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TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN AND CHILDREN

RESEARCH FINDINGS AND FOLLOW-UP

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OVERVIEW: THE NEED FOR A GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

To most people, slavery is a terrible relic of the past, yet approximately two million women and children are presently held in sexual servitude throughout the world, half of whom are estimated to have been trafficked by force, deceit, or economic coercion. In addition, sources suggest that between 100,000 and 200,000 women and children, some as young as six years old, are trafficked across borders for the purpose of sexual exploitation each year. Many of these individuals never reach the age of thirty. They die of AIDS and other STDs, ill health, physical and psychological abuse, violence, and drug abuse. Trafficking in persons is one of the most compelling human rights problems of our time. Yet, this tragic situation has prompted minimal to no response from most governments around the world.

The phenomenon is fueled by several factors, among them poverty, conflict and political upheaval, and gender attitudes leading to inequality in opportunity and general indifference to the plight of women and girls. The advent of globalization has exacerbated the problem by creating what some call market opportunities for traffickers in human beings and for their exploiters. Liberalized borders and ease of movement of people across them have increased opportunities for irregular migration, and when this illegal smuggling of human beings across borders is connected to their sale into sexual servitude, the activity becomes significantly more profitable. Trafficking in persons constitutes the third most lucrative international criminal activity after drugs and arms trafficking.

Current government policies around the world only encourage or facilitate trafficking and further victimize the trafficked. While the underground nature of trafficking makes prosecution of those responsible for the trade almost impossible without the cooperation of the trafficked individual, most victims have no incentive to collaborate with governments in identifying those who have exploited them. In turning to authorities, they risk detention, their own prosecution for prostitution and other crimes, involuntary deportation or repatriation, and reprisals from traffickers. They rarely receive or have access to legal assistance, medical attention, and other support. This policy of criminalizing women in sexual servitude not only re-victimizes them, it often forces them to remain under the control of their exploiters.

Because of the high profitability of this activity, it has become part of small and large criminal organizations in many countries. Smaller organizations limit themselves to cross-border illegal smuggling of persons, or combine that activity with the sale of women and children to other organizations. Larger organizations that directly exploit trafficked persons may also involve themselves in the cross-border smuggling activity. Trafficked persons are sold and resold like commodities to other exploiters.

Regional distinctions in form, incidence and manifestations of course exist. The patterns of trafficking from Africa to Europe differ from those within Latin America, Southeast Asia or the Indian Sub-Continent. Invariably, however, the end result is that

women and children become hopelessly trapped in sexual slavery without much chance to extricate themselves from it.

Much of the energy channeled into combating this horrendous practice unfortunately continues to be absorbed by the ongoing debate over consent, *i.e.*, can an individual consent to facilitated migration into situations of sexual exploitation? Some argue for an irrefutable presumption of invalidity to any agreement to engage in prostitution and other forms of sex work, based on the exploitative nature of the job. Others support this stance by viewing agreements to work as a sex provider as the result of economic coercion or abuse of the economic vulnerability of the individual. Those who stand on the opposing side of the debate believe that women can voluntarily agree to be sex workers and that their choice should be recognized.

Unlike the case with women, consensus does exist as to the inability of a minor to give valid consent to sexual exploitation. Even this certainty, however, is loosened by the differing ages of majority and social conceptions of when a child becomes an adult around the world.

Many governments are reluctant to acknowledge the existence of sexual servitude and trafficking in their countries. Other nations avoid the subject so as not to embarrass countries where the practice is significant, yet untreated. In countries where prostitution is legal or tolerated, sex trafficking is hidden by a pervasive assumption that all prostitution is consensual sex for money. As a result, sexual servitude is given the appearance of legitimacy.

A lack of concerted attention and response to trafficking around the world has occurred for several reasons. Among them are the following:

First, victims rarely denounce traffickers. Trafficked persons are held in locations far from any support networks, often have identification papers and travel documents withheld, and may be threatened by their keepers. In addition, traffickers have power over their victims because in many instances they are from the same country of origin and have the capability of harming members of the victim's family.

Second, the trafficked women and children often are from the lowest economic and social strata of their societies and their families have neither the economic nor the political capability of bringing about pressure on public authorities to try to save their loved ones from this terrible fate. In some societies, it is in fact poverty that drives families to sell their children into what they frequently believe are legitimate jobs.

Third, national laws, policies, and practices have engendered a series of disincentives against aggressively combating trafficking. Most national criminal laws are inadequate to deal with this contemporary phenomenon. Even when such laws are sufficient, policy considerations make it difficult to reach the traffickers, exploiters, and pimps. Law

enforcement and prosecutorial authorities in most countries place prostitution at the lowest end of their enforcement priorities. Corruption of law enforcement and immigration officials also contributes to the lack of investigation and prosecution. Furthermore, many of these victims may be in need of medical and social services which states are reluctant to provide.

Finally, economic, racial, and gender prejudices are the unarticulated premise for the neglectful way in which national laws and policies respond to this widespread criminal phenomenon. This is particularly true in developing and least developed countries, where women and children are generally the weakest elements of the society.

Whether as a result of desperate economic conditions or in the hope of acquiring better ones, women and children are deceived into believing that offers of work in another country are legitimate. The lure of a relatively well paying job in a foreign country which does not require language or other skills, such as domestic help, is enough to lead many unsuspecting women and children into the hands of recruiters and traffickers.

No matter how these women and children are recruited, they find themselves transported across borders into countries that they do not know, where they have no support or contacts and, in most cases, whose language they do not speak. They are then forced into sexual servitude in places such as brothels, bars and massage parlors, from which most of them cannot leave. Their exploiters beat them, mistreat them, and decide what type of sexual services they are to perform and the manner they are to perform them. They provide for their dress, food, sleeping hours, and everything else that touches their lives. These costs usually are charged to the trafficked woman or child, further increasing their debt to their exploiters. Brothel or bar owners determine if, when, and what type of medical treatment they will receive in case of illness, venereal disease, and pregnancy. Owners also sell them to other sexual exploiters. In most cases, these women and children can never break out of their bondage. A common practice of traffickers is to addict these victims to drugs as a way of subduing them and they then use their drug dependency to make them perform. In short, the hope and promise of a legitimate job turns into an abhorrent form of modern slavery.

Sometimes, these women and children rebel, either before entering into the cycle of bondage or during its course. If they do rebel, they may be subjected by their captors to severe beatings and such terrorizing acts as rapes involving additional physical torture. If resistance continues and the victim is killed, there is no one to question it; they are considered to be disposable human beings.

Exploiters benefit from almost total impunity. Victims have no one to turn to for help. Law enforcement officials frequently act in collusion with traffickers and exploiters. Even if a victim succeeds in escape, the agents from which she seeks protection often return her to her captors. The resulting despondency and despair is beyond description.

The absence of empirical data has allowed governments to deny this criminal phenomenon and systematic human rights violation. The United States is among the few countries that have taken ambitious steps toward eradicating trafficking of all forms within its borders. After a CIA report estimated that 50,000 women were illegally trafficked into the United States for sexual exploitation, Congress reacted with new legislation designed to penalize traffickers, protect victims and prevent future trafficking activity. The resulting Trafficking Victims Protection Act was signed into law in 2000. As a result, the U.S. Department of State has established a new office staffed by experts to monitor this activity abroad and develop means to combat it. In June 2002, the State Department issued its second annual report on trafficking in persons around the world. These and similar efforts should be fully supported through proper funding and staffing and encouraged as models for other nations.

