

UGANDA TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS

Key Documents & Resources



The HUMAN TRAFFICKING INSTITUTE

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ACTS SUPPLEMENT

To The Uganda Gazette No. 52 Volume CII dated 23rd October, 2009.
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Act 7	Prevention of Trafficking In Persons Act	2009
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**THE PREVENTION OF TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS ACT, 2009.
ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS.**

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SCHEDULE

Currency Point

THE PREVENTION OF TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS ACT, 2009.

An Act to provide for the prohibition of trafficking in persons, creation of offences, prosecution and punishment of offenders, prevention of the vice of trafficking in persons, protection of victims of trafficking in persons, and other related matters.

DATE OF ASSENT: 1st October, 2009.

Date of Commencement: 23rd October, 2009.

Be IT ENACTED by Parliament as follows:

PART I—PRELIMINARY.**1. Commencement.**

This Act shall come into force upon publication in the Gazette.

2. Interpretation.

In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires—

- a) “Child” means a person below the age of 18 years;
- b) “Debt bondage” means the status or condition arising from a pledge by the debtor of his or her personal services or labour, or those of a person under his or her control as security or payment for a debt, when the length and nature of services is not clearly defined or when the value of the services as reasonably assessed is not applied towards the liquidation of the debt;
- c) “Currency point” has the value specified in the Schedule to this Act;
- d) “Exploitation” includes at a minimum, sexual exploitation, forced marriage, child marriage, forced labor, harmful child labour, use of a child in armed conflict, use of a person in illegal activities, debt bondage, slavery or practices similar to slavery or servitude, human sacrifice, the removal of organs or body parts for sale or for purposes of witchcraft, harmful rituals or practices;
- e) “Forced labour” means all work or service which is exacted from any person under the threat of any penalty and for which the said person has not offered him/herself voluntarily;
- f) “Gazette” means the Uganda Gazette, and includes any supplement of that Gazette;

- g) “Human sacrifice” means the killing, mutilation, removal of organs or body parts of a person for sale or for purpose of witchcraft, rituals or any harmful human practices;
- h) “Minister” means the Minister in charge of Internal Affairs;
- i) “Prostitution” means the activities of a “prostitute” as defined in the Penal Code Act - “a person who, in public or elsewhere, regularly or habitually holds himself or herself out as available for sexual intercourse or other sexual gratification for monetary or other material gain;”
- j) “Public office” means an office in the public service;
- k) “Public officer” means a person holding or acting in any public office;
- l) “Public service” means service in a civil capacity of government or local government;
- m) “Pornography” means any representation, through publication, exhibition, cinematography, indecent show, information technology, or by whatever means, of a person engaged in real or simulated explicit sexual activities, or any representation of the sexual parts of a person for primarily sexual excitement;
- n) “Sex tourism” means a program organized by travel and tourism - related establishments or individuals, which consists of tourism packages or activities, utilizing and offering escort and sexual services and practices offered for any persons as part of work recreation;
- o) “Sexual exploitation” means the use of a person in prostitution, sex tourism, pornography, the production of pornographic materials, or the use of a person for sexual intercourse or other lascivious conduct;
- p) “Slavery” is the status or condition of a person over whom any or all of the powers attaching to the right of ownership are exercised;
- q) “Slave trade” includes all acts involved in the capture, acquisition or disposal of a person with the view to selling or exchanging him or her and with the intention of reducing him or her to slavery;
- r) “Trafficking in persons” means 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, 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;
- s) “Victim of trafficking” includes a person who is being or has been trafficked as per the definition of Trafficking in Persons provided under this Act.

PART II—TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS**3. Offence of trafficking in persons.**

- 1) A person who—
 - a) recruits, transports, transfers, harbours or receives a person, 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;
 - b) recruits, hires, maintains, confines, transports, transfers, harbours or receives a person or facilitates the aforementioned acts through force or other forms of coercion for the purpose of engaging that person in prostitution, pornography, sexual exploitation, forced labour, slavery, involuntary servitude, death bondage, forced or arranged marriage

Commits an offence and is liable to imprisonment for fifteen years.

- 2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (1), where the offender is a legal person, it shall be liable to a fine of one thousand currency points, and temporary or permanent closure, deregistration, dissolution, or disqualification from practice of certain activities.
- 3) The recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of a child for the purpose of exploitation shall constitute “trafficking in persons” even if this does not involve any of the means set forth in subsection (1) of this Section.
- 4) The consent of the victim of trafficking or if a child, the consent of his or her parents or guardian to the acts of exploitation shall not be relevant.

4. Aggravated trafficking in persons.

A person commits the offence of aggravated trafficking where—

- a) The victim of trafficking is a child;
- b) Adoption, guardianship, fostering and other orders in relation to children is undertaken for the purpose of exploitation;
- c) The offence is committed by a syndicate, or on large scale;
- d) The offender is an organization engaged in the activities of organizing, directing or

protecting the vulnerable persons in society;

- e) The offender is engaged in organizing or directing another person or persons to commit the offence;
- f) The offence is committed by a close relative or a person having the parental care, authority or control over the victim or any other person;
- g) The offence is committed by a public officer;
- h) The offence is committed by military personnel or law enforcement officer;
- i) Where the person organizes, facilitates or makes preparations for the kidnapping, abduction, buying, selling, vending, bringing from or sending to, receiving, detaining or confining of a person for purposes of harmful rituals or practices, human sacrifice, removal of any body part or organ, or any other act related to witchcraft;
- j) The victim dies, becomes a person of unsound mind, suffers mutilation, gets infected with HIV/ AIDS or any other life threatening illness;

And shall be liable to imprisonment for life.

5. Trafficking in children

A person who—

- a) Does any act referred to under Section 3 in relation to a child;
- b) Uses a child in any armed conflict;
- c) Removes any part, organ or tissue from the body of a child for purposes of human sacrifice;
- d) Uses a child in the commission of a crime;
- e) Abandons a child outside the country;
- f) Uses a child or any body part of a child in witchcraft, rituals and related practices;

Commits an offence of aggravated trafficking in children and may be liable to suffer death.

6. Engaging the Labour or Services of a Victim of Trafficking in Persons.

A person who while knowing or having reason to believe that a person is a victim of trafficking, engages the labour or services of that victim in that status, commits an offence and is liable to imprisonment for ten years.

7. Promoting Trafficking in Persons.

Any person who—

- a) Knowingly leases or subleases, uses or allows to be used any house, building or establishment for the purpose of exploitation;
- b) Produces, prints, issues or distributes, any document or information of any Government agency, which relates to immigration, for purposes of trafficking;
- c) Tampers with, or falsifies any government or government agency's document or information relating to the immigration regulations or requirements;
- d) Utters or aids any person to utter any false document relating to immigration for the purpose of facilitating that person's entry or stay in Uganda, or exit from the country;
- e) Gives or facilitates the giving of false information to any authority for the purpose of enabling the entry, stay in Uganda, or exit from the country of any person;
- f) Advertises, publishes, prints, broadcasts, distributes or causes the advertisement, publication, printing, broadcasting or distribution by any means, including the use of information technology and the internet of any pornographic or other material intended or likely to facilitate trafficking in persons;
- g) In any way engages in the selling or buying of persons;
- h) Recruits, transports, transfers, harbours or receives a child for any purpose without authority of the parent or guardian of such a child; except that this provision shall not apply where the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt is done lawfully, in good faith and in the best interests of the child;
- i) Abandons a child. In circumstances likely to cause fear, isolation, injury, pain or other harm; or to facilitate the trafficking of that child;

Commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding one hundred and twenty currency points or to imprisonment for five years, or both such imprisonment and fine, and on subsequent conviction for the same offence, is liable to imprisonment of seven years without the

option of a fine.

8. Offences Related to Trafficking in Persons.

A person who—

- a) Attempts to traffic in persons;
- b) Conspires with another person to do an act of trafficking in persons;
- c) Recruits, transports, transfers, harbours, provides or receives a person for domestic or overseas employment or training or apprenticeship with the intention of trafficking;
- d) Recruits a person below 16 years in any form of employment for the purposes of exploitation;
- e) Introduces or matches any person to another for purposes of sexual exploitation;
- f) Confiscates, conceals, or destroys a passport, travel documents, or other personal documents or belongings of a person for the purpose of unlawfully denying that person freedom of movement, or access to any public services;
- g) Adopts or facilitates the adoption of a person for illicit purposes; commits an offence and is liable on conviction to imprisonment for five years or a fine of one hundred and twenty currency points or to both such imprisonment and fine, and on subsequent conviction for the same offence, is liable to imprisonment of seven years without the option of a fine.

9. Failure to Disclose Conviction.

A person who, having been convicted of a trafficking offence under this Act fails to disclose that conviction—

- a) When applying for employment which places him or her in a position of authority or care of children; or
- b) When offering or agreeing to take care of or supervise children, commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine, not exceeding three thousand currency points or to a term of imprisonment not exceeding three years or both.

10. Duty to Report Trafficking in Persons.

- 1) Every member of the community, who knows that any person has committed or intends to commit an offence under this part of the Act, shall report the matter to the police or other authority for appropriate action.

- 2) A person who knowing or having reason to believe that a person has committed or intends to commit an offence and does not report to police or other relevant authority, commits an offence and is liable to a fine of five thousand currency points or imprisonment for six months.

PART III—PROTECTION OF VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS.

