Welcome to the 2017 Fall Newsletter from the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons (UNVTF). It has been an eventful quarter with many exciting and upcoming initiatives to come! In this edition, read about our 2017 third cycle call for grant proposals, the upcoming UNGA high-level meeting on the Global Plan of Action, our recent success stories and how you can join us.

**Donor Contributions**

*Thank you!*

UNVTF would like to convey its sincerest gratitude to the following Member States for their respective contributions to the Trust Fund this fall:

- Republic of Singapore
- Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka
- Austria
- Philippines

Each contribution will go towards the provision of essential services and direct assistance to victims of trafficking in persons worldwide. The Trust Fund is grateful for member support that enables us to strengthen the networks that provide tailored humanitarian, legal and financial assistance to victims of human trafficking.

**UNGA GLOBAL PLAN OF ACTION**

We would like to highlight the UNGA High-Level Meeting on the Appraisal of the Global Plan of Action on 27-28 September 2017. We would encourage all Member States to participate in and contribute to the interactive panel discussion including through the announcement of pledges. In addition, Chair of the Board of Trustees, Dr. Benita Ferrero-Waldner, will be a panellist at the high-level meeting.

In recognition of the critical role played by the Trust Fund, the Political Declaration on the Implementation of the Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons is to be adopted affirming Member States’ strong support for the Trust Fund. We are counting on your solidarity to ensure that the Trust Fund can continue to fulfil its mandate as provided by the Member States in the years to come.

**Call for Proposals**

*Deadline: 30 September ‘17*

The Trust Fund has commenced its third funding cycle, calling for new proposals from NGOs all around the world. Projects assisting victims of trafficking in a context of armed conflict, as well as migration and refugee flows will be given priority. We hope that with continued generous contributions from Member States, the Fund can support more projects to aid victims of human trafficking for the third cycle. The deadline for submission is 30 September 2017.

*Details at [http://www.unodc.org/human-traffickingfund](http://www.unodc.org/human-traffickingfund)*

Blue Dragon Children’s Foundation Survivor Excursion, June 2017

*http://www.unodc.org/humantraffickingfund*
SUCCESS STORIES: LEGAL

Organisations that received support from the Trust Fund in the second round of grants are currently implementing projects from 2015 to 2018 and providing survivors of human trafficking with critical assistance. We are pleased to share their great work! In this edition, we feature some of the remarkable legal successes achieved through the work of NGO partners:

In Mexico, Justicia Para Nuestras Hijas successfully concluded a trial on behalf of the families of four deceased female victims. In this landmark ruling for Mexico, five traffickers were each sentenced to 697 years in prison and fined US$ 839,274 in damages.

Romanian NGO ADPARE provided legal assistance to five female victims trafficked for the purpose of sexual exploitation, and one male victim trafficked to Denmark for the purpose of forced criminality. The male victim’s case is part of the “Wasp Nest investigation”, dubbed the largest case of human trafficking in Danish history.

In Canada, Covenant House provided legal assistance to a victim whose trafficker was categorised as a “dangerous offender” — a rare designation reserved for Canada’s most notorious criminals, such as murderers and rapists. The precedent-setting ruling in a Toronto court opens the gates to classifying human traffickers as the most serious offenders.

In India, Bachpan Bachao Andolan rescued 40 children trafficked for the purpose of forced labour in two operations in Delhi, in coordination with local law enforcement authorities. As a result, 21 children received USD $ 3,393 each in compensation, and two factories which used child labour were closed.

These are just a few of the legal successes made possible due to the support from the Trust Fund.

JOIN US

With your support today, many more survivors can be helped tomorrow

Should you be interested in donating to the Trust Fund to support victims of trafficking in persons, you can donate online via the UN Foundation link OR visit our website: www.unodc.org/humantraffickingfund. This donation is US tax-deductible for companies and individuals.

Your donation will provide invaluable assistance that victims need, including shelter, food, medical care, legal aid, access to justice, and psychosocial support.

You can also show your support by joining the Blue Heart Campaign on

Facebook or following us on

Twitter @BlueHeartHT

Every donation counts. For every cent, a wrong is made right

Email us at victimsfund@unodc.org for more information