



## Tool 1.6 Ratification of the Trafficking in Persons Protocol

### Overview

*This tool offers guidance to Governments and civil society on action that can be taken before and after ratification of the Protocol.*

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) Regional Office for South Asia has issued an information kit with a section dedicated to the Trafficking in Persons Protocol that contains advice on what Governments and civil society can do before and after ratification of the Protocol.

### Pre-ratification

#### **What Governments can do**

- Support consultations with civil society on the policy and programmatic implications of ratifying the Protocol
- Consult other Governments concerning the ratification process
- Initiate the ratification process
- Follow existing domestic laws and regulations to carry out the ratification process

#### **What civil society can do**

- Educate key stakeholders on the Protocol
- Develop and disseminate advocacy materials on the Protocol
- Conduct seminars/conferences promoting ratification of the Protocol
- Use the mass media to provide extensive coverage of the Protocol and its significance

### Post-ratification

#### **What Governments can do**

- Translate the Protocol into national languages
- Disseminate the Protocol widely to all Government agencies concerned
- Amend inconsistent domestic anti-trafficking laws to conform with the Protocol
- Enact new laws to complement the Protocol
- Develop a national plan of action against trafficking consistent with the Protocol
- Develop the necessary programmes to implement the Protocol and the national plan of action

- Establish agreements between Governments to prevent cross-border trafficking
- Implement a monitoring system
- Implement prevention programmes among potential risk groups
- Develop guidelines for effective reintegration programmes
- Create infrastructure and strengthen institutional mechanisms for the implementation of the Protocol
- Promote cooperation among Governments to initiate bilateral or multilateral agreements that facilitate the implementation of the Protocol
- Develop partnerships for the effective implementation of the Protocol with national and international non-governmental organizations working against trafficking
- Monitor the implementation of the Protocol

### ***What civil society can do***

- Create grassroots and national-level awareness of trafficking, its causes and consequences and the utility of the Protocol as a tool to address the issue
- Cooperate with Governments to rehabilitate and reintegrate victims of trafficking
- Collect data and conduct research to inform policies and programmes
- Conduct intensive awareness-raising campaigns against trafficking at the local and national levels to mobilize diverse groups
- Launch income-generating programmes in trafficking-prone areas
- Link the Protocol with other human rights instruments in combating trafficking
- Inform the public of the rights created by the Protocol
- Make proposals for amendments to address gaps in the Protocol
- Raise the violation of rights under the Protocol during reporting to relevant international bodies



Source: UNICEF Regional Office for South Asia, "Information kit"  
[www.unicef.org/rosa/InfoKit.pdf](http://www.unicef.org/rosa/InfoKit.pdf)