
Aruba											2
Australia				1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Austria	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Azerbaijan				2W	2W	2	2	2W	2W	2W	2W
Bahrain	3	3	2	2	2W	2W	3	2W	2W	2	2
Bangladesh	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	2W	2W	2W
Barbados									2	2W	2W
Belarus	3	3	2	2	2	2	2W	2	2	2	2W
Belgium	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Belize			3	2W	2W	3	2	2	2W	2W	2
Benin	2	2	1	2	2W	2	2	2	2	2	2
Bolivia			2	2W	3	2W	2	2	2	2	2
Bosnia & Herzegivina	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1
Botswana									2	2	2
Brazil	2	2	2	2	2	2W	2	2	2	2	2
Brunei									2	2W	2W
Bulgaria	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Burkina Faso	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Burma	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Burundi			2	2	2	2	2W	2W	2W	2	2W
Cambodia	2	3	2	2	3	2W	2W	2	2W	2	2
Cameroon	2	2	2	2	2W	2	2	2W	2W	2W	2W
Canada	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Cent. African Rep.					2W	2W	2W	2W	2W	2W	3
Chad					2	2	2W	2W	3	2W	2W
Chile				2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
China (PRC)	2	2	2	2	2W						
Colombia	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Congo (DRC)	3	3	2	2W	2	2	2	2W	2W	3	3
Congo (ROC)								2W	2W	2W	2W
Costa Rica	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2W	2	2	2W
Cote d'Ivoire	2	2	2	2W	2	2	2	2W	2W	2W	SP
Croatia			2	2W	2	2	2	1	1	1	1
Cuba			3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Curacao											2W



The TVPA and the Palermo Protocol

The standards in the *Trafficking Victim's Protection Act* (TVPA) are largely consistent with the framework for addressing trafficking set forth in the *Palermo Protocol*, both in form and content. Both define trafficking in persons as a set of acts, means, and purposes. Both emphasize the use of force, fraud, or coercion to obtain the services of another person. And both acknowledge that movement is not required, framing the crime around the extreme exploitation that characterizes this form of abuse. Although each TIP Report presents assessments under American law, the standards they build from are firmly rooted in international law. (TIP, pg. 16)

Labor Abuse

In August 2010 it was reported that a Saudi couple tortured their Sri Lankan maid, after she complained of a too heavy workload, by hammering 24 hot nails into her hands, legs and forehead over her eye.

Nearly 2 million Sri Lankans sought employment overseas in 2009 and around 1.4 million, mostly maids, were employed in the Middle East. Many complained of physical abuse or harassment. A 49-year old mother of three, returned to Sri Lanka after five months in Saudi Arabia. She was taken to



hospital for surgery to remove the nails, which were one- to two-inches long. (http://www.reuters.com/article/2010/08/26/us-srilanka-maid-idUSTRE67P17420100826)

Obstacles to Prosecutions: Notions of Consent and Denouncement

According to the Palermo Protocol victims' initial agreement to immigrate illegally or to do a certain type of activity – such as farm labor or prostitution – does not excuse their subsequent enslavement in that activity. This legal norm is in keeping with the notion that core human rights cannot be waived. Modern recognition attests that force, fraud, and coercion cannot overbear the victims' will. The notion that people exercised agency in their initial agreement to work or travel does not show that they did not later withdraw their consent to appalling working conditions, little or no pay, and intimidation or violence. Likewise, sex trafficking victims' previous engagement

Prosecutions, cont. pg. 4

TIP Rankings cont.

