
UNITED Nations office on drugs and crime (UNODC)

Subject: Constructive dialogue on Smuggling of Migrants and trafficking in persons!

By MR. Shabir Ghafari

Head of APT (Afghans for progressive thinking) Organization

Honorable chair,

Distinguished delegates and representatives,

Fellow members of civil society,

Thank you very much for the opportunity you give us to make a modest contribution to this July institution. My name is Shabir Ghafari I am from Afghanistan. I am Head of APT (Organization) based in Afghanistan.

Coming to the Topic, Across the world, an increasing number of women, men, and children embark on perilous journeys in search of safety and dignity, and risk abuse and exploitation in countries of origin, transit and destination. As recognized in the New York Declaration for refugees and migrants, some feel compelled to resort to smugglers, especially in the absence of regular migration pathways. smuggling are globally prevalent, distinct but related crimes defined in international law. Yet, they are too frequently misunderstood and conflated. This confusion can lead to inadequate measures by states, courts and service providers to identify, protect and assist victims of migrants in vulnerable situations in the context of smuggling.

Here I have mentioned some recommendations which can help to prevent this kind of act which is equal to crime:

1. Ensure equal access to justice and protection under the law for migrants in order to prevent and address labor exploitation and human trafficking.
2. Establish national and international referral mechanisms, including improved screening measures at borders, that include all relevant agencies, authorities and other actors for the identification of victims of trafficking and smuggled migrants in vulnerable situations with clear procedures and roles of frontline actors, including special referral mechanisms for children.
3. Promote early identification of human smuggled migrants in vulnerable situations.
4. Ensure effective and updated screening in places of first arrival, including through interviews with well-trained officials and social workers in order to prevent exploitation likely to take place later in the journey.
5. Use innovative technology, particularly ICT for identification purposes

6. Strengthen effective screening of migration routes to identify victims of trafficking and abusive smugglers Consider the Global Plan of Action on Trafficking in Persons as a central guiding document.

To Conclude, a quick summary:

We need document, measure, and advocate better;

I hope these spaces of dialogue continue, and I thank you very much for your time and attention.