In December 2000, the United Nations adopted an international convention against organized crime that includes a Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children. Addressing all forms of trafficking in persons, including for sexual exploitation, forced labor and organ removal, the Protocol is the most comprehensive international instrument to date. Despite its restricted applicability to trafficking of a transnational nature that involved an organized criminal group, it will be a valuable tool in the campaign against this exploitative practice. Unfortunately, neither the Convention nor the Protocol is in force. To date, only sixteen nations have ratified the Convention and thirteen nations have ratified the Protocol out of the forty ratifications needed to bring the Convention into effect.

Other conventions dealing with slavery, slave-related practices, traffic of persons, and international exploitation of prostitution have proven inadequate. A telling sign is that only twenty five percent of the world's countries have ratified the 1949 Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others.

The United Nations, European Union and European Parliament have expressed concern, as have a number of governments, and it has engendered an increased interest in combating this worldwide phenomenon. This attention should incorporate programs to more fully document the realities of trafficking. Empirical data will make it impossible for governments to avoid facing this criminal phenomenon and the terrible toll it takes on the lives and dignity of the world's most vulnerable people – women and children. Only a surge of public indignation by civil society can lead to putting an end to this cruel form of modern human slavery.

I. INTRODUCTION: TRAFFICKING IN THE AMERICAS

Trafficking is a worldwide phenomenon. While existing studies provide insights into the general characteristics of this problem, this study seeks to move beyond the general to the specific. In the presentation of findings, we have attempted to burrow down from the

global to the regional and the individual state. Focusing upon a specific geographical region, as is done here, and particular countries within that region reveals the dynamic interplay between law and practice, which shares and at times tolerates this abhorrent practice.

The trafficking of women and children for commercial sexual exploitation is not a new phenomenon to the Americas. In the wake of World War I, the League of Nations embarked on a three-year investigation of trafficking in women around the world. They concluded that "Latin America is the traffic market of the world…."[1] Markets have shifted over time, moving the trafficking trade through different regions, but the practice is well entrenched and remains a significant problem in the hemisphere.

Despite its long history in the region, trafficking in persons has failed to receive government attention or be the subject of coordinated action toward its eradication. The international community's early efforts to curb trafficking in women for the purposes of prostitution through the passage of the Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others (1949) passed largely without notice in or participation of the Latin American and Caribbean states. Of the eight countries included in this report, only Honduras has ratified the Convention.

The failure of governments in the region to acknowledge and/or respond to trafficking activity has resulted in its near invisibility in policy, official records, and state action. None of the countries included in the study have mechanisms in place that permit trafficking activity to be accurately registered. This absence of record has fortified a willful ignorance of reality; policy priorities have followed the belief that "if not seen, it does not exist" ("*si no lo veo, no existe*").

This study undertakes to break the cycle of inaction, especially in light of the availability of new strategies to combat trafficking developed by the international community in partnership with human rights organizations in other areas of the world. It is an explorative work, with conclusions based on documentary research and extensive interviews with government authorities, international organizations, non-governmental organizations, independent experts, and individuals involved in the trafficking sphere.

The report begins with an introduction to the study and its methodology in Part II. Part III examines the definitions and the conceptual framework used in the elaboration of investigation and analysis. Part IV offers a socio-economic profile of the region and the general patterns of migration through the territory, whose characteristics in many ways inform current trafficking activity. Part V provides an overview of the characteristics of trafficking in women and children for purposes of sexual exploitation in the expanded Central American region. Trafficking routes, risk factors, root causes, conditions and consequences are all explored. International commitments, national policies and relevant

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[1] H. WILSON HARRIS, HUMAN MERCHANDISE: A STUDY OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRAFFIC IN WOMEN 187 (1928).

domestic legislation are analyzed in Part VI together with the identified weaknesses that will be major obstacles in effectively combating trafficking in the region. Conclusions and recommendations are presented in Parts VII and VIII. In-depth country analyses are annexed to the report, which contain more detailed information about the nature of trafficking in each country, responsible institutions and civil society actions.

II. THE TRAFFICKING PROJECT

Since 1998, the International Human Rights Law Institute (IHRLI) of DePaul University College of Law has monitored the rapidly growing problem of trafficking of women and children for purposes of commercial sexual exploitation. Preliminary studies revealed a surprising paucity of reliable and comprehensive data available on the trafficking phenomenon, despite increasing international attention to the subject. In response to this deficiency, IHRLI partnered with the Organization of American States to develop a research initiative aimed at providing governments, regional bodies, organizations and advocates with the information necessary to create concrete action plans to combat trafficking and its effects worldwide (the Trafficking Project). The Americas study is being conducted with the Inter-American Commission of Women (*Comisión Interamericana de Mujeres*: CIM) and the Inter-American Children's Institute (*Instituto Interamericano del Niño*: IIN) of the Organization of American States (OAS).

The Trafficking Project sought information from government institutions, civil society organizations, academic institutions and individuals directly involved and impacted by trafficking practices in order to present a social, economic, political and legal analysis of trafficking of women and children for commercial sexual exploitation. Thematically, the study explores two distinct human rights concerns: first, the trafficking of women and children; and second, commercial sexual exploitation. The broader categories of trafficking in persons and commercial sexual exploitation (prostitution, pornography, sex tourism, etc.) have been the subject of recent international scrutiny and legislation, and many organizations have dedicated efforts toward looking at the problems individually. IHRLI and its OAS partners, however, decided to adopt a combined focus due to the interrelated nature of these problems.

In April 2000, after IHRLI had conducted an extensive review and analysis of relevant laws, treaties and governmental and UN reports relating to trafficking, IHRLI and the Inter-American Commission of Women hosted a consultation of experts to examine the issue of trafficking in the Americas and to solicit recommendations on a proposed project methodology. Participants included U.S. government representatives, experts from non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and international organizations, and officials from OAS agencies and missions. With contributions from this meeting, a pilot project was developed to study nine countries: Brazil and an extended Central American sub-region (Belize, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama). The project was designed to assess the existence of sex trafficking in Latin America and the

Caribbean, to survey existing programs and policies responsive to the problem, and to identify local and regional needs to formulate effective strategies to combat the problem.

A. Methodology

The Trafficking Project has included four key elements: (1) collaboration with counterpart organizations in each participating country; (2) initiation of public debate on the issue of trafficking through a National Consultation in each participating country; (3) general assessment of the trafficking of women and children for sexual exploitation; and (4) use of the study's findings and conclusions to recommend concrete measures at regional and national levels to respond to trafficking. In actual project implementation, Brazil and the expanded Central American region were separated. This report presents the results of the study in Central America and the Dominican Republic only.

Between March and May 2001, National Consultations were held in each participating country to introduce the project, conceptualize and discuss terms, identify possible sources of information, and raise public awareness on the issue of trafficking of women and children for sexual exploitation. These meetings included the participation of national NGOs, state agencies, international organizations, academics and the media.

Following the National Consultations, organizational partners in each country except Belize initiated a nine-month period of investigation on the trafficking of women and children for sexual exploitation in each of their countries. Counterparts collected all available written materials on trafficking and its related issues, including relevant legislation and media coverage. In addition, investigators sought information from representatives of government institutions, NGOs, academics and others who might have pertinent information. Interviews were based on a common questionnaire developed for the Trafficking Project.[2]

A second period of investigation was conducted from February 4-13, 2002 and from April 7 – June 14, 2002 through country visits by researchers from the International Human Rights Law Institute of DePaul University and the Inter-American Commission of Women of the Organization of American States. Between four and ten days were spent in each country, during which researchers met with a wide range of government actors (police and immigration officials, judges, prosecutors, offices of the ombudsman, institutions of child welfare and women's issues, ministries of labor and health, legislatures, and foreign consulates); NGOs working in the field; and international organizations such as UNICEF, the International Labor Organization, International Organization on Migration, INTERPOL, and Save the Children. Where possible, researchers visited areas most affected by trafficking such as border points and locations of recruitment and exploitation.