			_								
Country	'01	'02	'03	'04	'05	'06	'07	'08	'09	'10	'11
Cyprus				2W	2	2W	2W	2W	2	2	2W
Czech Republic	2	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	2
Denmark			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Djibouti						2W	2W	2	2W	2	2
Dominican Republic	2	2	3	2W	2W	2	2W	2W	2W	3	2W
Ecuador				3	3	2	2	2	2	2	2W
Egypt				2	2	2W	2W	2W	2W	2	2
El Salvador	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Equatorial Guinea		2	2	3	2	2W	3	2W	2W	2W	3
Eritrea										3	3
Estonia		2	2	2W	2	2	2	2	2	2	2W
Ethiopia	2	2	2	2W	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Fiji								2W	3	3	2
Finland			2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
France		2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Gabon		3	2	2	2W	2	2	2	2W	2W	2
Georgia		2	2	3	2W	2	2	1	1	1	1
Germany	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Ghana		2	2	1	1	2	2	2	2	2W	2
Greece		3	3	3	2W	2W	2	2	2	2	2
Guatemala	2	2	2	2W	2	2	2W	2W	2W	2W	2
Guinea					2	2W	2	2	2W	2W	2W
Guinea- Bissau						2	2	2W	2W	2W	3
Guyana				3	2	2	2W	2W	2W	2W	2
Haiti	2	2	3		2W						SP
Honduras	2	2	2	2W	2	2	2W	2	2	2	2
Hong Kong	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2
Hungary	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	2	2	2
Iceland										2	2
India		2	2	2	2W	2W	2W	2W	2W	2W	2
Indonesia	3	3	2	2	2	2W	2	2	2	2	2
Iran			3	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3
Iraq										2W	2W
Ireland							1	?	2	2	1
Israel		3	2	2	2	2	2W	2	2	2	2
Italy		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Jamaica			2	2W	3	2W	2	2	2	2	2
Japan		2	2	2	2W	2	2	2	2	2	2
Jordan							2	2	2W	2	2
Kazakhstan	3	2	3	2W	2	2	2W	2	2	2W	2
Kenya				2	2W	2	2W	2W	2	2	2
Kiribati										2W	2W
Korea, North			3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Korea, South	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1



Prosecutions cont. from pg. 3

in prostitution does not mean that they consented to activities like forced drug use, unprotected sex, forced abortions, or sex against their will for the profit of a pimp. In the case of children, moreover, no improper means need to be established for the trafficking act to constitute a criminal offense, as children cannot consent in these circumstances.

Another impediment occurs when some governments, including many in Latin America, require a formal complaint, or denunciation, to be filed by a private citizen for a trafficking prosecution to be initiated. In countries with high levels of organized crime or violence an NGO or private citizens, who are not trafficking victims, often refrain from linking their names with such public complaints for fear of compromising their own safety. Victims themselves will typically refrain from filing an official complaint because they fear retaliation, distrust that the system will work for them as opposed to the trafficker, or desire anonymity. This may be the most rational choice where victim protections are nonexistent, inadequate, or insufficient in protecting the victims' families. (TIP, pgs. 37-38)



"She came to Greece to follow her dreams ... now she's trapped in a nightmare," reads a poster in Thessaloniki, Greece.

The poster, produced and distributed by the 'A21 Campaign', aims to raise awareness of sex trafficking among Greeks.

(TIP. pg. 35)

Techniques of Control Used by Sex Traffickers and Pimps

Too often, police, prosecutors, judges, and policymakers assume a victim has free will if she has the physical ability to walk away. The TVPA's modern approach recognizes the power of psychological coercion. Research and field experience suggest that violence and restraint – though hallmarks of the commercial sex industry – are far from the most effective means of control.

Pimps use a variety of psychological methods, sometimes referred to as "seasoning" or "grooming," to gain full control. They recruit vulnerable women or girls, pretend to be in love with them, ply them with alcohol or drugs, build their dependencies for basic needs or

Techniques cont. pg. 5

TIP Rankings cont.