11. Non Discrimination of Victims of Trafficking in Persons.

- 1) Measures for the protection, assistance and support to victims of trafficking in persons shall be interpreted and applied in a way that is not discriminatory to persons on the basis of race, religion, belief, age, family status, culture, language, nationality or gender.
- 2) Any person who applies the measures for protection, assistance and support of victims in a discriminatory manner commits an offence and is liable to a fine of five hundred currency points or imprisonment for six months.

12. Protection, Assistance and Support for Victims of Trafficking.

- 1) A victim of trafficking shall be legally recognized as such and shall not be penalized for any crime committed as a direct result of his or her trafficking.
- 2) A victim of trafficking shall be informed in a language that he or she understands about the different stages of any proceedings, and about her/his rights and duties.
- 3) A victim of trafficking shall be assisted to enable his or her views and concerns to be presented and considered at the appropriate stages of the proceedings.
- 4) The institution of a criminal charge arising from acts of trafficking in persons shall not affect the rights of a victim to pursue a civil case for damages.
- 5) A person instituting proceedings under this section shall be exempted from payment of any filing fees required under civil procedure laws.
- 6) A victim of trafficking in persons will be accorded the available health and social services, medical care, counseling and psychological assistance, on a confidential basis and with full respect of his/her privacy, in a language she/he understands.
- 7) A victim of trafficking shall be considered for provision of safe and appropriate accommodation and material assistance, where necessary and possible.
- 8) Public officers and any other person involved in the detection, investigation, prosecution or trial of offences under this Act shall whenever necessary, refer victims to appropriate

organizations and institutions for assistance and support.

- 9) The protection, assistance and support to children shall be provided in accordance with their special needs, especially with regard to accommodation, education and care.
- 10) A victim of trafficking shall be entitled to information on the nature of protection, assistance and support he or she is entitled to and the possibilities of assistance and support.
- 11) The protection, assistance and support subscribed in this section shall be provided by Government and other agencies.

13. Confidentiality.

- 1) At any stage of the investigation or trial of an offence under this Act, law enforcement officers, prosecutors, judicial officers and medical practitioners, as well as parties to the case, shall recognize the right to privacy of the victim of trafficking.
- 2) For the purpose of (1), proceedings of the court shall be conducted in camera, outside the presence of the media, in cases involving children, sexual exploitation, and other cases where the court considers this appropriate.
- 3) Any editor, publisher, and reporter or columnist in case of printed materials, announcer or producer in case of television and radio, producer or director of a film in case of the movie industry, or any person utilizing trimedia facilities or information technology who publishes or causes publicity of the names and personal circumstances or any other information tending to establish the victim's identity without authority, commits an offence and is liable to a fine of two hundred and fifty currency points.

14. Repatriation of Victims of Trafficking In Persons.

- 1) The Minister in cooperation with the appropriate government agencies shall be responsible for the facilitation of repatriation of victims of trafficking in persons to and from Uganda.
- 2) Where the repatriation of a Ugandan victim is likely to expose the victim to greater risks or to compromise his or her safety, the Minister may through the relevant office negotiate with the host government for the extension of appropriate residency permits, work permits and maintenance as may be necessary to protect the victim.
- 3) Where the repatriation of a foreign victim is likely to expose the victim to greater risks, to compromise his or her safety, or where presence of the victim is necessary for court proceedings, the Minister may facilitate the extension of appropriate residency permits, work permits and maintenance as may be necessary to protect, assist and support the victim.

- 4) On getting notice of a victim of trafficking in persons in a foreign country, the minister shall verify whether the victim is a citizen or a permanent resident of Uganda and shall; where a victim is proved to be a Ugandan or a permanent resident without proper documentation, issue the relevant documents and other relevant authorization to facilitate the repatriation of the victim to or from Uganda.

15. Restitution.

Where a person is convicted of trafficking in persons under this Act, the court shall in addition to any other punishment, order that person to pay restitution to the victim or other person or organization which may have incurred expenses on the victim's behalf for—

- a) Costs of medical and psychological treatment;
- b) Costs of physical and occupational therapy and rehabilitation;
- c) Costs of necessary transportation, temporary housing and child care;
- d) Costs of re-integration in society; and
- e) Any other costs that the court may deem fit.

16. Compensation.

Where a person is convicted of trafficking in persons under this Act, the court may in addition to any other punishment order that person to pay compensation to the victim for—

- a) Physical injury;
- b) Emotional distress;
- c) Pain and suffering;
- d) Loss or damage;
- e) Any other damage that the court may deem fit.

17. Absence of Victims and Court Awards.

The return of the victim to his or her country, or other absence of the victim from the jurisdiction shall not prejudice the victim's right to receive restitution or compensation.

PART IV—JURISDICTION.**18. Jurisdiction.**

A case under this Act shall be tried where the offence was committed, or where any of its components occurred, or where the trafficked person actually resided at the time of the commission of the offence.

19. Extra-Territorial Jurisdiction.

This Act shall apply to offences committed outside Uganda where—

- a) A person who, while being a citizen of, or permanently residing in Uganda, commits an act outside Uganda, which act would constitute an offence had it been committed in Uganda.
- b) The victim was a citizen of Uganda at the time of commission of the offence.
- c) The offence was committed partly inside and partly outside Uganda.
- d) A substantial proportion of the effects of the offence have occurred or taken place within the territory of Uganda.

Provided that—

- a) No proceedings shall be instituted under this section without the written consent of the Attorney General;
- b) If the consent of the Attorney General is received under (a) proceedings may be instituted in any appropriate court and such court shall have jurisdiction to try the matter as if the offence or offences had been committed within its jurisdiction;
- c) A person shall not be tried for an offence under this section if that person has been acquitted or convicted of the same offence in another country.

20. Extradition.

A person charged with an offence under this Act shall be liable to extradition under the existing Extradition laws.

PART V—PREVENTION OF TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS OFFICE**21. Designation of Prevention of Trafficking in Persons Office.**

- 1) The Minister shall designate an office to be responsible for the coordination, monitoring

and overseeing the implementation of this Act.

- 2) The designated office shall have the following functions—
 - a) To formulate a comprehensive and integrated program to prevent and suppress trafficking in persons;
 - b) To prepare an annual National Plan of Action on Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons taking into account activities on prevention, prosecution, and protection;
 - c) To develop measures and policies to protect, assist and support victims of trafficking, taking particular consideration of the age, gender and special needs of victims of trafficking in persons;
 - d) To establish a data bank on cases of trafficking in persons and conduct continuing research and study on the pattern and scheme of trafficking in persons which shall form the basis for policy formulation and program direction;
 - e) To engage in consultation, coordination, cooperation and advocacy with governmental and Non-Governmental Organizations, among other entities, to advance the objects of this Act;
 - f) To initiate the training and awareness of government personnel, law enforcement officials and the public, particularly among risk groups and communities, of the dangers of trafficking and protections that are available for victims of trafficking;
 - g) To propose rules and regulations to the Minister as may be necessary for effective implementation of this Act;
 - h) To carry out such other activities as are necessary or expedient for the full discharge of all or any of the functions conferred on it under this Act.

PART VI—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

22. Confiscation and Forfeiture of Proceeds of Trafficking.

- 1) In addition to any penalty imposed for the violation of this Act, the court shall order the confiscation and forfeiture of all the established proceeds and properties derived from the commission of the crime.
- 2) Where the proceeds and properties derived from the offence have been destroyed, diminished in value or otherwise rendered worthless by an act or omission, directly or indirectly of the offender or it has been concealed, removed, converted or transferred to prevent the same from being found or to avoid forfeiture or confiscation, the offender shall

be ordered to pay the amount equal to the value of the proceeds or property.

- 3) All awards of damages and costs of proceedings under this Act shall be paid directly by the offender, and where the offender fails to pay the same shall be recovered like a civil debt.

23. Regulations.

The Minister may by statutory instrument make regulations to effect implementation of the provisions of this Act, and promote its objects.

SCHEDULE

CURRENCY POINT

One currency point is equivalent to twenty thousand shillings.





