Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons

Commemorating the 10th anniversary of the adoption of the Trafficking in Persons Protocol

ICAT side event
20 October 2010 Vienna, Austria
What is ICAT?

• In September 2006, UNODC convened a coordination meeting of international organizations responding to trafficking in persons in Tokyo hosted by the Government of Japan.

• The participating organizations* decided to continue the work and proposed the creation of a coordination group named Inter-agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons (ICAT) with aim to improve coordination and cooperation between UN agencies and other international organizations to facilitate a holistic approach to preventing and combating trafficking in persons.

* ILO, IOM, UNICEF, UNIFEM, UNDAW, UNHCR and UNODC
Inter-agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons (ICAT) was formally established by General Assembly resolution A/RES/61/180

“Improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons”
ICAT Member Organizations

- United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
- Department for Peace Keeping Operations (DPKO)
- International Organization for Migration (IOM)
- International Labour Organization (ILO)
- International Criminal Police Organization (ICPO-Interpol)
- International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)
- Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)
- United Nations Joint Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- United Nations Division for the Advancement of Women (UNDAW)
- United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
- United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
- United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM)
- United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI)
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
- The World Bank
ICAT’s Functions

- Provide a platform for exchange of information, experiences and good practices on anti-trafficking activities of the partner agencies to share with Governments, international and regional organizations, NGOs and other relevant bodies.

- Encourage, support and review the activities of the UN and other international organizations with the aim of ensuring a full and comprehensive implementation of all international instruments and standards of relevance for the prevention and combating of trafficking in persons and protection of and support for victims of trafficking.

- Drawing on the comparative advantage of the respective agencies, promote effective and efficient use of existing resources, using, to the extent possible, mechanisms already in place at the regional and national level.
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The first ICAT publication
“An analytical review: 10 years on from the adoption of the UN Trafficking in Persons Protocol”

Contributing Organizations:

- International Labour Organization (ILO)
- International Organization for Migration (IOM)
- Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
- United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
- United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI)
- United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
- United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
ICAT Side Event – GOALS

Reflect on the GAPS and RECOMMENDATIONS discussed in the ICAT Background Paper in the areas of:

- Prevention
- Protection
- Prosecution
- Partnerships
Prevention GAPS

• Need for a holistic approach

• Need for researching and alleviating vulnerabilities and root causes of trafficking

• Reducing the demand

• Lack of resources to reach potential victims
Prevention RECOMMENDATIONS

• Policy choices to reduce vulnerabilities in origin countries

• Increase the focus on demand in destination countries

• Opportunities for potential victims (minimum empowerment package)

• Increase sufficient legal migration opportunities
GAPS

• Gaps in provisions to effectively address specific types of trafficking (men, women, children)

• Victims’ participation is hindered by inadequate victims/witnesses protection

• Inadequate training of state and civil society actors in counselling, rehabilitation, legal protection and administrative support
Protection RECOMMENDATIONS

- Provide adequate measures to identify, protect and assist victims/witnesses
- Adequately tailored training to fit different needs of men, women and children coming from diverse cultural backgrounds
- National action plans specifically incorporating child trafficking
- Protection measures should not be linked with obligatory cooperation with law enforcement
Prosecution GAPS

• Large impunity

• Lack of resources in specific anti-human trafficking legal enforcement units

• Inconsistency with national legislation and actual implementation of the laws
Prosecution
RECOMMENDATIONS

- Member States’ national legal framework and practices are in line with international legal obligations
- Allocate adequate resources for strengthening the capacity of the criminal justice system
- Avoid grounds for re-trafficking (ex: repatriation of victims of human trafficking)
- Criminal proceedings should ensure adequate protection measures for victims and witnesses
Partnership GAPS

- Lack of lead coordinating anti-trafficking national institutions
- National and international coordination a challenge due to different mandates of involved institutions
- Inadequate mechanisms for data collection and analysis at national and international levels
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Partnership RECOMMENDATIONS

• Improve national coordination structures to exchange information

• Increase mechanisms for collection, analysis and dissemination of data

• Increase mutual legal assistance at the global level, including extradition and confiscating trafficked proceeds

• Foster strong relationships between law enforcement and civil society to support the fight against human trafficking
ICAT and the Global Plan of Action against Trafficking in Persons (A/64/L.64)

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

- Strengthen and support ICAT to improve coordination and cooperation amongst relevant UN bodies, including UN human rights treaty bodies and mechanisms, and international organizations

- Urge the Secretary-General to expedite the strengthening of ICAT under the coordination of UNODC, in order to ensure overall organization and coherence in the United Nations system's efforts to respond to trafficking in persons
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