TIP Rankings cont.											
Country	'01	'02	'03	'04	'05	'06	'07	'08	'09	'10	'11
Kosovo										2	2
Kuwait				2	2	3	2W	3	3	3	3
Kyrgyz Republic			2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Laos		2	2	2	2W	2	3	2	2	2	2
Latvia			2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2W	2
Lebanon	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2W	2W	3
Lesotho									2W	2W	2
Liberia				3				2	2	2	2W
Libya						2	2W	2W	2W	2W	3
Lithuania	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Luxembourg					1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Macau						2W	2W	2	2	2	2
Macedonia	2	1	1	1	2	2	2	1	1	2	1
Madagascar				2W	2	2	2	1	2	2W	3
Malawi			2	2W	2	1	1	2	2	2	2
Malaysia	3	2	2	2	2	2W	3	2W	3	2W	2W
Maldives									2	2W	2W
Mali	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2W	2W	2W
Malta						2	2	2	2	2W	2W
Marshall Islands											2
Mauritania				2W	2	2W	2W	2	3	3	3
Mauritius			1	2	2W	2	2	2	1	1	1
Mexico	2	2	2	2W	2W	2W	2W	2	2	2	2
Micronesia									2W	2W	3
Moldova	2	2	2	2	2	2	2W	3	2W	2W	2
Mongolia					2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Montenegro			2	2W	2	2	2	2W	2W	2	2
Morocco	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2
Mozambique			2	2	2	2	2W	2W	2	2W	2
Namibia									2	2	2
Nepal	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	2
Neth. Antilles									2W	2	
Netherlands	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
New Zealand				1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Nicaragua			2	?	2W	2	2	2	2W	2W	2
Niger			2	2	2W	2	2	2W	3	2W	2W
Nigeria	2	2	2	2W	2	2	2	2	1	1	1
Norway			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Oman					2	2W	3	3	2	2	2
Pakistan	3	2	2	2W	2	2	2	2	2W	2	2
Palau									2	2	2
Panama				2	2	2	2	2W	2	2W	2W
Papua New Guinea						2W	3	3	3	3	3



Stopping Human Trafficking, Sexual Exploitation, and Abuse by International Peacekeepers

In response to a Congressional mandate, the TIP Report summarized actions taken by the *United Nations* (UN), the *North Atlantic Treaty Organization* (NATO), and the *Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe* (OSCE) to prevent trafficking in persons or the exploitation of victims of trafficking.

The UN implements its 2003 zero-tolerance policy "Special Measures for Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse" (ST/SGB/2003/13) through a series of reforms that apply to approxi-



UN peacekeeper in the DR Congo

mately 99,000 UN uniformed personnel (troops, military observers, and police), UN international and national staff members, contractors, consultants, and UN volunteers serving in peacekeeping and humanitarian missions.

Further information on the UN's sexual ex-

ploitation and abuse prevention measures is available at: http://cdu.unlb.org/AboutCDU.aspx and www.un.org/en/pseataskforce/index.shtml.

NATO has measures in place prohibiting its personnel from engaging in human trafficking. There are no known reports of any NATO personnel or units engaging in or facilitating human trafficking. NATO has six ongoing missions involving more than 135,000 troops.

Further information on NATO's human trafficking prevention measures is available at: http://www.nato.int/issues/trafficking/.

The OSCE has measures in place to prevent personnel from engaging in human trafficking and sexual exploitation and abuse. There are no known reports of OSCE personnel engaging in or facilitating human trafficking. The OSCE has 18 field missions and 2,887 personnel.

For further information on the OSCE's human trafficking prevention measures please go to: http://www.osce.org/what/trafficking (TIP, pgs. 406-408) (http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2011/164237.htm)

Techniques cont. from pg. 4

chemical escapes, place other women in supervisory roles over them and encourage them to compete for affection and favor, use an interlocking system of reward and punishment reminiscent of a battering relationship, and threaten their recruits with the shame of their families and a punitive, rather than protective, law enforcement response. (TIP, pg. 25)

TIP Rankings cont.