Government of Uganda

National Action Plan

For Prevention of Trafficking in Persons In Uganda

Legal & Policy Development

Prevention • Protection • Prosecution • Partnership

Developed by National Task Force for Prevention of Trafficking in
Persons

Kampala, December 2013

Abbreviations and Acronyms

CIID – Criminal Intelligence & Investigation Directorate

COPTIP – Coordination Office for Prevention of Trafficking in Persons

CSO – Civil Society Organization

DoCIC - Directorate of Citizenship & Immigration Control

DPP – Directorate of Public Prosecutions

ESO – External Security Organization

ISO – Internal Security Organization

INTERPOL – International Police

IOM – International Organization for Migration

JLOS – Justice Law and Order Sector

MoES – Ministry of Education and Sports

MoFA – Ministry of Foreign Affairs

MoGLSD – Ministry of Gender Labour and Social Development

MoH – Ministry of Health

MoIA – Ministry of Internal Affairs

MoJCA - Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs

MoLG – Ministry of Local Government

NAP – PTIP – National Action Plan for Prevention of Trafficking in Persons

OPM – Office of the Prime Minister

PTIP Act – Prevention of Trafficking in Persons Act 2009

SIU – Special Investigations Unit

TIP – Trafficking in Persons

UCATIP – Uganda Coalition of Civil societies against Trafficking in Persons

VoT – Victim of Trafficking

IEC – Information, educational and Communication materials

Glossary

- a) **Trafficking in persons:** 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, 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;
- b) **Exploitation:** includes at a minimum, sexual exploitation, forced marriage, child marriage, forced labour, harmful child labour, use of a child in armed conflict, use of a person in illegal activities, debt bondage, slavery or practices similar to slavery or servitude, human sacrifice, the removal of organs or body parts for sale or for purposes of witchcraft, harmful rituals or practices;
- c) **Victim of Trafficking:** People (men, women and children) who are in the process or have been trafficked, according to the definition of trafficking under the PTIP Act 2009.
- d) **Child:** An individual of the age of below 18 years old
- e) **Criminal Justice System Officers :** A combination of officers from the Police, DPP and Judiciary
- f) **Vulnerability to trafficking in persons:** Circumstances and contributing factors that lead to an individual becoming a victim of trafficking in persons
- g) **Migration:** movement of persons from one place to another for settlement or economic ventures or studies, both within Uganda or to foreign countries or from foreign countries to Uganda.
- h) **Data:** Compiled analyzed information
- i) **VoT Assistance:** All forms of support that can help a VoT recover from the effects of trafficking in person, Including welfare, temporary shelter, transport means, psycho social counseling, medical care, skills development, kick-start for business, clothing and re-union with original families

- j) **Partnership:** Inter related, coordinated and collaborated systems of corporation to facilitate easy management of victims, investigations, prosecutions and suspects related to trafficking in persons.

Editorial Note

The process of developing the NAP started in 2013 and has been completed on 1st April 2015 with the formal validation of the draft by the Minister of Internal Affairs. However, its implementation started as way back as December 2013, when the final draft was adopted by the National Task Force for Prevention of Human Trafficking in Uganda

Foreword



This National Action Plan (NAP) has been developed through a participatory and consultative process. It involved active participation of stakeholders from key ministries, departments, agencies, development partners, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), International Organizations and members of the public. Key activities undertaken included a desk review of national laws, regional and international instruments and declarations that address the problem of trafficking in persons. Several workshops for members of the Anti-Human Trafficking National Task Force were organized to discuss the various aspects of the plan and a number of consultations were also carried out with selected stake holders, including Permanent Secretaries, Civil Societies and some International Organizations—all of which contributed to the outcome of this NAP.

The NAP has been developed in conformity with the aspirations of the Palermo Protocol of 2000, Ouagadougou Action Plan of 2006 and the Prevention of Trafficking in Persons (PTIP) Act 2009. The NAP will be a guiding tool for implementing actions to combat trafficking in persons in Uganda. It will be used to raise awareness, stimulate national and community action, and build ownership and commitment from all Government and public stakeholders to combat trafficking in persons. The NAP details the strategies and activities, mechanisms for reporting, monitoring and evaluation and measurement of performance of the interventions aimed at combating trafficking in persons. The NAP also seeks to operationalize the implementation of the PTIP Act and will also serve as a basis for resource mobilization.

Special thanks are extended to the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) for technical guidance that have contributed to the realization of this NAP, and to all stakeholder members of the National Task Force for the tireless efforts put in to make this NAP a reality.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Aronda Nyakairima'.

Gen Aronda Nyakairima cgsc (MP)
MINISTER FOR INTERNAL AFFAIRS

Developing the NAP in Pictures



The National Task Force during one of the Consultation Meetings for Development of the NAP



Minister for Internal Affairs, Gen Aronda Nyakairima during a Validation Meeting with the Task Force Members

Congratulatory Message from IOM

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) is honored to congratulate the Government of Uganda for this remarkable milestone in its effort to combat trafficking in persons (TIP) in Uganda.

In particular, IOM would like to recognize the Ministry of Internal Affairs and its Office to Combat Trafficking in Persons for leading a truly coordinated effort to develop, draft and finalize Uganda's first National Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Persons. IOM would also like to offer a special congratulation to Mr. Binoga Moses for his crucial contribution throughout the development of this document.

As a multi-dimensional phenomenon, combating TIP requires a unified national strategy with measurable objectives agreed upon by relevant government stakeholders and jointly implemented. This National Action Plan (NAP) is a remarkable achievement because it is a fully coordinated tool that will guide Uganda over the next five years in its response to human trafficking. Now it is the responsibility of all stakeholders to implement this NAP and each agency must make an effort to put this strong tool into practice.

As a committed partner in the fight against TIP in Uganda, IOM looks forward to supporting the Government of Uganda in the full implementation of this NAP.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Ali Abdi', is positioned above the printed name.

Ali Abdi

Chief of Mission

IOM Uganda

Section 1.0: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

In 2009, a domestic law aimed at countering the crime of TIP was enacted. It is called the Prevention of Trafficking in Persons Act 2009 (PTIP Act). Under Section 21 of the PTIP Act, the designated office for Prevention of Trafficking in person is mandated, among other issues, to develop a National Action Plan on prohibition of TIP. This NAP has been developed by the Coordination Office for Prevention of Trafficking in Persons (COPTIP) in fulfillment of that function. Being the first of its kind, this NAP has concentrated more on creation of systems and structures that can support the initial effort to combat the crime of TIP.

1.2 Problem statement

Uganda is a source, transit and destination point for victims of TIP. There are several pull and push factors that can cause TIP. Push factors include: rampant unemployment, poverty, high population growth and poor systems of education that produce job seekers rather than job makers. Push factors are exacerbated by pull factors, which include: the opportunities of work abroad or in urban centers, hope for a chance at a better education, demand for body organs, demand for cheap labour, demand for commercial sexual services and inadequate migration policies and laws. Other contributing factors include the high number of orphaned children, belief in witchcraft and archaic traditional practices, regional integration and globalization, unmanaged borders, weak implementation of legal and policy frameworks related to the critical areas such as children affairs, national labour laws and labour externalization.

1.3 Situation analysis

Although there are no clear official national records concerning cases of TIP, available official records from the Police, INTERPOL, MoFA and the COPTIP indicate an increasing rate of registered numbers of victims as indicated in the following table 1:-

Table 1: Number of Registered Victims of Human Trafficking for 2010 – 2013

Year	Number of Registered transnational TIP victims	Number of Registered internal TIP victims	Total Number of Registered Victims
2010	6	10	16
2011	41	7	48
2012	39	67	103
2013 ¹	429	408	837

¹ Figures as per the 2013 Annual TIP Report by the COCTIP

Men, women and children are all vulnerable to TIP in Uganda, but the majority of the transnational TIP victims are women between 20 and 30 years old. Most victims are trafficked by means of fraud, deception, debt bondage, abduction and abuse of positions of vulnerability. The most common forms of exploitation are sexual exploitation through forced prostitution and child sex, exploitative labour including domestic work, street hawking, street begging and farm labour. Persons (including children) are also exploited for use in illegal activities such as drug trafficking, petty thefts, rebel and terrorist activities. There have also been a few registered incidents of child marriages, child stealing, child selling, using children in pornography, human sacrifice and removal of body organs for organ transplant and harmful rituals/witchcraft purposes.

The most common destination countries where Ugandan victims have been trafficked include Kuwait, Malaysia, Oman, United Arab Emirates, China, Thailand, Qatar, Iraq, India, Saudi Arabia, Lebanon, Syria, United Kingdom, United States of America, Germany, Czech Republic, Turkey, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Sudan, Kenya, Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Some few foreign transnational victims of trafficking were from Madagascar, Somalia, Pakistan, Rwanda, Burundi, South Sudan and Tanzania were also rescued from Uganda. Meanwhile, incidents of internal trafficking, for both adults and children, have been registered in several parts of the country.

Numerous studies suggest the rates of TIP in Uganda are much higher than what has been registered with Government authorities.² Some of the forms of exploitations identified by previous researchers include the use of children as soldiers, bar and restaurant workers, prostitutes, strippers, vendors, and as workers on fish or agricultural farms.

1.4 Existing National Response to Trafficking in Persons

The current national responses against the crime of TIP include legal and policy frameworks; creation of specific structures and systems and initiation of number of operational actions.

1.4.1 Legal and Policy Frame works

In October 2009, Uganda enacted the Prevention of Trafficking in Persons Act (PTIP Act), which provides for legal guidance for prosecution and punishment of offenders, prevention of TIP and protection of victims of TIP. This law was made in line with several International Protocols to which Uganda is a signatory including the UN Palermo protocol of 2000 and some relevant provisions of the Uganda Constitution and other related domestic laws. The law is already functional.

² Studies on TIP in Uganda have been conducted by IOM, Tufts University, ILO/IPED, FIDA, Advocates Sans Frontiers, and UYDEL.

1.4.2 Specific Structures and Systems

As way of operationalization of Section 21 of the PTIP Act, the Coordination Office for Prevention of Trafficking in Persons (COPTIP) was established, in March 2013, at the Ministry of Internal Affairs Headquarters. This Office is composed of a secretariat and an inter-ministerial Task Force consisting two members seconded from 13 key Government MDAs, plus representatives from the Ugandan Civil Societies Coalition against Trafficking in Persons (UCATIP). The International Organization for Migration (IOM) is an observer on the Task Force. Each of the MDAs has created Working Groups respectively to fast track TIP related issues within the respective MDAs.

The Coordination Office is responsible for coordination, monitoring and overseeing the implementation of counter human trafficking activities carried out by several operational government agencies and civil society organizations.