The study in the expanded Central American region aimed to assess trafficking in the region based on reliable information and data. However, the collection of accurate data

[2] Attached at Annex B.

posed a great challenge to researchers. First, as a result of the violence, abuse, coercion, trauma and stigma associated with trafficking, victims are inclined to maintain their silence - as is common for most victims of gross human rights violations. Institutional disincentives such as policies that criminalize rather than protect victims and judicial proceedings that tend to revictimize the trafficked person remain in place, which further encourage the silence. Second, public denouncements by social and political leaders are rare. As a social taboo, the sex industry is kept veiled. Equally so, cultural norms including notions of sexuality and gender foster an acceptance of the sexual exploitation in trafficking. These elements together ensure that knowledge of trafficking activity remains anecdotal. Third, as is the nature of the black market, essential information is guarded. Traffickers work ahead of law enforcement, whose investigative capacities are extremely limited by human, technical and financial constraints. Corrupt police, immigration, other public functionaries and the more powerful sectors of communities who in certain locations have been shown to be involved in the trade also protect information. Finally, the scant data that reaches government offices is often lost in poor and inadequate management and coordination systems.

The most reliable and consistent information available to researchers was from consulates, who often directly intervene in cases of international trafficking affecting their nationals, and health service providers – both government and non-governmental – who have regular access to and contact with individuals in the commercial sex industry, including trafficked persons and traffickers. Even these sources admit that they cannot offer a complete picture of the problem. In general, consulates see only those individuals who have escaped their trafficking experience; health officers, for their part, attend to only the most visible populations who work in streets, parks, markets, relatively open bars and other establishments. From all indications, the sector that includes the greatest number of trafficking cases – women and minors who are trapped and/or are forced to remain undetected – is the least accessible.

This study seeks to examine key features of trafficking for sexual exploitation in the region. These include: root causes and vulnerabilities, trafficking networks, routes, existing responses by government institutions and civil society, and applicable domestic and international legislation. While the government and civil society responses to trafficking have been minimal, researchers encountered a keen interest and willingness from both these groups to participate in formulating and implementing eradication strategies. Many of the proposals offered by interviewees are reflected in the regional and country-specific recommendations. This research initiative was a first step in bringing to light the brutal realities of sex trafficking in Central America and the Caribbean. More targeted research remains necessary to strengthen and complete our understanding of this modern practice in slavery.

III. DEFINITIONS AND KEY CONCEPTS

It is widely agreed in principle that trafficking in persons is a crime and a human rights violation. Further delineating its elements, however, has and continues to pose challenges to researchers, advocates and government actors. The long history of combating trafficking, especially for purposes of sexual exploitation, has been marked by an absence of unified understanding of the issue. The consultations that initiated research in the region made clear that a common view regarding trafficking does not yet exist.

Recent actions at the international level, however, have brought us closer than ever to a baseline definition. In December 2000, a UN Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, Supplementing the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime was adopted, which for the first time supplied a definition of the trafficking phenomena.[3] This definition suffers limitations, but does assist in identifying the core characteristics of trafficking.

As a basic framework, this study adopts the UN Trafficking Protocol's general definition, which identifies trafficking as:

> the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation.
>
> Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation ….[4]

The UN Trafficking Protocol imposes several requirements that were modified for the purposes of this study. Recognizing that trafficking can and does occur within a country's borders, cases and circumstances of internal trafficking were considered to be within the scope of the project. Further, researchers and investigators examined trafficking activity regardless of the number or nature of traffickers identified as participants.[5]

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[3] Not yet in force. Hereinafter "UN Trafficking Protocol."

[4] UN Trafficking Protocol (2000), art. 3(a).

[5] The UN Trafficking Protocol only applies to acts perpetrated by an organized criminal group, which under the Convention means "a structured group of three or more persons, existing for a period of time and acting in concert with the aim of committing one or more serious crimes or offences established in accordance with this Convention, in order to obtain, directly or indirectly, a financial or other material benefit." UN Convention on Transnational Organized Crime (2000), art. 2(a).

The study was designed to examine trafficking for purposes of commercial sexual exploitation as it affects both women and minors (female and male). Because of the qualitative differences between these populations and the separate legal regimes and protection policies to which each is subject, it was necessary to formulate further qualifications to the definition of sex trafficking relative to each group.

A. Women

Issues of agency and consent have complicated a clear definition of the trafficking for sexual exploitation of adult women. A central inquiry is under what circumstances, if any, can a woman migrate into a position in the commercial sex industry without being trafficked.

The UN Trafficking Protocol sets out that "the consent of a victim of trafficking in persons to the intended exploitation … shall be irrelevant where [the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability[6] or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person] have been used."[7] While exploitation includes "exploitation of the prostitution of others" and "sexual exploitation," neither of these terms is defined. This leaves open the possibility that non-coerced sex work should be included under the rubric of "sexual exploitation," but does not mandate it.

In all of the countries under study, adult prostitution and other commercial sexual activities are legal. Respectful of the existing legal framework, the study used a definition of "sexual exploitation" limited to circumstances where the individual participated in prostitution, the production of pornographic materials or other remunerated sexual activities as a result or due to the Protocol-defined means of threats, force, coercion, abduction, fraud, deception, abuse of power or position of vulnerability, or the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person. This definition includes situations where debt bondage, threats of exposure to deportation, arrest or other punishment, and other control mechanisms are used against women to prohibit their leaving.

B. Children

The definitional issues regarding child trafficking are different from those related to adult women. Specifically, following the UN Trafficking Protocol and basic human rights standards, the issue of consent for minors engaged in commercial sexual activities is always

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[6] "The *travaux preparatoires* should indicate that the reference to the abuse of a position of vulnerability is understood to refer to any situation in which the person involved has no real and acceptable alternative but to submit to the abuse involved." Interpretative Notes, UN. Doc. A/55/383/Add.1, para. 63 (2000).

[7] UN Trafficking Protocol (2000), art. 3(b).

irrelevant.[8] Instead, the questions relate to the nature of the prohibited act (*e.g*. sexual exploitation) and status.

First, the international community has outlined several basic norms that help shape an understanding of commercial sexual exploitation. In 1996 and 2001, UNICEF, in partnership with other organizations, hosted the First and Second World Congresses against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children. The general definition of commercial sexual exploitation adopted in the Declaration and Action for Agenda of the World Congress Against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (1996) states:

> The commercial sexual exploitation of children is a fundamental violation of children's rights. It compromises sexual abuse by the adult and remuneration in cash or kind to the child or a third person or persons. The child is treated as a sexual object and as a commercial object. The commercial sexual exploitation of children constitutes a form of coercion and violence against children, and amounts to forced labor and a contemporary form of slavery.

Accordingly, the study examined all circumstances of "recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt" of children for prostitution, the production of pornographic materials, or other commercial sexual activities (stripping, table dancing, "barra show," etc.).