TIP Rankings cont.											
Country	'01	'02	'03	'04	'05	'06	'07	'08	'09	'10	'11
Paraguay				2W	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Peru				2W	2	2W	2	2	2	2	2
Philippines	2	2	2	2W	2W	2	2	2	2W	2W	2
Poland	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Portugal		1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	1
Qatar	3	3	2	2W	3	2W	3	3	2W	2W	2W
Romania	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Russia	3	3	2	2W							
Rwanda			2	2	2W	2	2	2	2	2	2
Saudi Arabia	3	3	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Senegal		2	2	2W	2	2	2	2	2W	2W	2
Serbia				2	2W	2	2	2	2	2	2
Seychelles											2
Sierra Leone	2	2	2	3	2W	2	2	2	2	2	2
Singapore	2	2		2	2	1	2	2	2	2W	2
Slovak Republic			2	2	2W	2	2	2	2	2	1
Slovenia	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1
Solomon Islands											2W
South Africa	2	2	2	2	2W	2W	2W	2W	2	2	2
Spain	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Sri Lanka	2	2	2	2	2	2	2W	2W	2W	2W	2
St. Lucia											2
St. Vincent & the Gren.									2W	2W	2W
Sudan		3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Suriname			3	2W	2W	2	2	2	2	2	2
Swaziland									3	2W	2
Sweden	2	?	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Switzerland	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	2	2
Syria						2	3	3	3	3	2W
Taiwan		1	?	1	1	2	2W	2	2	2	1
Tajikistan		3	2	2W	2	2	2	2W	2W	2W	2
Tanzania		2	2	2W	2	2	2	2	2	2W	2W
Thailand	2	2	2		2	2	2	2	2	2W	2W
The Bahamas									2	2	2W
The Gambia			2	2	2W	2	2W	2W	2	2	2W
Timor-este					2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Togo		2	2	2	2	3	2W	2	2	2	2
Tonga											2
Trinidad & Tobago									2	2W	2
Tunisia						2	?	?	?	2W	2W
Turkey		3	3	3	2W	2	2	2	2	2	2
Turkmeni- stan										2W	3
Uganda	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2



Advocacy

2011 TIP Report Heroes

Each year, the Department of State honors individuals around the world who have devoted their lives to the fight against human trafficking. Ten individuals were honored in the 2011 Report. They are NGO workers, lawmakers, police officers, and concerned citizens - recognized for their tireless efforts, despite resistance, opposition, and threats to their lives – to protect victims, punish offenders, and raise awareness of ongoing criminal practices in their countries and abroad. (TIP pgs. 46-49)

Leonel Dubon (Guatemala)



In 2009, Mr. Dubon was the driving force behind the creation of the NGO Children's Refuge House (El Refugio de la Ninez) to provide a safe residential

setting for 26 underage female victims of sex trafficking. In 2010, the organization, now a model for Guatemala and the region, provided shelter and services to 51 girls.

When the building's roof collapsed following a volcanic eruption in May 2010 and Tropical Storm Agatha, Mr. Dubon called on the NGO community to relocate the girls temporarily while he found money to repair the shelter.

After opening a second shelter for adolescents and young adults up to age 24 in 2011, he joined with other NGO leaders to engage with the Guatemalan government on the lack of services for adults. In March 2011, the president inaugurated a government shelter dedicated to serving adult victims of trafficking. (Read more - TIP, pg. 46)

Darlene Pajarito (Philippines)

is an assistant city prosecutor in Zamboanga City and is known as one of the strongest anti-trafficking advocates in the Philippines.



secured the Philip-

pines' first sex trafficking conviction in 2005 and the first labor trafficking conviction in 2011. With convictions

against five traffickers in Zamboanga, she has secured more convictions than in any other Philippine city. At any one time, Ms. Pajarito is prosecuting numerous trafficking cases. Ms. Pajarito has accomplished all this while juggling an average caseload of more than 300 other criminal cases in a country where criminal trials last an average of six years in the overburdened and backlogged judiciary.

(Read more - TIP, pg. 47) Dilcya Garcia (Mexico) is a pio-

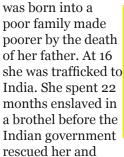


neer in the Mexican justice system. In 2009, Ms. Garcia, a deputy prosecutor in the Mexico City Attorney General's Office, prosecuted a landmark case that resulted in the

first trafficking sentence in Mexico. In 2009 and 2010, she worked with other authorities to raid the best-known trafficking district in Mexico's capital repeatedly. TIP Rankings cont.