1.4.3 Operational Actions

The Police CIID are the lead agency for detection, investigations, prosecutions, rescue of victims and arrest of suspects, in collaboration with the ISO, ESO, DPP, MoJCA, DCIC and the Judiciary. MoGLSD is the lead agency for setting up standards and monitoring activities related to labour and children affairs, and caring of victims, in collaboration with CSOs and the Police. MoFA and INTERPOL are the lead agencies for coordinating and exchanging information with foreign countries. MoIA is the lead agency for prevention of trafficking in persons, in collaboration with all stakeholders.

Between the periods of 2010 – end of 2013, 243 Criminal Cases were investigated by the Police, involving 391 suspects. Over 65 suspects were taken to court and 4 convictions were achieved.

During the same period, a total number of 1,004 victims were rescued both from within Uganda and abroad, and were offered various forms of assistance, including return air tickets, psychosocial counseling, temporary shelters, legal aid, skills development trainings and re-integration packages through coordinated efforts of the Police; Civil Societies; the IOM and individual members of the community.

A number of trainings and sensitizations for stakeholder members of key MDAs were carried out as a way of building the national capacity to counter TIP. There were also several public awareness campaigns on the existence and dangers of TIP through several modes of communication, including the media, meetings, workshops, posters, brochures, etc. There has been enhanced vigilance at all exit/entry points and many suspected potential victims of trafficking have been stopped from exiting the country to suspicious destinations

Section 2.0: VISION, MISSION, OBJECTIVES & PRINCIPLES

2.1 Vision: A Uganda free from all acts of trafficking in persons

2.2 Our Mission:

To put in place sustainable measures for the effective management of trafficking in persons

2.3 Objectives

- a) To re-align the relevant national legislations and international commitments in line with the demands and challenges of TIP
- b) To prevent trafficking in persons in Uganda through vibrant awareness campaigns, and several operational preventive measures
- c) To enhance the capacity of stake holders with appropriate skills and capabilities for effective detection, investigations and prosecution of the crime of TiP
- d) To build institutional capacity of relevant stakeholders to be able to provide effective protection and assistance to victims of TIP.
- e) To promote useful operational partnership and cooperation among stakeholders, on matters related to countering TiP, at the domestic, regional and international levels.

2.4 Guiding Principles for Implementation

2.4.1 Rule of Law, i.e.

- Effective implementation of the PTIP 2009 Act and other laws related to TIP
- Respect for local and international legally binding instruments in place
- Application of Courts of law processes on all issues related to TIP

2.4.2 Respect for Human Rights of the victims, i.e.

- The rights of those who have been trafficked must be upheld at all costs.
- All effort should be made to protect and assist victims of trafficking as much as possible

2.4.3 Non-discrimination and Gender Sensitivity, i.e.

- There should be no distinction of any kind based on nationality, race/tribe, colour, sex, religion, political affiliation or social status
- Due considerations must be made to take care of vulnerabilities and existing inequalities that are driven by differences in gender, i.e. boys vs. girls; men vs. women and adults vs. children

2.4.4 Best interest of the child, i.e.

- In all action concerning children, whether undertaken by public or private social welfare institutions, courts of law, administrative authorities or legislative bodies, the best interests of the child should be a primary consideration.

2.4.5 Non-refoulment, i.e.

- Nobody (adult or child) should be returned to a place where there are substantial grounds for believing that there is a real risk of irreparable harm to that person.

Section 3: IMPLEMENTATION, COORDINATION & FUNDING

3.1 Implementation Plan

The various activities in the NAP are expected to be implemented the short, mid and long terms, depending on the nature of the activities and availability of the recourses.

The activities earmarked to be implemented in the short term are those which are crucial to kick start the counter human trafficking momentum already started, while those to be implemented in the midterm are intended to consolidate the short term measures and those for long term are for completion of the institutionalization of the optimum recommended counter human trafficking strategies in Uganda.

This NAP is expected to be implemented within five years from December 2013.

3.2 Implementing Institutions

This NAP will be implemented through the existing multi-sectoral systems involving a number of stake holder ministries, directorates and agencies (MDAs).

The Government MDAs and CSOs are expected to integrate the relevant activities within their respective MDA Work plans and Investment plans.

The government MDAs and the Civil Society Organizations are expected to complement each other in the management of TIP issues.

Details of the activities identified and the proposed implementers have been given in the attached matrix. However, the key implementers of the NAP include the following:-

1. Ministry of Internal Affairs Headquarters (MoIA):
2. Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA):
3. Ministry of Justice & Constitutional Affairs (MoJCA):
4. Ministry of Gender, Labour & Social Development (MGLSD):
5. Ministry of Education & Sports (MoES):
6. Ministry of Local Government (MoLG):
7. Uganda Police Force:
8. Directorate of Citizenship & Immigration Control (DoCIC):

9. INTERPOL:
10. Internal Security Organization (ISO):
11. External Security Organization (ESO):
12. Directorate of Public Prosecutions (DPP):
13. Office of Prime Minister (OPM):
14. Civil Society Organizations:
15. Other concerned International and Local Development Partners:

3.3 Coordination Mechanisms

The successful implementation of this NAP will require coordination at various stages, including the levels of rescue, identification, profiling (screening) and protection of victims; detection, investigations and prosecution of offenders; and the general preventive measures against the crime. There shall be several actors at each level of activities. Efficient and effective coordination among all the stake holders will therefore be essential in successful implementation of this NAP. A national Coordination and Referral mechanism on prevention of TIP shall be developed by the COPTIP to streamline the coordination process.

As provided under Section 21 of the PTIP Act, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, through the COPTIP shall coordinate, monitor and oversee the implementation of the NAP.

Representatives of stakeholder agencies to the National Task Force will be the focal persons on issues of TIP in their respective MDAs. Each stakeholder MDA will designate Working Groups to promote TIP counter human trafficking activities in the respective MDAs. The National Task Force shall be the Advisory body on issues of TIP. Government MDAs outside the National Task Force shall be involved on the basis of necessity and relevancy.

3.4 Funding

Funding of the activities highlighted in this NAP shall be expected to be sourced through several ways including the following:-

- Government budget provisions to the respective implementation MDAs
- Financial support from development partners and Civil Society Organization
- Organized local fundraisings
- Donations from interested Individuals and Organizations

Section 4.0: MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Monitoring of the implementation of the NAP shall be carried out by the COPTIP. It will be based on analysis of the set output and outcome indicators in place. An assessment of the implementation will be published at the end of each calendar year. In addition, an independent consultant shall be hired to produce a final evaluation on the overall implementation of the NAP in 2019.

Section 5.0: STRUCTURE OF THE MATRIX

The Matrix part of this NAP has been arranged in five tables representing the one overlapping aspect and other four basic inter-related pillars of counter human trafficking strategies, which include: - Prosecution, Prevention, Protection and Partnership. In the matrix, five strategic objectives have been identified with several outcomes, specific activities, outputs and the lead implementing agencies. An estimated budget has been tagged on each of the activities.

Table 1: Legal and Policy Framework Aspects

Strategic Objective	Outcome	Activity	Output	Lead Implementing Institutions	Budget ('000 USH)
1. Contribute to Improvement in the national Policy and legal Framework to address the challenges and demands of management TiP, in accordance with the best recommended International Standards	1. National legal, regulatory framework improved and implemented based on ideal national, regional and international standards related to prosecution of TIP Cases, protection of TIP victims, prevention of TIP and collaboration against the crime	<p>i) Study and make analysis of the existing Policy, legal and regulatory frame works at the national and international levels and make a work plan to develop, review and or create suitable ones</p> <p>ii) Develop Regulations for the PTIP Act</p> <p>iii) Develop or review good International /regional labour export protocols /bilateral agreements and national Labour guidelines to minimize TIP</p> <p>iv) Amend the Children's Act, with particular attention to child adoptions</p> <p>v) Develop guidelines for human organ donation,</p> <p>vi) Develop national guidelines for private scholarship offers, student foreign visits and sports foreign visits.</p> <p>vii) Print sufficient copies of the validated or amended versions and disseminate</p> <p>viii) Translate all the validated and amended copies in various languages for easy understanding by the stake-holders</p> <p>ix) Organize meetings and engage the media as a way carrying out advocacy for integration of TIP related issues in the National Development Policies, including Vision 2040 and signing of relevant protocols</p>	<p>i) Regulations for the PTIP Act are developed</p> <p>ii) The regulations for externalization of Labour are reviewed to provide for prevention of TiP, easy rescue of victims and good coordination for investigations and prosecutions</p> <p>iii) Relevant regional & international protocols related to management of TIP are signed and ratified.</p> <p>iv) The Children's Act is amended to provide for safeguarded adoption process and general child protection closes</p> <p>v) Guidelines for human body organ donation are developed</p> <p>vi) Sufficient Copies of the new or reviewed policies, legislations and bilateral agreements are printed</p> <p>vii) Relevant stakeholders have the necessary skills to apply the reviewed legal & regulatory frameworks</p> <p>viii) Trafficking in Persons is included in all the National Development policies</p>	<p>- MoIA - MoJCA - MoGLSD - MoFA - MoH - MoES - POLICE - CSOs</p>	<p>300,000</p> <p>100,000</p> <p>200,000</p> <p>200,000</p> <p>500,000</p> <p>500,000</p> <p>300,000</p>

