

### Emerging knowledge and practice regarding the prevention of and response to corruption in the context of trafficking in persons

#### ***Australian National Statement***

- Australia is committed to tackling corruption and trafficking in persons, as separate and intersecting crime types.
- We are working to strengthen standards of integrity and combat corruption in our federal government, including by:
  - establishing a National Anti-Corruption Commission, which commenced on 1 July 2023;
  - introducing reforms to strengthen Australia's foreign bribery offences; and
  - improving protections for whistleblowers reporting wrongdoing and corruption.
- We continue to tackle trafficking in persons and other forms of modern slavery at home and abroad, including through implementation of our *National Action Plan to Combat Modern Slavery 2020–25*.
  - The National Action Plan provides the strategic framework for our whole-of-government approach to preventing, disrupting, investigating and prosecuting modern slavery, supporting and protecting victims and survivors, partnerships, and research.
- New Government commitments, including establishing Australia's first federal anti-Slavery Commissioner, will further enhance our response.
- We are committed to ensuring that our legislation remains fit for purpose, and responsive to new trends and criminal methodologies.
  - This year, we have undertaken a statutory review of our Modern Slavery Act—Australia's supply chain transparency framework, and a targeted review of the offences in our Criminal Code for trafficking in persons, slavery and slavery-like practices.
- We continue to engage with civil society in our anti-corruption and anti-trafficking efforts, through Australia's Bribery Prevention Network and National Roundtable on Human Trafficking and Slavery.
- Our responses to corruption and trafficking in persons are complementary and support the prevention, disruption, investigation and prosecution of cases where corruption is used to facilitate trafficking in persons and other crimes.
- We continue to encourage research, good practice and information-sharing on corruption as a facilitator of trafficking in persons, including as Co-Chair (with Indonesia) of the Bali Process Working Group on Trafficking in Persons.
- We look forward to continuing to learn from other Members' experiences and practices in responding to corruption in the context of trafficking in persons.

#### ***Recommendations***

- We recommend that State Parties continue to:
  - engage with civil society, and other partners such as business and academia, in both anti-corruption and anti-trafficking in persons efforts;
  - ensure that their legislative frameworks remain responsive to new trends and criminal methodologies—including technology-facilitated offences;
  - encourage research, good practice and information-sharing on corruption as a facilitator of trafficking in persons; and
  - work towards effective implementation of international frameworks including UNTOC, the Palermo Protocol, UN Convention against Corruption and OECD Anti-Bribery Convention.