Second, determining whether or not an individual is a "child" or minor arises as a significant concern. Variations exist within the region as to when a child comes of age. Thus, in some counties, a child over the age of twelve or fourteen is considered an adult whereas in other countries anyone under 18 is considered a minor. For purposes of this study, researchers considered a child to be any person less than eighteen years of age, consistent with the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and the UN Trafficking Protocol.[9]

[For the Spanish version: The proper term in the Spanish language for "trafficking" itself is in subject to discussion. With the advent of the UN Trafficking Protocol, international organizations have encouraged the adoption of the term "trata de personas" to clearly distinguish this activity from "trafico ilicito de personas," which does not involve an element of coersion or deceit. For the sake of consistency in the project, this study still uses the term "trafico." When discussing illegal migration, the study will be clear and so designate by using "trafico ilicito de migrantes."]

IV. SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONTEXT: POVERTY AND MIGRATION

The trafficking of women and children detected in the region occurs within the context of larger migration movements and economic struggle. These characteristics form

[8] UN Trafficking Protocol (2000), art. 3(c).
[9] UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (1990), art. 1; UN Trafficking Protocol (2000), art. 3(d).

an important backdrop to trafficking activity, as they affect the supply of women and children, the demand for available sexual services, and the quality of the government response.

A. Status of Development

Central America is easily considered a single territory. The countries, which share numerous economic, historical, social and political characteristics, enjoy a variety of regional inter-governmental bodies and forums, and since the early 1990s have been negotiating toward economic and trade integration. Within the hemisphere, it is one of the more impoverished regions; over 70% of the region's population is below the poverty line.[10] These longstanding economic woes were exacerbated by the recent natural disasters of Hurricane Mitch in 1998 that significantly impacted Nicaragua and Honduras and earthquakes in El Salvador in 2001.

Women in particular face enormous challenges, as more and more they assume sole responsibility for families. From 1988 to1999, in Costa Rica, the percentage of women as head of the house increased from 19.3% to 27.9%. During the same time period in Honduras, the number of women increased from 27.9% to 30.3%. From 1991 to 1998 in Panama, the percentage of women as heads of a household increased from 26.0% to 30.6%. In 1997, women headed 30.2% of the houses in El Salvador. In that same year in Nicaragua, the percentage was 36.6% and in the Dominican Republic it was 31.4%. In 1999 in Guatemala, women ran 24.3% of the households. [11]

With this increased responsibility, women are seeking jobs and active earning lives. In all eight countries of the region, the participation rates for women have risen steadily since 1995 and are projected to continue along the same incline.[12] Despite these developments, women continue to participate less in the marketplace and earn far less than their male counterparts.

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[10] Luis Solis and Patricia Solano, *Central America: The Difficult Road Towards Integration and the Role of Canada*, FOCAL POLICY PAPER (May 2001) <http://www.focal.ca/summary/summary_central.htm>.
[11] COMISIÓN ECONÓMICA PARA AMÉRICA LATINA Y EL CARIBE (CEPAL), STATISTICAL YEARBOOK FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN 2001 58 (2002).
[12] *See id*.

Table 1
Economic Participation Rates and Earned Income for Women and Men

Country	Male Economic Participation Rates (%)	Female Economic Participation Rates (%)	Estimated Earned Income for Males (US$)	Estimated Earned Income for Females (US$)
Belize	N/A	N/A	7,972	1,858
Costa Rica	72.9	28.9	13,080	4,518
Dominican Republic	76.4	37.3	8,133	2,794
El Salvador	71.6	31.5	6,363	2,399
Guatemala	70.2	23.5	5,622	1,691
Honduras	77.0	27.6	3,462	1,202
Nicaragua	72.1	37.0	3,231	1,338
Panama	68.1	33.6	7,892	3,821

Source: Comisión Económica para América Latina y el Caribe (CEPAL), Statistical Yearbook for Latin America and the Caribbean 2001 (2002). Participation rates are for the year 2000. Earning based on non-agricultural wages for 1999.

Girls, too, struggle against lower earnings potential as a significant number assume roles of caretaker at early ages. Teenage birth rates throughout the region are high:

Table 2
Birth Rates in Adolescent Girls[13]

Country	Births per 1,000 women aged 15-19
Belize	79
Costa Rica	81
Dominican Republic	93
El Salvador	87
Guatemala	111
Honduras	103
Nicaragua	138
Panama	75

Source: UNFPA, State of World Population 2001.

[13] The global average was 50 births per 1000 women; in less developed regions the average was 54 births, and for least developed countries averages were 127 births.

Women and girls in the region continue to be impacted by reduced educational opportunities and job access.

Table 3
Development Indicators

Country	Belize	Costa Rica	Dominican Republic	El Salvador	Guatemala	Honduras	Nicaragua	Panama
GNP per capita (in US $)	2850	3570	1950	1910	1680	780	390	3060
Total population (millions)	0.2	3.7	8.2	6.2	11.1	6.3	4.9	2.8
% Female	49.5	49.9	49.2	50.9	49.6	49.7	50.3	49.5
Female Primary enrollment rate (%)	99	89	88	87	80	N/A	78	N/A
Youth illiteracy (male) (% aged 15-24)	3	2	10	11	15	18	29	3
Youth illiteracy (female)	2	1	8	13	28	16	28	4
Female labor (%)	24	31	30	36	28	31	35	35
Female unemployment	20.3	8.2	28.6	6	N/A	3.8	14.5	16.9

Source: World Bank, Statistics for 1999.

B. Migration Flows

In the last ten years, Central American nations have experienced migration phenomena at all levels. A rural to urban transfer has largely resulted from a weakening agricultural sector and the move to larger cities in search of work. Intra-regional migration patterns also emerged. Nicaraguans flowed in significant number to Costa Rica such that currently, some eight percent of the population of Costa Rica is comprised of Nicaraguan nationals. [14] The temporary and permanent movement from El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala into Belize has also been recorded. The figures from the 2000 census in Belize show that the foreign-born population in the country (just under 14% of the total population) is comprised of Guatemalans (42.5%), Salvadorans (17.6%) and Hondurans (14%).[15]

[14] STATE OF THE NATION PROJECT, A BINATIONAL STUDY: THE STATE OF MIGRATION FLOWS BETWEEN COSTA RICA AND NICARAGUA 11 (2001).

[15] BELIZE CENTRAL STATISTICS OFFICE, POPULATION CENSUS 2000: MAJOR FINDINGS (2001).

Finally, migration outside the region to Mexico, the United States and Canada has also increased.

The strongest and most visible migration in the region is to the United States. Movement of all kinds occurs alongside the land route north. Some of the more obvious migrations include the following:

- Nicaragua has experienced significant emigration, with its citizens destined for Costa Rica and points north (Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico and the United States). The migration is both legal and illegal. Nicaraguans have constituted roughly 3% of the Central Americans apprehended by immigration authorities along the southwest border of the United States from 1999-2001.[16]

- Migration from Honduras flows to Belize, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico and the United States. Belize and Guatemala host many Hondurans as temporary agriculture workers. In addition, it is estimated that 108,000 Hondurans transit through Guatemala annually.[17] Hondurans comprised 36% of all border apprehensions in Mexico in 1999[18] and 46% of the Central Americans apprehended by immigration authorities along the southwest border of the United States from 1999-2001.[19]

- Salvadorans migrate to Guatemala as temporary agricultural laborers. They also use Guatemala as a transit point into Mexico and the United States. An estimated 36,000 Salvadorans passed through Guatemala in 2001.[20] Salvadorans comprised 19% of all border apprehensions in Mexico in 1999[21] and 32% of the Central Americans apprehended by immigration authorities along the southwest border of the United States from 1999-2001.[22] Migration to Belize also occurs.