Table 2: Prosecution Aspect

Strategic Objective	Outcome	Activity	Output	Lead Implementing Institutions	Budget ('000 USH)
2. Contribute to an increase in number of successful prosecutions and improve access to justice for all VoTs.	1. Criminal Justice System officers investigate, prosecute and convict traffickers in an effective and timely manner.	i) Conduct a training needs assessment for prosecution agencies and carry out training	ii) Relevant officials have the required technical skills and knowledge to investigate and prosecute TIP cases more effectively iii) Operational Guidelines and SOPs for Investigations & Prosecutions are available. iii) A specialized Investigation Team is developed and operational; iv) At least 100 victims & witnesses are provided with welfare and transport support during investigations and prosecutions iv) Registered Criminal cases are investigated conclusively and taken to court for prosecution i) Members of the Specialized Investigation Team receive specialised skills and knowledge to investigate and prosecute TIP cases more effectively ii) Specialised Investigation kits are procured and used iii) A TIP Resource Library is in place and operational	- MoIA - Police – CIID - DPP - MoGLSD - MoFA - INTERPOL - CSOs	200,000 200,000 800,000 300,000 800,000 300,000 500,000 500,000 300,000
		ii) Hold meetings/workshops to develop operational Guidelines and SOPs for investigations & prosecutions; Print copies & disseminate the same			
		iii) Acquire capacity for supportive welfare of personnel, office equipment and operational logistics as a way of developing a Specialised Team for Investigations & prosecutions of TiP cases.			
		iv) Provide logistical support for the registered criminal investigations			
		v) Provide welfare and transport support to victims and witnesses to encourage them cooperate with Police.			
		vi) Organize specialised local trainings for members of the specialised Investigation Team			
		vii) Organize foreign specialised training for members of the specialised Investigation Team			
		viii) Acquire specialised investigation kits			
		vi) Develop a TIP Resource library as a case study reference section for the investigators and prosecutors			

	Outcome	Activity	Output	Lead Implementing Institutions	Budget ('000 USH)
	2. Victims of trafficking and witnesses demonstrate greater willingness to cooperate with law enforcement and judicial agencies	<p>i) Organize consultation meetings /workshops to develop a national victim protection programme for VoTs during investigation and prosecution process.</p> <p>ii) Organise meetings /workshops to sensitize or train stakeholder members on recommended good practices with management of VoTs as a way of encouraging VoTs to cooperate with investigation and prosecution authorities</p> <p>iii) Develop, print and disseminate IEC materials on Victim cooperation with the investigation and prosecution authorities</p> <p>i) Carry out public sensitization workshops on the existing victim protection policy as way of promoting public cooperation with investigators and prosecutors</p>	<p>i) A national victim protection programme for VoTs is available to facilitate effective prosecutions</p> <p>ii) Stakeholder members acquire the required skills and knowledge to manage VoTs in the best recommended way.</p> <p>iii) Public sensitization on the need for victim cooperation with the investigating authorities is carried out and relevant IEC are distributed</p> <p>i) Public sensitization on the need for cooperation between the VoTs and Investigation authorities carried out</p> <p>ii) IEC materials developed and disseminated</p>	<p>- MoIA - Police – CIID, CLO, CFPU - DPP - MoGLSD - MoFA - INTERPOL - CSOs</p>	<p>200,000</p> <p>300,000</p> <p>200,000</p> <p>500,000</p>

Table 3: Prevention Aspect

Strategic Objective	Outcome	Activity	Output	Lead Implementing Institutions	Budget ('000 USH)
3. To contribute to the reduction of levels of vulnerability that lead to TIP	1) Ugandans make informed decisions to prevent TIP on the basis of available information	i) Organize Quarterly review meetings to Identify and map out the vulnerable groups	i) Quarterly Task Force Review meetings held	- MoIA	200,000
		ii) Develop, disseminate and carry out a national awareness raising campaign on how to avoid becoming a victim of TiP.	ii) A National Awareness Raising strategy in place and operational	- MoFA - DCIC - MoGLSD - MoJCA	500,000
		iii) Develop and disseminate Guidelines for TIP prevention to Stakeholder MDAs for national public sensitization	iii) Guidelines for TIP prevention developed and operational	- MoES - MoLG - CSOs	200,000
		iv) Hold training sessions on TIP prevention for various categories of leaders, including District leaders, Police CLOs, Media, Cultural leaders, religious leaders, Education Institutions leaders, Traditional Healers and Members of Parliament	iv) Training sessions for various categories of leaders held	- Police – CIID, CLO, CFPU	800,000
		v) Develop safe pre departure information manuals for Ugandans intending to travel abroad for employment or scholarships sponsorship, students visits and sports visits and disseminate the same	v) Pre departure information Manuals for intending travellers developed and disseminated		200,000
		vi) Develop a safe national information system on migration and foreign employment opportunities and disseminate the same to the public	vi) National Information on safe migration developed and disseminated		200,000
		vii) Establish specific Regional and district Information Centres on safe pre-departure and migration information			800,000

	Outcome	Activity	Output	Lead Implementing Institutions	Budget ('000 USH)
	2) Policy makers and practitioners make informed decisions regarding counter-trafficking efforts based on improved data collection.	<p>i) Hold Consultation meetings to develop and a national TIP data management system, including harmonised data collection tools for stakeholder MDAs</p> <p>ii) Acquire soft and hard ware equipment for the national data base</p> <p>iii) Prepare and disseminate analysed periodical TIP reports to explain the status, trend, challenges and projections</p> <p>iv) Maintain and develop the TIP National data bank equipment</p> <p>v) Initiate Research Concept Papers and carry out research on the various aspects of TIP, in response to the analysed data.</p>	<p>i) National TIP Data base available, with the required equipment and operational</p> <p>ii) Periodical reports are produced and disseminated</p>	<p>- MoIA - IOM - CSOs</p>	<p>200,000</p> <p>500,000</p> <p>300,000</p> <p>150,000</p> <p>500,000</p>

Table 4: Protection Aspect

Strategic Objective	Outcome	Activity	Output	Lead Implementing Institutions	Budget ('000 USH)
4. Contribute to improving access to protection and assistance mechanisms, in line with National and International standards.	i) VoTs receive comprehensive direct assistance and are fully reintegrated into society	i) Organize stakeholder consultation meetings to develop Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), Guidelines for victim identification/management/ Assistance Referrals; print copies and disseminate	i) SOPs and Guidelines for victim identification, management, assistance and referrals in place and operational	- MoIA - MoFA - MoJCA - MoGLSD - Police - CIID, CLO, CFPU - DCIC - CSOs	500,000
		ii) Organise stakeholder meetings to identify and map out available service providers for VoTs, including shelters, legal aid services, health support services, psychosocial counselling, return air tickets, re-integration packages, skills development, etc	ii) Victim assistance Directory in place and operational		800,000
		iii) Carry out trainings and sensitization of stakeholders on recommended ways of identification and proper management of VoTs	iii) Trainings on proper victim identification and management for stakeholder members carried out		500,000
		vi) Organise consultation meetings to develop IEC material on VoTs protection; Print and disseminate	iv) IEC materials for VoT protection in place and disseminated		300,000
		v) Translate IEC material on VoTs protection in five regional languages; print copies and disseminate	v) Translated IEC materials for VoT protection in place and disseminated		400,000
		vi) Develop a concept paper on the creation of a Victim Assistance Fund; discuss it with stakeholders and carry out fundraising for the same.	vi) A Victim Assistance Fund policy in place and operational		50,000
		vii) Carry out best practices visits on recommended ways of protection of VoTs.	vii) Best practices visits on victim protection carried out		300,000
		viii) Establish and manage 4 Regional Shelters/ Reception Centres for VoTs	viii) 4 Regional Shelters/ Reception centres for VoTs are in place and operational		800,000

Table 5: Partnership Aspect

Strategic Objective	Outcome	Activity	Output	Lead Implementing Institutions	Budget ('000 USH)
5) Contribute to a well coordinated approach to prevent and combat TIP and protect VoTs at the national, regional and international levels.	i) Government offices, civil society, communities and the private sector within Uganda are working in good partnership in support of the functions of prevention, protection and prosecutions related to TIP	i) Organize stakeholder meetings to identify all respective capabilities related to TIP issues and develop Guidelines and MoUs to promote cooperation for the prevention of TIP, protection of VoTs and Prosecution of offenders (Victim identification, rescue, repatriation /deportation of VoTs and suspects)	i) MoUs and Guidelines for partnership among the various stakeholders in the country developed and operational	- MoIA - MoFA - MoJCA - MoGLSD - INTERPOL - CSOs - DCIC - Police – CIID, CLO, CFPU	800,000
		ii) Organize trainings and sensitization of relevant stakeholders on their respective responsibilities related to TIP Issues	ii) Trainings and sensitizations on the needed partnership roles and functions carried out		500,000
		iii) Organize best practices visits related to better management of TIP issues to some foreign countries by stakeholder members	iii) Best practices visits carried out		300,000
		iv) Acquire sufficient logistics (human & non human resources) for the Coordination Office, National Task Force, MDAs Working Groups and stakeholder operational Units	iv) The Coordination Office, the National Task Force, MDA Working Groups and the operational Units have sufficient logistics and are operational		800,000
		v) Engage and develop partnership to support and empower VoTs through formation of a SACCO, vocational skills development and assistance for easy employment; Prepare, sign and implement MoUs	v) Victims of trafficking are empowered with easy skills development trainings and employments and VoTs SACCO is formed and operational		500,000
		vi) Hold regular stakeholder Quarterly consultation and evaluation meetings to find solutions for emerging challenges related to TIP	vi) Regular Quarterly Consultation and evaluation meetings are held and reports available		300,000