Under her leadership, more than 250 rescued sex and labor trafficking victims were given comprehensive services, including shelter, and psychological and medical treatment. Ms. Garcia then developed indictments against more than 100 alleged traffickers, which her unit continues to prosecute. She also oversaw a sentence for 17 years, the longest trafficking sentence to-date in Mexico. (Read more - TIP, pg. 47)

Charimaya Tamang (Nepal)





more than 200 other Nepali women in 1996. Upon her return to Nepal, Ms. Tamang faced social stigma and was outcast from her own community.

But she courageously filed a case against her traffickers, becoming the first person to file personally a trafficking case with the district police. In 1997, the District Court - in a landmark decision - convicted and sentenced eight offenders.

In 2000, Ms. Tamang and 15 other survivors established Shakti Sumaha, an anti-trafficking NGO. She received a national honor for her work in 2007

Heroes cont. pg. 7

Country	'01	'02	'03	'04	'05	'06	'07	'08	'09	'10	'11
Ukraine	2	2	2	2	2W	2	2W	2	2W	2	2
United Arab Emirates	3	3	1	2	3	2W	2W	2	2W	2	2
United Kingdom	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Uruguay					2	2	2	2	2	2	2
USA										1	1
Uzbekistan			3	2	2W	3	3	2W	2W	2W	2W
Venezuela			2	3	3	3	3	2W	2W	2W	3
Vietnam	2	2	2	2W	2	2	2	2	2	2W	2W
Yemen						2	2	2	2	2W	3
Zambia				2	2W	2	2	2	2W	2	2
Zimbabwe			2	2W	2W	3	2	2W	3	3	3



Advocacy

Heroes cont. from pg. 6 and is currently one of two trafficking survivors serving as members of the government-led National Committee to Combat Human Trafficking, founded in 2009. Ms. Tamang raised the importance of including survivors in each district-level working group. There are now five trafficking survivors serving as members of district-level committees around the country.

Bridget Lew Tan (Singapore)



has been at the forefront of efforts to protect migrant laborers in Singapore, home to more than 800,000 migrants, for over a decade. Working in hu-

man resource management, Ms. Tan became familiar with local employment laws and the rights of workers. She was outraged to see that there were migrant workers who were suffering injustices at the hands of employers and employment agents. While volunteering with the Archdiocesan Commission for the Pastoral Care of Migrants and Itinerant People in 2002, Ms. Tan met a group of 30 Bangladeshi men assembled behind a coffee shop at midnight. After seeing their helplessness and fear, she set up two shelters to provide refuge for migrant workers - one for men and one for women.

In 2004, Ms. Tan founded the *Humanitarian Organization for Migration Economics* (HOME) to respond to the specific needs of migrant workers. Since its inception, HOME has provid-

ed food, shelter, advocacy assistance and legal counsel to more than 50,000 migrants, many of whom are female domestic workers. HOME continues to operate and expand its assistance to migrant workers and trafficking victims despite limited funding. Ms. Tan works to increase public awareness of the hardships facing migrant workers and trafficking victims through the media. Despite threats and intimidation from employers and agents, Ms. Tan continues to lead HOME in challenging illegal employment practices and raising awareness on the plight of foreign workers in Singapore. (Read more - TIP, pg. 49)

Swati Chauhan (Indian Magis-

trate) was appointed in 2008 to preside over Mumbai's newly created special court for administering the *Immoral Trafficking Prevention Act* (ITPA). Since then, she



has cleared hundreds of backlogged trafficking cases, issued rehabilitation orders for more than 1,200 rescued girls and women, and ensured that sex trafficking victims were not punished under anti-prostitution provisions of the ITPA Indian law. Under her leadership, the court has secured 81 convictions against traffickers and brothel owners in 2009 and 164 convictions in 2010 – a high percentage of all the cases in a country of more than 1.2 billion people. (Read more - TIP, pg. 48)

(http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2011/164227.htm)

Victim Services

Depending on the needs of individual victims, services required for recovery may include any or all of the following: medical care; emergency and transitional housing with long-term housing assistance; mental health counseling; job training and placement; family location and reunification; translation and interpretation; advocacy in the criminal justice system; spiritual support; criminal, civil and immigration legal assistance; safety planning; and repatriation.