- Guatemala sends between 100 and 120 thousand temporary agricultural workers into Mexico a year. In addition, many Guatemalans attempt to cross into Mexico illegally and are likely to continue to the United States. Guatemalans comprised 43% of all border apprehensions in Mexico in 1999[23] and 19% of the Central Americans apprehended by immigration authorities along the southwest border of

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[16] UNITED STATES IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE, MONTHLY STATISTICAL REPORT (1999-2001) < http://www.ins.gov/graphics/aboutins/statistics/workload.htm#monthly>.
[17] MINISTRY OF PUBLIC HEALTH, GUATEMALAN SOCIAL SECURITY INSTITUTE, AND OPS-OMS, VII REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON MIGRATION (2002).
[18] ELENA AZAOLA, BOY AND GIRL VICTIMS OF SEXUAL EXPLOITATION IN MEXICO 69 (2000).
[19] U.S. INS, *supra* note 21.
[20] MINISTRY OF PUBLIC HEALTH, *supra* note 22.
[21] AZAOLA, *supra* note 23.
[22] U.S. INS, *supra* note 21.
[23] AZAOLA, *supra* note 23.

the United States from 1999-2001.[24] Guatemalan migration has also been registered to Belize.

Table 4
General Migration Flows in Central America

Country	Nicaragua	Honduras	El Salvador	Guatemala	Belize	Mexico	United States
Nationals of Nicaragua		Transit	Transit	Transit Destination	Destination	Transit	Destination
Nationals of Honduras			Transit	Transit Destination	Destination	Transit	Destination
Nationals of El Salvador	Transit	Transit		Transit Destination	Destination	Transit	Destination
Nationals of Guatemala					Destination	Destination	Destination

The Central American Commission of Migration Directorates estimated the Central American migrant population to be nearly five million.[25] The income generated through these migrants has developed into an important source of wealth for the Central American countries. Remittances, which have increased consistently over the last ten years, now contribute a significant amount to the region's resources:

Table 5
Remittances

Country	Remittance (in millions)	As % of GNP
El Salvador	$1,920	17
Nicaragua	$610	22
Guatemala	$584	3.1
Honduras	$460	7.5
DR	$1,807	10

Source: Manuel Orozco, Inter-American Dialogue "Remittances to Latin America and its Effect on Development"

Much of the regional and international migration is illegal. For unskilled workers, including many women and adolescents, few legal migration opportunities exist, forcing

[24] U.S. INS, *supra* note 21.
[25] STATE OF THE NATION PROJECT, *supra* note 19.

them to explore illicit means of transportation.[26] Family reunification is also being conducted outside the law, with undocumented immigrants in destination countries lacking legal means to bring their spouse and children into their country of illegal residence.

Women in Migration

Women's participation in migration flows is increasing. A recent survey of individuals in the process of migration in Central American countries reported female participation ranging from 10% in Guatemala to 43% in the Dominican Republic.[27] This so-called "feminization of migration" includes young single women and women with primary earning responsibility. Motives include reunification with family members abroad and the search for job opportunities.

More so than any other country within the region, the Dominican Republic has a unique and longstanding history of female migration. Academics have identified three significant period of female migration from the Dominican Republic since the 1960s:[28]

- Between 1961 and 1973, women participating in migration toward the United States, principally motivated by domestic political strife.
- From 1974 to 1984, women began to move to other destinations.
- Since 1985, female migration has been directed toward Europe, provoked by economic crisis and decreased opportunities to migrate to the United States due to changes in immigration policy and legislation. Spain has been the most frequent destination.

According to various studies, women account for approximately 60% of the migration flow from the Dominican Republic.

Children in Migration

A recent study on child migrants in the countries of Central America, the Dominican Republic, Mexico, the United States and Canada, concluded that the number of unaccompanied children in the migration process is increasing, with a growing percentage of girl children.[29] While most of these movements are under family unification programs, many are adolescents moving independently.

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[26] Only one formal temporary work program was identified in the region to which women had access. The Dominican Republic and Spain recently established the program offering temporary work visas to qualifying Dominicans for employment as domestic laborers in Spain.

[27] FLACSO, SEGUIMIENTO A LA VIOLACION DE LOS DERECHOS HUMANOS Y SITUACIONES DE RIESGO QUE VIVE LA POBLACION MIGRANTE (preliminary results) (2002).

[28] GINA GALLARDO RIVAS, TRAFICO DE MUJERES Y EXPLOTACION SEXUAL EN LA AGENDA PUBLICA DOMINICANA (1999).

[29] ACTION CANADA FOR POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT, MENORES MIGRANTES: DERECHOS HUMANOS, PROTECCION Y SERVICIOS EN LOS PAISES MIEMBROS DE LA CONFERENCIA REGIONAL SOBRE MIGRACION, RESUMEN EJECUTIVO (2002).

V. SEX TRAFFICKING IN THE REGION

Trafficking of women and children for commercial sexual exploitation in Central America and the Caribbean is an undeniable reality that is occurring within and without national borders. The following overview will explore the most essential features of the practice.

A. Risk Factors

Relating to the Individual

Throughout the region, sources point to the same bundle of individual factors that contribute to making certain persons vulnerable to trafficking and sexual exploitation. None of these factors are determinative, but their existence in a field littered with demand for commercial sexual services and criminal networks functioning with impunity increases the risk of individuals falling into a trafficking cycle. Studies in other regions of the world have also identified these elements as contributing to trafficking; their degree of intensity in Central America and the Caribbean contribute to the level of trafficking activity that occurs.

For women, the pursuit of the basic needs of food, clothing and shelter and the lack of employment alternatives at home are primary elements contributing to their vulnerability. Compounding economic need are other factors such as primary responsibility for children, illiteracy or minimal education, and lack of training or technical skills. A history of physical or sexual abuse also appeared to contribute to a risk of being trafficked.

The economic and educational factors are clearly illustrated on a macro-level. Just within the region, source countries (Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua) suffer from the lowest GNP relative to the destination points for their nationals (Costa Rica, Panama and Belize). Comparatively, countries of origin also face the highest youth illiteracy rates and the lowest female primary school entrance rates.

Many of the individual researchers consulted commented on the need for real employment alternatives to reduce the risk of women being trafficked and, especially, retrafficked. Victims of sex trafficking are being paid, and while the level is poor, in many cases it remains significantly higher than other options. Where female labor training programs do exist, they have focused on beautician skills, sewing and cooking. Most advocates reported that these programs are largely ineffective.

In 1995, a study on adult prostitution in Panama concluded that "the lack of housing, unemployment and economic reasons were the most common causes among those interviewed, representing 42.5% of the total. Another important indicator is the corruptive influence that the [sex worker] was a victim to by friends, neighbors or familiar persons, reflecting 26%; family disintegration and abandonment also were part of the principal causes of her current lifestyle, registering 22% and 16% respectively. Sexual abuses were other diversion motives, but to a lesser extent, with 12%."[30]

For children, issues related to sexual abuse, physical abuse, family disintegration, school abandonment, teenage pregnancy, homelessness, gang participation and drug use appeared to combine with economic need (of the child and of his/her caretakers) to create a risk of being trafficked. Homosexuality, transvestisism and transexuality among males are also significant risk factors.

Unfortunately, the vast majority of these issues remain unattended. Child abuse and family disintegration are under-prioritized areas in government attention. Legal sanction and protection measures are generally ineffective and social services for victims are nascent. In several of the countries studied, complaints about the exceedingly poor functioning of child welfare agencies were common. Immediate protection measures for children were often unavailable due to limited working hours and the absence of 24-hour shelters; counseling and rehabilitation programs are ill equipped and understaffed; and treatment is often generalized without considering the particular needs of the child.