	Outcome	Activity	Output	Lead Implementing Institutions	Budget ('000 USH)
ii) Governments of origin, transit and destination countries are working together to identify & protect VoTs, prevent TIP and support investigations & prosecutions of TIP Cases		i) Organize consultation meetings to develop bilateral agreements and MoUs with destination countries of Ugandan VoTs to ease victim identification, rescue, repatriation /deportation, monitoring and investigations. ii) Hold bilateral meetings with concerned relevant foreign governments; Draft and sign favourable labour agreements & MoUs.	i) MoUs and Bilateral Agreements between Uganda and the most common destination areas for Ugandan VoTs developed and operational	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MoIA - MoFA - MoJCA - MoGLSD - INTERPOL - POLICE 	500,000
			ii) Labour agreements between Uganda government and some willing governments signed and operational		300,000



Ministry of Internal Affairs



National Awareness Strategy

On

Prevention

Of

Trafficking in Persons

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1. Definition of Trafficking in persons

Trafficking in persons is defined as ‘*The recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of a person for the purpose of exploitation, by means of threat or use of force or abduction or fraud or deception or abuse of power/position or by giving or receiving payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over the trafficked person for the purpose of exploitation*’.

‘**Exploitation**’ at a minimal includes:- ‘*Sexual exploitation; Forced marriage; Child marriage; Forced labour; Harmful child labour; Use of a child in armed conflict; Use of a person in illegal activities; Debt bondage; Slavery or practices similar to slavery or servitude; Human sacrifice and The removal of organs or body parts for sale or for purposes of witchcraft, harmful rituals or practices*’.

2. Justification for the Awareness Strategy

Trafficking in persons is a new criminal phenomenon in Uganda. There has been increasing number of criminal activities related to trafficking in persons in the country. The majority of the Ugandan community either lack total knowledge or have a few facts about the crime. Some have some preconceptions while a few others have stereotyped ideas about the crime and have not taken enough bother to understand it in its real form and content.

As a result of the above mentioned assessed information gap, despite the apparent national counter human trafficking effort by the relevant government agencies, since 2009, when the Ugandan law to counter the crime of trafficking in persons, the “Prevention of Trafficking in Persons (PTIP) Act”, was enacted, there has been little change in the perception, attitude and behavior of Ugandan community members thus making Uganda continue being not only an increasing source of trafficked persons but also a destination and transit country.

This awareness strategy on prevention of trafficking in persons is the first of its kind. It is intended to fill up the existing information gap on countering the crime of trafficking in persons and it is aimed at eliminating the chances of Uganda being one of the major sources of human trafficking victims as well as being a destination or transit country for victims of the crime.

2.0 INTENDED OBJECTIVES OF THE STRATEGY

1. To raise awareness of the Ugandan community about the existence of the criminal acts of trafficking in persons; how it occurs and the dangers of the crime to individuals and the communities.

2. To inform the Ugandan community about the available options to avoid becoming victims of trafficking in persons.
3. To educate the public on how to act when they become victims of the crime in order to facilitate their easy rescue, timely victim support, and successful investigations and prosecutions.

3.0 PLANNED OUTCOMES

- 1) To enhance the capacity of the various categories of leaders, policy makers, educators, enforcement agencies and concerned Civil Society Organizations, to sensitize other members of the respective communities on how to avoid falling victims of the vice of trafficking in persons and how a victim can be assisted.
- 2) To raise the awareness of some selected targeted individuals and groups of people on the basics of the existence and dangers of trafficking in persons so as to take informed decisions and avoid becoming a victim and how to facilitate easy rescue and timely assistance, in case one becomes a victim.
- 3) To improve on the number of successful investigations and prosecutions through improved cooperation of the informed victims of the crime.
- 4) To promote a national coordinated approach to the challenges of the crime of trafficking in persons through empowering all categories of leaders and communities with the basic information on the crime of trafficking in persons, thus provoking collective responsibility against the crime.

4.0 BASIC INFORMATION TO BE SHARED

- a. How does Trafficking in persons occur?
- b. What are the basic elements of the crime of trafficking in persons?
- c. How do traffickers control their Victims?
- d. What are the contributing factors to the crime of trafficking in persons?
- e. What are the effects of trafficking in persons?
- f. What is the trend of trafficking in persons in Uganda?
- g. How can we prevent the crime of trafficking in persons in Uganda?
- h. What can one do when he/she becomes a victim of trafficking in persons?
- i. Which are most destination and source for victims of trafficking in persons?

5.0 TARGETED AUDIENCE

- i. Government officials from the most top to the lowest
- ii. Politicians and policy makers at all the various levels
- iii. Religious and cultural leaders
- iv. Youth Leaders and Youth organizations
- v. Education communities at the various levels
- vi. Parents and guardians
- vii. Children's reception homes
- viii. Members of the Civil Society Organization
- ix. Passports and Interpol Certificates of Good Conduct applicants

- x. Members of the media fraternity
- xi. Foreign Service officers and Ugandans in the Diaspora
- xii. Ugandan professionals of various categories
- xiii. Members of enforcement Agencies and judicial services
- xiv. Job seekers
- xv. Labour Recruitment Companies
- xvi. Saloon and Social places attendants
- xvii. Government and private security agencies
- xviii. Local Council executives
- xix. Security Committees
- xx. Market vendors

6.0 METHODS OF INFORMATION DISEMINATION TO BE APPLIED

- a) Training of Trainers
- b) TV documentaries
- c) Feature Films
- d) TV debates and Round tables
- e) TV and Radio announcements / news items
- f) Phone in Radio programs
- g) Radio and TV Soap Operas
- h) Magazines and Information Bulletins
- i) Brochures, Hand books and Fact Sheets
- j) Theatre Productions and Drama Performances
- k) School Role-players
- l) Posters and Billboards
- m) Seminars, Workshops, Meetings and Public debates
- n) Community Meetings (Barazas)
- o) Press conferences, News briefs, Press Interviews/Briefs
- p) Social Media, Internet and telephone Contact (Toll-free)
- q) Group Discussions for focused groups

7.0 IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

- 1) Analysis of current trend of the crime
- 2) Analysis of existing counter human trafficking public information systems
- 3) Development of counter human trafficking sensitization materials
- 4) Mapping out of the priorities of targeted audience
- 5) Mapping out of the methods to be used
- 6) Development and implementation of specific Work plans

8.0 MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The COCTIP shall prepare and submit to the National Task Force Quarterly performance reports about the implementation of the awareness strategy which shall be used as evaluation of the performance of the strategy.

An independent Organization shall be contacted to make evaluation of the performance of the strategy at the end of each calendar year.

9.0 MATRIX FOR THE NATIONAL AWARENESS STRATEGY ON PREVENTION OF TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS

S/no	Output	Planned Activities	Required Inputs	Output Indicators	Responsible Parties
01	To enhance the capacity of the various categories of leaders to be able to provide informed counter human trafficking information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development and printing of Information and Sensitization materials (Basic sensitization paper, brochures, fact sheets) - Training of members of the National Task Force on the awareness strategy and the sensitization materials to be used - Training and sensitization for members of the 102 District Security Committees and 05 Kampala Divisional Security Committees - Sensitization workshop for Members of Parliament - Sensitization workshop for Permanent Secretaries and senior government officials in Kampala - Sensitization workshop of senior religious and cultural leaders - Sensitization workshop for representatives of senior members of the enforcement agencies and Civil Society Organizations in Kampala - Sensitization workshop for enforcement officers at Entebbe Airport and all gazetted entry/exit border points. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Paper - Printing services - Fuel, - Venue hire, refreshments, - Facilitators' & subsistence allowances for the sensitization workshops 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of sensitization materials developed - Number of trainings and sensitization sessions carried out - Number of various Government officials and targeted groups sensitized / trained 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - COCTIP - Members of the National Task Force - IOM officials - CSOs - Police Community Liaison Officers - Police Child & Family Protection Officers - Media - National religious and cultural leaders - Office of Prime Minister - Uganda Media Center