While this list is long and daunting, dedicated NGOs worldwide have been refining their approaches, techniques, and services. They are both prepared and well-qualified to deliver this range of assistance. But what they often lack is financial support from host governments to be fully operational or to offer the full range of services that survivors need.

NGOs also are sometimes hampered because their ability to serve their clients may be tied to programs requiring that victims cooperate with law enforcement. Even governments with "reflection periods" that allow victims time to stabilize before they have to make the decision to cooperate have made a policy choice that a decisionpoint will eventually come. But when victims are simply put on hold without the right to work or to leave a shelter while the days tick by, the reflection period becomes indistinguishable from incarceration, proving what the trafficker may have told them would happen if they were discovered by **the authorities.** Optimally, services would be available for victims who are willing to cooperate, even if their cooperation is not needed or their case does not go forward, and special provisions would be put in place for children and people who are unable to participate in proceedings because of trauma or injury. A survivor's critical decision to tell the truth and see his or her abuser brought to justice must be made from a position of stability. (TIP pg. 41-42)

(http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2011/166774.htm)



Advocacy

Slavery and Food Security

About 3,000 miles east of Jakarta, the remote island of Tual has become a depository for hundreds of exploited Burmese fishermen who are no longer deemed useful or who have escaped the boats on which they were held in servitude. This is just the most dramatic manifestation of a subset of modern slavery that continues to plague the high seas – the men of the Pacific and Indian Ocean fisheries.

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) indicates most crew members on Thai-owned long-haul fishing vessels are undocumented Burmese and Cambodians, many of whom are forced or deceived into working grueling hours for many months, even years, before being allowed off the boats.

The UN *Environmental Program* warns that continued fishing at current levels, particularly in South and Southeast Asia, the Pacific Islands, and even in West Africa, is not sustainable and will threaten global food security.

Seeking to avoid catch restrictions, taxes on fish catches, and the possible escape or rescue of enslaved crew, the Thai fishing boats have taken to off-loading catches and on-loading fuel and supplies off the Indonesian coast without docking on dry land, allowing the boats to remain at sea for extended periods and eliminating the one chance the men might have to escape. Without a coordinated effort by governments in the region, the enslavement of foreign migrants in the East Asian waters will continue to contribute to an impending food security crisis. (TIP, pg. 32)

Protections

Proactive Victim Identification

Victims typically cannot describe what they've been through in simple language, much less the technical terms of the *Palermo Protocol* or their national legislation; they rarely self-identify. Trafficking by its nature continues to be one of the world's most hidden crimes. It may also be one of the most misinterpreted crimes, with officers incorrectly classifying trafficking cases as assault, alien harboring, and prostitution, or not even recognizing that a crime has been committed.

Governments must provide incentives to police and other law enforcement to look purposefully for human trafficking and proactively investigate trafficking indicators.

But law enforcement cannot be the only responders. Health care professionals, teachers, labor inspectors, immigration authorities, and child welfare advocates all have the potential to identify trafficking victims and intercede on their behalf.

United Nations Inter-Agency Project on Human Trafficking (UNIAP) at the Thailand-Cambodia border suggests that one of every three workers deported from Thailand is a trafficking victim, having been subjected to conditions during their time in-country that satisfy the *Palermo Protocol* definition. The statistic is startling but reflects anecdotal evidence from around the world, including in the U.S.: victims are being arrested and deported, both knowingly or unknowingly.

But if trafficking stories are exposed only after potential victims are administratively processed, deported to their country of origin, and barred from re-entry, it is too late for an investigation, too late for rehabilitation, and too late for prevention. The "3Ds" of *denial*, *detention*, and *deportation* are the antithesis of the modern "3P" approach. (TIP, pgs. 40-41)