The majority of young women in prostitution in Guatemala had been sexually abused by family members with their first sexual contact occurring between the ages of 8 and 11.[31]

In Honduras, a survey of 100 children being sexually exploited showed that 42% had their first sexual relations between 12 and 13. 50% of the children in the study were victims of sexual violence between 10 and 13 years old.[32]

A sample of 166 women and minors in prostitution in Belize revealed that the majority had their first sexual experience between the ages of 13 and 15.[33]

A study in Panama focused on child victims of child sexual exploitation showed that "around 50% of interviewees fled their homes, due to different abuses."[34]

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[30] GREGORIO VILLARREAL V., ANÁLISIS SOCIO-JURÍDICO Y CRIMINOLÓGICO DE LA PROSTITUCIÓN (1995).
[31] TERRE DES HOMMES, CENTRAL AMERICA: CHILD TRAFFICKING IN GUATEMALA, EL SALVADOR AND NICARAGUA (2000).
[32] UNICEF, LA EXPLOTACIÓN SEXUAL INFANTIL EN SAN PEDRO SULA (1999).
[33] NCFC/UNICEF, STUDY ON THE SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN SEX PROVIDERS (2001) (unpublished manuscript on file with IHRLI).

In Costa Rica, a recent survey of 100 children in situations of sexual exploitation indicated that 55% of girls interviewed in the capital San Jose and 50% of girls in the port city of Limon were victims of sexual abuse prior to the age of twelve.[35]

Relating to Outside Circumstances

Numerous external conditions appear to contribute to an environment conducive to sex trafficking activity. Interviewees commonly mentioned the existence of gender discrimination, prevalent attitudes which objectify children, weak immigration controls and more opportunities to migrate, corruption and the impact of globalization policies. The demand for sexual services and the existence of trafficking networks are elements that will be explored later.

Trafficking and migration

Traffickers are keenly aware of the immigration policies, legislation, and practices, often operating through legal processes for illicit purposes. Police and immigration authorities, who function jointly along international borders in the region, recognize that sex trafficking occurs. In interviews, authorities pointed to several obstacles that inhibit their capacity to combat trafficking, including the existence of vast unmonitored border areas, lack of adequate personnel, lack of computerization or efficient information sharing systems, lack of specialized training, and corruption.

Many individuals consulted also mentioned the CA-4 Plan as a contributing factor to the rise in trafficking activity. This agreement revolutionized movement between its participating states: Nicaragua, Honduras, El Salvador and Guatemala. Under the plan, an adult national of any of the four countries can remain in one of the other countries for a period of 90 days before having to depart or seek permission to remain. A simple identification card, rather than a passport, is used to pass across borders. For intra-regional trafficking, this liberalized movement allows traffickers and their victims to travel undetected.

Trafficking and globalization

Many experts have linked the liberalization of markets and the World Trade Organization, World Bank and Inter-American Development Bank structural adjustment strategies with an erosion of human rights guarantees. Globalization has also been noted as a contributing cause of trafficking in persons. In 2001, the UN Secretary-General requested information on globalization and its impact on the enjoyment of human rights from Member

[34] ENRIQUETA DAVIS, EXPLOTACIÓN SEXUAL COMERCIAL DE NIÑOS, NINAS Y ADOLESCENTES EN PANAMÁ (2001).
[35] MARIA CECILIA CLARAMUNT, COSTA RICA – EXPLOTACION SEXUAL COMERCIAL DE PERSONAS MENORES DE EDAD: UNA EVALUACION RAPIDA (2002).

States. The solicitation included a question on the perceived relationship, if any, between "processes of globalization and negative aspects of international trade such as trafficking in people, arms and the increase in international crime." Of the countries under study, only Costa Rica responded, stating that

> …[G]lobalization has encouraged trafficking in people and arms and has led to an increase in international crime and drug trafficking in particular. These new illicit activities are further facilitated by new technologies and modern means of communication. However, these technologies should also be used to combat them.[36]

The Government also responded that "[g]lobalization of the economy should be followed by globalization of genuine human rights. If globalization is to promote dignity and human rights and itself become consolidated and permanent, people must be at the center of the effort, and their social, legal and cultural rights must be guaranteed."[37]

Table 6
Risk Factors Contributing to Sex Trafficking

Individual factors	Outside factors
• Poverty (self or family/guardians) • Lack of economic alternatives • Dependents (children) • Illiteracy / minimal education • Physical or sexual abuse • Family dissolution • Homelessness • Drug use • Gang membership • Sexual orientation	• Gender discrimination • Objectification of children • Ease of migration (CA-4) / weak border controls • Globalization policies • Public corruption • Existence of trafficking networks • Existence of demand (prostitution/stripping/sex tourism)

B. Forms of Trafficking: Entering the Cycle

Recruiting strategies and entrance into sex trafficking appears in numerous forms throughout the region. The following means of induction were detected:

Deception/False Promise of Employment – This strategy of recruitment of women and adolescents is by far the most common. Known and unknown persons present attractive offers for jobs as waitresses, dancers, bartenders, factory workers (*en maquila*), domestic laborers, and models, among other positions. Adolescents may travel with legitimate

[36] *Globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights, Report of the Secretary General*, UN Doc. A/56/254/Add.1 (Oct. 2, 2001), Paras. 41-42.
[37] *Id*. at para. 45.

parental permission, the families having been victim of the deception as well. This type of trafficking was detected for domestic and international destinations.

Misadventure – Increasingly, women and adolescents in pursuit of employment or adventure will seize opportunities to be transported outside the country. Young women petition for rides with truck drivers traveling north to Mexico and the United States. Migrant smugglers are also used. In both these circumstances, authorities reported that abandonment was frequent. Far from home and lacking finances, many of these women and adolescents are pressed into prostitution. In one case, a bar owner reportedly paid for the release of a young woman in custody for immigration violations, and upon that debt forced the adolescent into prostitution.

Abduction – Reports of children being abducted and trafficked for commercial sexual exploitation were received, although it appears to occur to a lesser extent than other forms.

Gang-related – In Honduras and El Salvador, young women and adolescent gang members were reported to have been trafficked for sexual exploitation in order to raise capital for the gang.

Peer-influenced – Trafficking of children, often homeless, runaways or seeking an escape from a troubled home, occurs as a result of peer recruitment. Such cases appeared to be limited to domestic movement.

Family controlled – A few reports of parents or guardians allowing their children to enter into circumstances of sexual exploitation were reported, but this appears to occur only on a very minor scale. More often, family members who may have been trafficked themselves or are in the sex trade become recruiters for younger relatives. This latter case was particularly evident in the Dominican Republic.

Marriage fraud – In the Dominican Republic, foreign men have been reported to pursue marriages with local women in order to take them abroad for purposes of prostitution.

Visa system – Panama presents atypical circumstances of a state-sponsored migration program for sex workers. This system is commonly abused and participating women are trafficked as a consequence. In most cases, it appears that there is material deception as to the conditions of employment, rather than the nature of the work. While women are recruited under guaranteed contract provisions, none of the terms are met upon arrival. In addition, passports and other travel documents are confiscated and earnings are often withheld.

C. Participants in Trafficking Activity

The forms of trafficking outlined above exist at the hands of a wide variety of actors. Traffickers include known and unknown persons, state and non-state actors. The limited

information available on traffickers and their modus operandi suggests that criminal organizations largely contribute to trafficking, but do not control it all.