02	To raise the awareness of some selected targeted individuals and groups of people on the basics of the existence and dangers of trafficking in persons so as to take informed decisions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development and printing of Information and Sensitization materials (Basic sensitization paper, brochures, fact sheets, hand books, Magazines and Information bulletins) - Organization of seminars, workshops, meetings and public debates for selected targeted groups, including school communities at various levels, Youth groups, Women groups, Labour recruitment companies, salon and social places attendants, market vendors, religious and cultural groups, traditional healers, parents & guardians, Children's reception homes, Ugandans in the Diaspora, etc - Media coverage and publicity of the seminars, workshops, meetings and public debates as a way of sensitizing other members of the public about the same - Organization of TV and Radio programs, debates, round tables and phone in programs and adverts - Organization of school drama plays, and public drama performances on TIP issues - Holding of press briefs and interviews - Opening up a social media account and general internet website. - Production of posters and billboards with warning and educating messages 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Paper - Printing services - Fuel, - Venue hire, refreshments, - Facilitators' & subsistence allowances for the sensitization workshops, seminars, meetings and public debates - Cost for media coverage of sensitization workshops, seminars & meetings - Cost for TV and radio programs & adverts - Cost for organizing school & public drama shows - Cost for internet services - Cost for production of posters & billboards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of sensitization materials developed - Number of seminars, workshops, meetings and public debates carried out - Number of various targeted groups sensitized - Number of media publications made - Number of Radio and TV programs published - Number of round table and phone in programs carried out - Number of school drama plays on TIP organized - Existence of Internet accounts on TIP - Number of posters and bill boards on TIP erected 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - COCTIP - Members of the National Task Force - IOM officials - CSOs - Police Community Liaison Officers (CLOs) - Police Child & Family Protection Officers - Police Commanders - Media Houses - Immigration Officers - Interpol Officers - Uganda Media Center - Members of Security Committees
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03	To improve on the number of successful investigations and prosecutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development and printing of Information and Sensitization materials on victim identification, interview and support (Basic sensitization paper, brochures, fact sheets, hand books, Magazines and Information bulletins) - Sensitization workshops, meetings and seminars for law enforcement agencies, First responders, victim service providers and Civil society Organizations on the handling of victims - Development and production of Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) on victim management - Media publication of periodical crime reports and media briefings on prevailing crime situation related to trafficking in persons - Sensitization workshops, seminars and meetings for the targeted groups on the responsibilities of a victim in crime investigations and prosecutions - TV and radio programs on the responsibilities of a victim in crime investigations and prosecutions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Paper - Printing services - Fuel, - Venue hire, refreshments, Facilitators' & subsistence allowances for the sensitization workshops on victim management - Cost for the publication of periodical media crime reports - Cost for TV and radio programs on the responsibilities of a victim in the management of the crime of TIP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of sensitization materials developed - Number of seminars, workshops, meetings and public debates carried out - Number of various targeted groups sensitized - Presence of the SOP on victim management - Number of TIP periodical reports on criminal Cases management published - Number of TV and Radio programs on victim responsibilities carried out 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - COCTIP - Members of the National Task Force - IOM officials - CSOs - Police CIID - Police SIU - Police CLOs - Police Child & Family Protection Officers - Community Leaders
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04	To promote a national coordinated approach to the challenges of the crime of trafficking in persons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development and printing of Information and Sensitization materials (Basic sensitization paper, brochures, fact sheets, hand books, Magazines, Information bulletins, periodical crime trend reports) to be used by the relevant stakeholder members of the MDAs for sensitization of their respective communities and the general public. - Organization of joint sensitization workshops, meetings and seminars - Establishment of a toll free line for public reporting, information and consultation about TIP matters - Establishment of a referral system on TIP matters amongst the stake holder members so that public information is acted upon fast enough. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Paper - Printing services - Fuel, - Venue hire, refreshments, Facilitators' & subsistence allowances for the sensitization workshops - Cost of hardware equipment for the toll free line 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of sensitization materials developed - Number of joint sensitization workshops, meetings and seminars carried out - Existence of a toll free line on TIP - Existence of a National Referral System on TIP matters 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - COCTIP - Members of the National Task Force - IOM - Uganda Communications Commission
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**PROTOCOL TO PREVENT, SUPPRESS AND PUNISH
TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS, ESPECIALLY WOMEN
AND CHILDREN, SUPPLEMENTING THE UNITED
NATIONS CONVENTION AGAINST
TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME**

Advance copy of the authentic text. The copy certified
by the Secretary-General will be issued at a later time.



UNITED NATIONS
2000

**PROTOCOL TO PREVENT, SUPPRESS AND PUNISH
TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS, ESPECIALLY WOMEN AND
CHILDREN, SUPPLEMENTING THE UNITED NATIONS
CONVENTION AGAINST TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME**

Preamble

The States Parties to this Protocol,

Declaring that effective action to prevent and combat trafficking in persons, especially women and children, requires a comprehensive international approach in the countries of origin, transit and destination that includes measures to prevent such trafficking, to punish the traffickers and to protect the victims of such trafficking, including by protecting their internationally recognized human rights,

Taking into account the fact that, despite the existence of a variety of international instruments containing rules and practical measures to combat the exploitation of persons, especially women and children, there is no universal instrument that addresses all aspects of trafficking in persons,

Concerned that, in the absence of such an instrument, persons who are vulnerable to trafficking will not be sufficiently protected,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 53/111 of 9 December 1998, in which the Assembly decided to establish an open-ended intergovernmental ad hoc committee for the purpose of elaborating a comprehensive international convention against transnational organized crime and of discussing the elaboration of, inter alia, an international instrument addressing trafficking in women and children,

Convinced that supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime with an international instrument for the prevention, suppression and punishment of trafficking in persons, especially women and children, will be useful in preventing and combating that crime,

Have agreed as follows:

I. General provisions

Article 1

*Relation with the United Nations Convention
against Transnational Organized Crime*

1. This Protocol supplements the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime. It shall be interpreted together with the Convention.
2. The provisions of the Convention shall apply, mutatis mutandis, to this Protocol unless otherwise provided herein.
3. The offences established in accordance with article 5 of this Protocol shall be regarded as offences established in accordance with the Convention.

Article 2
Statement of purpose

The purposes of this Protocol are:

- (a) To prevent and combat trafficking in persons, paying particular attention to women and children;
- (b) To protect and assist the victims of such trafficking, with full respect for their human rights; and
- (c) To promote cooperation among States Parties in order to meet those objectives.

Article 3
Use of terms

For the purposes of this Protocol:

- (a) “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. Exploitation shall include, 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;
- (b) The consent of a victim of trafficking in persons to the intended exploitation set forth in subparagraph (a) of this article shall be irrelevant where any of the means set forth in subparagraph (a) have been used;
- (c) The recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of a child for the purpose of exploitation shall be considered “trafficking in persons” even if this does not involve any of the means set forth in subparagraph (a) of this article;
- (d) “Child” shall mean any person under eighteen years of age.

Article 4
Scope of application

This Protocol shall apply, except as otherwise stated herein, to the prevention, investigation and prosecution of the offences established in accordance with article 5 of this Protocol, where those offences are transnational in nature and involve an organized criminal group, as well as to the protection of victims of such offences.

Article 5
Criminalization

1. Each State Party shall adopt such legislative and other measures as may be necessary to establish as criminal offences the conduct set forth in article 3 of this Protocol, when committed intentionally.
2. Each State Party shall also adopt such legislative and other measures as may be necessary to establish as criminal offences:
 - (a) Subject to the basic concepts of its legal system, attempting to commit an offence established in accordance with paragraph 1 of this article;
 - (b) Participating as an accomplice in an offence established in accordance with paragraph 1 of this article; and
 - (c) Organizing or directing other persons to commit an offence established in accordance with paragraph 1 of this article.

II. Protection of victims of trafficking in persons

Article 6
Assistance to and protection of victims of
trafficking in persons

1. In appropriate cases and to the extent possible under its domestic law, each State Party shall protect the privacy and identity of victims of trafficking in persons, including, inter alia, by making legal proceedings relating to such trafficking confidential.
2. Each State Party shall ensure that its domestic legal or administrative system contains measures that provide to victims of trafficking in persons, in appropriate cases:
 - (a) Information on relevant court and administrative proceedings;
 - (b) Assistance to enable their views and concerns to be presented and considered at appropriate stages of criminal proceedings against offenders, in a manner not prejudicial to the rights of the defence.
3. Each State Party shall consider implementing measures to provide for the physical, psychological and social recovery of victims of trafficking in persons, including, in appropriate cases, in cooperation with non-governmental organizations, other relevant organizations and other elements of civil society, and, in particular, the provision of:
 - (a) Appropriate housing;
 - (b) Counselling and information, in particular as regards their legal rights, in a language that the victims of trafficking in persons can understand;
 - (c) Medical, psychological and material assistance; and
 - (d) Employment, educational and training opportunities.

4. Each State Party shall take into account, in applying the provisions of this article, the age, gender and special needs of victims of trafficking in persons, in particular the special needs of children, including appropriate housing, education and care.
5. Each State Party shall endeavour to provide for the physical safety of victims of trafficking in persons while they are within its territory. Each State Party shall ensure that its domestic legal system contains measures that offer victims of trafficking in persons the possibility of obtaining compensation for damage suffered.

Article 7

Status of victims of trafficking in persons in receiving States

1. In addition to taking measures pursuant to article 6 of this Protocol, each State Party shall consider adopting legislative or other appropriate measures that permit victims of trafficking in persons to remain in its territory, temporarily or permanently, in appropriate cases.
2. In implementing the provision contained in paragraph 1 of this article, each State Party shall give appropriate consideration to humanitarian and compassionate factors.

Article 8

Repatriation of victims of trafficking in persons

1. The State Party of which a victim of trafficking in persons is a national or in which the person had the right of permanent residence at the time of entry into the territory of the receiving State Party shall facilitate and accept, with due regard for the safety of that person, the return of that person without undue or unreasonable delay.
2. When a State Party returns a victim of trafficking in persons to a State Party of which that person is a national or in which he or she had, at the time of entry into the territory of the receiving State Party, the right of permanent residence, such return shall be with due regard for the safety of that person and for the status of any legal proceedings related to the fact that the person is a victim of trafficking and shall preferably be voluntary.
3. At the request of a receiving State Party, a requested State Party shall, without undue or unreasonable delay, verify whether a person who is a victim of trafficking in persons is its national or had the right of permanent residence in its territory at the time of entry into the territory of the receiving State Party.
4. In order to facilitate the return of a victim of trafficking in persons who is without proper documentation, the State Party of which that person is a national or in which he or she had the right of permanent residence at the time of entry into the territory of the receiving State Party shall agree to issue, at the request of the receiving State Party, such travel documents or other authorization as may be necessary to enable the person to travel to and re-enter its territory.