Optimal Regulatory Approach for Labor Recruiting

- Ensure that private recruitment agencies have a recruitment fee limit in an amount that can cover minimal expenses. For example no more than one month's wages abroad for a 12-month contract, or 4.2% of the wages expected to be earned under a 24-month contract.
- Ensure competition among private recruitment agencies to foster the lowest recruitment fees and the best services offered to potential migrants.
- Enact criminal laws that penalize fraudulent recruitment or usurious fees.
- Impose sanctions on private recruitment agencies that break the law and include compensation mechanisms for the affected workers.
- Vigorously investigate and prosecute recruitment agencies or brokers who willfully do not register in order to avoid worker protections.
- Establish adequate complaint procedures to identify and examine allegations of violations, including representative employers', workers', and migrants' organizations in the complaint process. (TIP, pg. 22)



Action

New Media to Fight Human Trafficking

New media is already seeing good use on websites such as www.change. org, which launches petitions and shares news and information to draw attention to human trafficking issues. Whether through issue-specific media, or far-reaching platforms such as Facebook and Twitter, the growing capacity of new media allows concerned parties around the world to connect and share information with a speed and breadth of access unimaginable at the start of the modern anti-slavery movement just a decade ago.

As the anti-slavery movement enters its second decade, and more knowledge emerges about supply chains, demand, and the international nature of trafficking, new media will play a critical role in bringing together those committed to this fight. (TIP, pg. 35)

"A key to stemming demand is that local and multinational companies, as well as end consumers, must take responsibility and investigate whether they are purchasing maid services, sexual services, or goods made by trafficked persons." Stimson Report, 2010

Take Action!

Shareholders have been in dialogue with *Wyndham* for the past five years regarding signing on to *The Code of Conduct for the Protection of Children* (http://www.thecode.org/). To date there has been NO progress!

The only U.S. hotels to sign *The Code* are *Hilton* and *Carlson* (*Radisson*, *Country Inn & Suites*).

Meanwhile *Wyndham* hotels have been involved in sex trafficking of children in San Diego and Escondido, CA and in Alexandria, VA. *Cont. next col.*

Police Use Media to Raise Consciousness

In November 2010, Dutch national police seized the websites of two escort businesses due to possible involvement in trafficking, and sent a text message to approximately 1,300 mobile phone users who had contacted the websites.

(TIP, pg. 35)

The text-message stated: "This number has contacted zuzana.com. This site presumably offers victims of human trafficking. The Dutch police ask for your help. For more info: www.politie.nl/klpd/mh. This text-alert has been carried out by the police in order to raise consciousness among clients contacting

escort agencies and ask them to help in combating human trafficking."

Of the hundreds of mobile phones used to contact these web sites, 90% were Dutch mobile numbers, often registered in name of the employer. In 60% of the contacts, appointments

for a prostitute were made during working hours.

On the *National Police Squad* web page, extensive information regarding human trafficking was provided. Moreover, the opportunity was offered for passing on information concerning human trafficking. A suggestion was given to use the telephone-link "*Anonymous Crime Reporting*". (http://www.politie.nl/klpd/nieuws/voor_de_pers/110111klpdenompointathumantrafficking.asp)

Informative Web Sites:

(Each contains information related to human trafficking)

U.S. TIP Report

http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/ tiprpt/2011/

'On the Move' Stimson Report 2010

http://www.stimson.org/images/uploads/research-pdfs/ruchira.pdf

Toll-Free 24/7 Hotline National Human Trafficking Resource Center 1.888.3737.888

The company has a policy regarding sex trafficking of children, but it is not effective. *The Code* would give *Wyndham* more tools for training employees, monitoring policy, and reporting to the public.

Ask Wyndham to sign The Code and to implement this stricter child protection policy in order to prevent future instances of child sex trafficking in Wyndham hotels: Ramada, Days Inn, Super 8, Howard Johnson, and Travelodge.

Take Action! Go to:

http://www.change.org/petitions/stopwyndham-hotel-staff-from-supportingchild-sex-trafficking-in-wyndham-hotels

Stop Trafficking! is dedicated exclusively to fostering an exchange of information among religious congregations, their friends and collaborating organizations, working to eliminate all forms of trafficking of human beings.

Use the following web address to access back issues of *Stop Trafficking!* http://www.stopenslavement.org/index.html

To contribute information, or make requests to be on the mailing list, please contact: <u>jeansds2010@yahoo.com</u>

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