Private actors

The networks that facilitate and maintain trafficking for sexual exploitation involve a variety of private sectors, including transportation, tourism, media/communications, entertainment and legal.

- Taxi drivers, rickshaw drivers (*tricicleros*), and truck drivers participate in the movement of women and children to and between places of exploitation. Often, drivers add to the exploitation by forcing sexual favors for their service. They may also be engaged as recruiters, working under agreements with establishment owners, or independently.

- Throughout the region, the media was a noted method of recruitment through classified and radio advertisements. Increasingly, the Internet is being used to support and encourage the demand for commercial sexual services, through web-based tourism operations, sex tourism guides and chat rooms.

- Hotels and motels are often used as "safe houses" for those in a migration process (which may be for the purpose of sexual exploitation) and also support prostitution.

- The legal profession has been implicated in trafficking activities by arranging for false documentation to allow children to travel without parental permission and fixing immigration status in destination countries. In Nicaragua, researchers were told that fifteen attorneys were suspended in 2001 for producing fraudulent documents to allow minors to leave the country. Lawyers have also been tied to trafficking in Panama and Costa Rica, where fraudulent marriages are used to arrange resident status of predominantly Dominican women.

- Owners and managers of the bars, nightclubs and brothels where trafficked women and minors are exploited and pressed into sexual servitude most obviously participate in the trafficking. Owners receive and control the majority of profits from trafficking, money which secures the owner's position in the community and guarantees a certain degree of impunity.

At the moment, the tourism industry and associated transportation services is the only sector beginning to participate in efforts to combat trafficking related to child sex tourism and child prostitution. In Costa Rica, for example, the government tourism institute has launched a campaign against child sexual exploitation in partnership with the Association of Costa Rican Hotels. Several hotels in San Jose also organized a campaign against such behavior, posting public warnings that child sexual exploitation would not be tolerated.

Public actors

In many cases, immigration, police and other public service functionaries aid traffickers. Public participation has been identified in providing fraudulent birth certificates and other documents, arranging for illegal border crossings, and protecting bar and brothel owners from investigation or prosecution.

Immigration and police officials with whom researchers consulted did not deny the presence of official corruption. Some countries have installed disciplinary measures to be used against corrupt officers. The numbers, however, seem to suggest that these procedures are ineffective. Belizean immigration authorities reported disciplinary proceedings against six agents implicated in migrant smuggling. All were disciplined but kept their jobs. Similarly, Belizean police authorities attempted to dismiss two officers for alleged corruption involving illegal entry of immigrants. Their dismissals were reversed. Guatemala has reportedly attempted to curb large-scale corruption along its northern border by rotating police officers every three months. Such efforts appear not to have had much impact; one diplomatic officer observed that the rotations are only succeeding in sharing the wealth obtained through corruption. An immigration representative in Guatemala confided that one of his agents specifically requested to be transferred to Tecun Uman (a heavy trafficking area) due to emergency financial needs. According to a police official in Nicaragua, Chinandega has one of the highest corruption rates in the country. It is also a recognized area of recruitment for traffickers.

Sources in Nicaragua cited the ease of "repositioning" identities through obtaining birth certificates misrepresenting ages and identities. A majority of these documents are likely to have been obtained through legitimate processes, because national and local institutional weaknesses create opportunities for abuse. In Honduras, a *Casa Alianza* study reported the suspected involvement of employees of the National Registry of Persons in providing falsified documentation to minors.

Clients

The root cause is demand for commercial sexual services, without which trafficking for purposes of sexual exploitation would dissolve. The demand connected to trafficking in the region is predominately for prostitution and stripping. While some advocacy groups, most notably *Casa Alianza*, have investigated and denounced pedophiles, child pornography rings and internet sites promoting the sexual exploitation of minors, the information available does not draw a clear line between trafficking activity and the production of pornographic materials in the region.

Demand within the region is concentrated in "zones of tolerance", tourist areas, ports, along international trucking routes, and in certain agricultural areas where migrant laborers are predominantly male. The growth of the tourism industry and the increasing

number of gambling establishments in the region have also opened markets for the industry. Varying forms of prostitution also occur in public markets and border areas. Bar owners, taxi drivers, hotel managers, market vendors and independent pimps all serve the demands of clients.

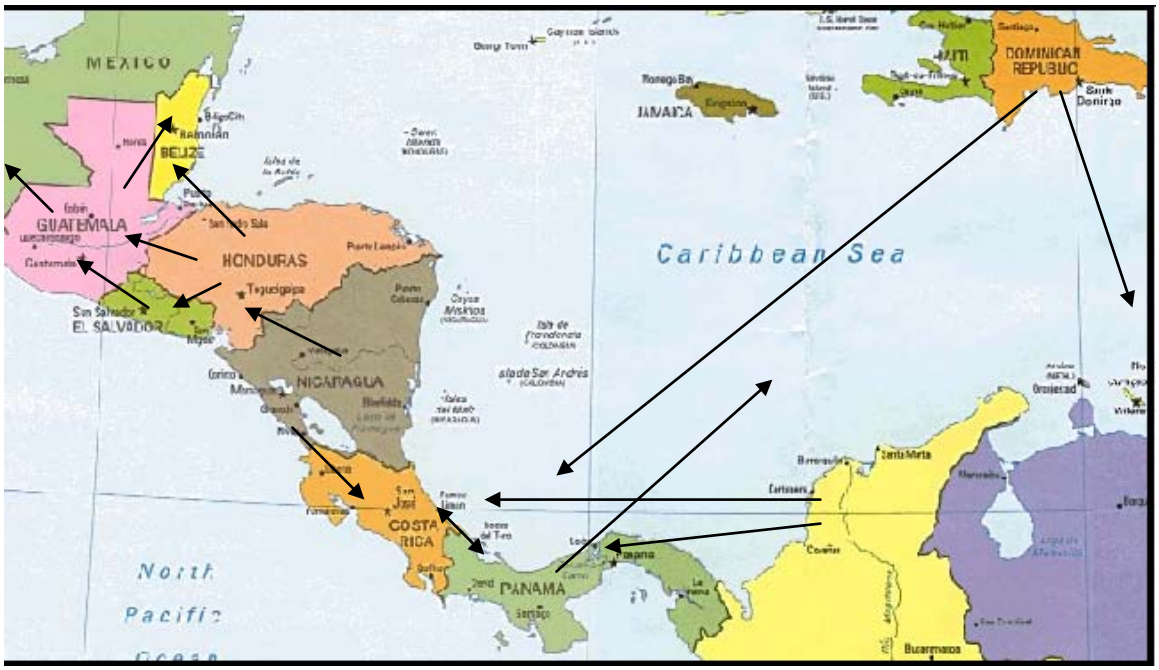
Table 7
Trafficking in Central America and the Dominican Republic:
Forms and Agents

Forms	Countries Implicated	Agents
Deception / False promise of Employment	All	Recruiters Intermediaries Bar/Brothel owners
Misadventure	Nicaragua Honduras El Salvador Guatemala	Smugglers Truck drivers
Abduction	Nicaragua Costa Rica Honduras El Salvador Guatemala Belize	Common criminals
Gang-related (domestic)	El Salvador Honduras	Gang members
Peer-influenced (primarily domestic)	Nicaragua Costa Rica Honduras El Salvador Guatemala Belize Panama	Friends Adolescents
Family-controlled	Honduras Dominican Republic	Parents and other family members Intermediaries
Marriage fraud	Dominican Republic Costa Rica Panama	Independent males from Europe Lawyers
Visa system	Panama	Bar owners State agents (immigration/labor) Recruiters

C. Trafficking Routes

Trafficking activity was detected at all levels. The reported domestic, intra-regional and extra-regional routes are described below. The one characteristic common to all is that they move from poorer areas towards areas that are, at least relatively, more prosperous.