5. This article shall be without prejudice to any right afforded to victims of trafficking in persons by any domestic law of the receiving State Party.
6. This article shall be without prejudice to any applicable bilateral or multilateral agreement or arrangement that governs, in whole or in part, the return of victims of trafficking in persons.

III. Prevention, cooperation and other measures

Article 9

Prevention of trafficking in persons

1. States Parties shall establish comprehensive policies, programmes and other measures:
 - (a) To prevent and combat trafficking in persons; and
 - (b) To protect victims of trafficking in persons, especially women and children, from revictimization.
2. States Parties shall endeavour to undertake measures such as research, information and mass media campaigns and social and economic initiatives to prevent and combat trafficking in persons.
3. Policies, programmes and other measures established in accordance with this article shall, as appropriate, include cooperation with non-governmental organizations, other relevant organizations and other elements of civil society.
4. States Parties shall take or strengthen measures, including through bilateral or multilateral cooperation, to alleviate the factors that make persons, especially women and children, vulnerable to trafficking, such as poverty, underdevelopment and lack of equal opportunity.
5. States Parties shall adopt or strengthen legislative or other measures, such as educational, social or cultural measures, including through bilateral and multilateral cooperation, to discourage the demand that fosters all forms of exploitation of persons, especially women and children, that leads to trafficking.

Article 10

Information exchange and training

1. Law enforcement, immigration or other relevant authorities of States Parties shall, as appropriate, cooperate with one another by exchanging information, in accordance with their domestic law, to enable them to determine:
 - (a) Whether individuals crossing or attempting to cross an international border with travel documents belonging to other persons or without travel documents are perpetrators or victims of trafficking in persons;
 - (b) The types of travel document that individuals have used or attempted to use to cross an international border for the purpose of trafficking in persons; and
 - (c) The means and methods used by organized criminal groups for the purpose of trafficking in persons, including the recruitment and transportation of victims, routes and links between and among individuals and groups engaged in such trafficking, and possible measures for detecting them.

2. States Parties shall provide or strengthen training for law enforcement, immigration and other relevant officials in the prevention of trafficking in persons. The training should focus on methods used in preventing such trafficking, prosecuting the traffickers and protecting the rights of the victims, including protecting the victims from the traffickers. The training should also take into account the need to consider human rights and child- and gender-sensitive issues and it should encourage cooperation with non-governmental organizations, other relevant organizations and other elements of civil society.
3. A State Party that receives information shall comply with any request by the State Party that transmitted the information that places restrictions on its use.

Article 11

Border measures

1. Without prejudice to international commitments in relation to the free movement of people, States Parties shall strengthen, to the extent possible, such border controls as may be necessary to prevent and detect trafficking in persons.
2. Each State Party shall adopt legislative or other appropriate measures to prevent, to the extent possible, means of transport operated by commercial carriers from being used in the commission of offences established in accordance with article 5 of this Protocol.
3. Where appropriate, and without prejudice to applicable international conventions, such measures shall include establishing the obligation of commercial carriers, including any transportation company or the owner or operator of any means of transport, to ascertain that all passengers are in possession of the travel documents required for entry into the receiving State.
4. Each State Party shall take the necessary measures, in accordance with its domestic law, to provide for sanctions in cases of violation of the obligation set forth in paragraph 3 of this article.
5. Each State Party shall consider taking measures that permit, in accordance with its domestic law, the denial of entry or revocation of visas of persons implicated in the commission of offences established in accordance with this Protocol.
6. Without prejudice to article 27 of the Convention, States Parties shall consider strengthening cooperation among border control agencies by, inter alia, establishing and maintaining direct channels of communication.

Article 12

Security and control of documents

Each State Party shall take such measures as may be necessary, within available means:

- (a) To ensure that travel or identity documents issued by it are of such quality that they cannot easily be misused and cannot readily be falsified or unlawfully altered, replicated or issued; and

- (b) To ensure the integrity and security of travel or identity documents issued by or on behalf of the State Party and to prevent their unlawful creation, issuance and use.

Article 13

Legitimacy and validity of documents

At the request of another State Party, a State Party shall, in accordance with its domestic law, verify within a reasonable time the legitimacy and validity of travel or identity documents issued or purported to have been issued in its name and suspected of being used for trafficking in persons.

IV. Final provisions

Article 14

Saving clause

1. Nothing in this Protocol shall affect the rights, obligations and responsibilities of States and individuals under international law, including international humanitarian law and international human rights law and, in particular, where applicable, the 1951 Convention and the 1967 Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees and the principle of non-refoulement as contained therein.
2. The measures set forth in this Protocol shall be interpreted and applied in a way that is not discriminatory to persons on the ground that they are victims of trafficking in persons. The interpretation and application of those measures shall be consistent with internationally recognized principles of non-discrimination.

Article 15

Settlement of disputes

1. States Parties shall endeavour to settle disputes concerning the interpretation or application of this Protocol through negotiation.
2. Any dispute between two or more States Parties concerning the interpretation or application of this Protocol that cannot be settled through negotiation within a reasonable time shall, at the request of one of those States Parties, be submitted to arbitration. If, six months after the date of the request for arbitration, those States Parties are unable to agree on the organization of the arbitration, any one of those States Parties may refer the dispute to the International Court of Justice by request in accordance with the Statute of the Court.
3. Each State Party may, at the time of signature, ratification, acceptance or approval of or accession to this Protocol, declare that it does not consider itself bound by paragraph 2 of this article. The other States Parties shall not be bound by paragraph 2 of this article with respect to any State Party that has made such a reservation.
4. Any State Party that has made a reservation in accordance with paragraph 3 of this article may at any time withdraw that reservation by notification to the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

Article 16
Signature, ratification, acceptance,
approval and accession

1. This Protocol shall be open to all States for signature from 12 to 15 December 2000 in Palermo, Italy, and thereafter at United Nations Headquarters in New York until 12 December 2002.
2. This Protocol shall also be open for signature by regional economic integration organizations provided that at least one member State of such organization has signed this Protocol in accordance with paragraph 1 of this article.
3. This Protocol is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval. Instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations. A regional economic integration organization may deposit its instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval if at least one of its member States has done likewise. In that instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval, such organization shall declare the extent of its competence with respect to the matters governed by this Protocol. Such organization shall also inform the depositary of any relevant modification in the extent of its competence.
4. This Protocol is open for accession by any State or any regional economic integration organization of which at least one member State is a Party to this Protocol. Instruments of accession shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations. At the time of its accession, a regional economic integration organization shall declare the extent of its competence with respect to matters governed by this Protocol. Such organization shall also inform the depositary of any relevant modification in the extent of its competence.

Article 17
Entry into force

1. This Protocol shall enter into force on the ninetieth day after the date of deposit of the fortieth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, except that it shall not enter into force before the entry into force of the Convention. For the purpose of this paragraph, any instrument deposited by a regional economic integration organization shall not be counted as additional to those deposited by member States of such organization.
2. For each State or regional economic integration organization ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to this Protocol after the deposit of the fortieth instrument of such action, this Protocol shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the date of deposit by such State or organization of the relevant instrument or on the date this Protocol enters into force pursuant to paragraph 1 of this article, whichever is the later.

Article 18
Amendment

1. After the expiry of five years from the entry into force of this Protocol, a State Party to the Protocol may propose an amendment and file it with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, who shall thereupon communicate the proposed amendment to the States Parties and to the Conference of the Parties to the Convention for the purpose of considering and deciding on the proposal. The States Parties to this Protocol meeting at the Conference of the Parties shall make every effort to achieve consensus on each amendment. If all efforts at consensus have been exhausted and no agreement has been reached, the amendment shall, as a last resort, require for its adoption a two-thirds majority vote of the States Parties to this Protocol present and voting at the meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
2. Regional economic integration organizations, in matters within their competence, shall exercise their right to vote under this article with a number of votes equal to the number of their member States that are Parties to this Protocol. Such organizations shall not exercise their right to vote if their member States exercise theirs and vice versa.
3. An amendment adopted in accordance with paragraph 1 of this article is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval by States Parties.
4. An amendment adopted in accordance with paragraph 1 of this article shall enter into force in respect of a State Party ninety days after the date of the deposit with the Secretary-General of the United Nations of an instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval of such amendment.
5. When an amendment enters into force, it shall be binding on those States Parties which have expressed their consent to be bound by it. Other States Parties shall still be bound by the provisions of this Protocol and any earlier amendments that they have ratified, accepted or approved.

Article 19
Denunciation

1. A State Party may denounce this Protocol by written notification to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. Such denunciation shall become effective one year after the date of receipt of the notification by the Secretary-General.
2. A regional economic integration organization shall cease to be a Party to this Protocol when all of its member States have denounced it.

Article 20
Depositary and languages

1. The Secretary-General of the United Nations is designated depositary of this Protocol.
2. The original of this Protocol, of which the Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic, shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned plenipotentiaries, being duly authorized thereto by their respective Governments, have signed this Protocol.

The
HUMAN
TRAFFICKING
INSTITUTE

www.TraffickingInstitute.org