



High-Level Event at the 14th UN Crime Congress, Kyoto, Japan

**The UN Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons (UNVTF)
10 Years Since Inception: Achievements and Best Practices**

TUESDAY, 21 April 2020, 9 to 10:30 a.m.; Conference Room Annex 2

Background

The United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children (UNVTF) was established in 2010 as an important component of the UN Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons. Through a victim-centred approach, UNVTF's mandate is to provide humanitarian, legal and financial aid to victims of trafficking in persons through established channels of assistance, including governmental, intergovernmental and NGOs. UNVTF is supported by a five-member Board of Trustees appointed by the Secretary-General.

Summary

This High-Level event marks the 10-year anniversary of UNVTF which supports over 3000 trafficking victims every year through its NGO partners. The event will highlight the cooperation between UNODC and Member States, the private sector and individuals in the provision of direct assistance to victims arising from armed conflict, large movements of refugees and migrants, with special focus on women and girls trafficked for sexual exploitation. The Trust Fund will showcase its substantial achievements and lessons learned from previous grant cycles over the last decade. Experiences from Tunisia and Viet Nam will showcase good practices in providing direct assistance to survivors of trafficking, with the aim of helping them rebuild their lives.

This also marks the 10-year anniversary of UNODC's flagship Blue Heart Campaign (BHC), a global awareness raising initiative aimed at fighting human trafficking and its impact on society. The event will conclude with a call to action where States will announce their pledges and commitment to joining the BHC.