Map 1
Intra-Regional Routes



<u>Nicaragua, Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala and Belize</u>

In terms of trafficking networks, the Central American region can be divided roughly along a North-South axis, with Nicaragua serving as a point of origin for trafficking flows in both directions. A trafficking experience beginning in Nicaragua would likely move through Honduras, possibly El Salvador, and end in Guatemala, Belize or southern Mexico. Following the line, women and minors are recruited in Honduras for establishments in El Salvador, Guatemala and Belize; El Salvador is a source country for Guatemala, Mexico and Belize; and Guatemala is a source country for southern Mexico and Belize. From the cases and testimony collected, trafficking from Nicaragua north to Mexico is principally over land routes. The northward push is eased by a free transit agreement (CA-4) between Nicaragua, Honduras, El Salvador and Guatemala and relatively weak border monitoring. With economic development and perceived job opportunities increasing with each country up from Nicaragua, recruiters can make credible-sounding offers of employment.

Commercial truck drivers traveling along the Pan-American Highway contribute to the demand and provide transportation. The ports along the Atlantic and Pacific coasts also generate demand and attract trafficking activity. Prostitution near border areas and in larger cities further increases the demand, caused by local patrons, male migration north, and migrant worker populations.

The Passage North

Heightened immigration requirements in Costa Rica and Mexico have essentially boxed in the trafficking phenomenon from Nicaragua to Guatemala. With the promise of employment and the "American dream" pulling greater numbers north, trafficking activity is perhaps the most visible and concentrated along the Guatemala-Mexico border at Tecun Uman. Well deserving of its "New Tijuana" name, Tecun Uman was referred to by many government and non-governmental representatives in the region as indicative of the grave problem of trafficking in the region.

The situation of Tecun Uman illustrates the nature of trafficking and the major elements that contribute to a fertile environment for trafficking activity. First, the availability of women and children is extremely high. Many sources indicated that Tecun Uman has served as the principal crossing point for migrants – both legal and illegal. Women and minors participating in the migration will often find themselves at the border with insufficient funds to secure their further progress. In addition, those who have crossed without success are returned to the Guatemalan side of the border, rather than to their countries of origin. Many desire to try again, for which money is necessary.

The demand for sexual services is provided by male migrants, finding themselves in similar situations of waiting at the border for a first or subsequent attempt to cross into Mexico. In addition, international truckers who often must wait days to cross provide a consistent floating population. The existing demand supports a reported sixty-seven establishments offering sexual services in Tecun Uman alone.

Innumerable criminal networks function in the area, trading in persons, cattle, vehicles, drugs and other illicit goods. The trafficking of women and children into prostitution is easy business. The networks involved in sex trafficking include establishment owners, rickshaw drivers (*tricicleros*), and migrant smugglers. Corruption of municipal public officials, and police and immigration authorities is reported as being extremely high. The corruption – in the form of bribes, payment through sexual services, and direct participation – has secured total impunity for traffickers.

Costa Rica, Panama and the Dominican Republic

The relative economic well being of Costa Rica, Panama and the Dominican Republic give these countries distance from the rest of Central America. The trafficking situations in each of these countries are very different, although routes have been found to run between them. Dominican women have been trafficked to Costa Rica and Panama and suspected trafficking activity occurs along the border between Costa Rica and Panama. In contrast to the other five countries in the region, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic and Panama have been implicated in extra-regional trafficking to a greater degree. Routes from the Dominican Republic reach into the Caribbean (Aruba, St. Martin, Curacao), to South America (Argentina), and to Europe (Austria, Switzerland, Germany, Italy, The Netherlands, and Spain, among others). Trafficked women from Colombia, Bulgaria, Russia and the Philipines have been brought to Costa Rica, and Costa Rican women have been recruited into the sex sector in Canada. From Panama, trafficking activity was identified through Egypt and to Israel. Colombian and Dominican women have been trafficked to Panama. The trafficking activity from, to and between these countries requires air or sea transport, which appears to have reduced the numbers of child victims, in comparison to the rest of Central America.

Domestic Trafficking Routes

The detection of domestic trafficking routes in the region is significantly more difficult than cross-border behavior. Lack of appropriate legislation, public perception and the characteristics of victims all complicated visibility of domestic manifestations of trafficking. The crime of trafficking (*trata de personas*) in all countries except Nicaragua apply only to instances of cross-border movement. Domestic trafficking cases are therefore prosecuted as other crimes, such as pimping or pandering, and inquiries regarding forced movement or migration are not made. In the media and as a topic of public concern, domestic trafficking activity is overshadowed by the sexual exploitation itself – prostitution, pornography, sex tourism or other. Finally, by virtue of shared nationality, trafficked persons are not as easily identified.

Nevertheless, internal trafficking was noted, generally flowing from rural and poorer areas to large cities or tourist centers, and from there among the cities. In Guatemala, for example, researchers were informed of routes moving women and minors between establishments in Izabal, Escuintla, and Retalhuleu. In Honduras, one NGO reported a case of a girl trafficked from Comayagua to a bar in Progreso. San Pedro Sula, La Ceiba and other places along Honduras' northern coast also appeared to be destination points for predominately adolescents from more rural towns – Progreso, Yoro, Santa Barbara, Copan, Ranchito, Tocoa, Colon, Masita among others. The Dominican Republic also contains internal routes, from rural locations to tourist areas along the coast.

Several unique characteristics of domestic trafficking are worthy of note:

- Particularly in the Dominican Republic, domestic trafficking appears to involve children to a much greater degree than international traffic.
- The participation of gangs in Honduras and El Salvador in domestic trafficking was noted, with gangs appropriating young women and girls for their own purposes and to prostitute for financial gain.
- Mobility and sexual exploitation mark the experience of street children in all countries under study. This population is extremely vulnerable to sex trafficking. The movement of this community is often peer-influenced.

D. Conditions and Consequences

Regardless of form, a trafficking experience will include numerous human rights abuses and other sufferings. These violations result from the mechanisms of control and coercion that traffickers use to keep victims in situations of sexual exploitation. Most commonly, traffickers exercise control in the following ways: retention of identification, travel and required health documents; imposition of debts for transportation, clothing, lodging, food, and other basic needs; threats of reporting immigration status to authorities; beatings and other physical abuse; and the posting of guards and other means of restraining liberty. The physical distance and isolation from support networks further secures complacency. These measures have serious physical, emotional and health consequences for victims. The resulting trauma is rarely treated, heightening the risk of being retrafficked for those who do escape.

Debt Bondage

A consistent feature in reported cases of trafficking is the imposition of a debt on the trafficked person. Initial values are established based on transportation fees or the "purchase price" of the victim. Amounts are increased for the cost of clothing, makeup, housing, food, drugs, condoms, and health testing (required in most countries). Time spent not working is often charged and added to the debt. House fines for improper behavior were also reported as being levied.

In a recent case of trafficking to the United States involving women and girls from Honduras, women were forced into prostitution to repay a $10,000 transportation fee. In two other cases of trafficking within the region, family members had to pay bar owners the "price" of girls to secure their release.

In most cases, these debts never diminish. Service providers report that pimps, hotels and other establishments usually charge or keep a majority percentage of client revenues. Victims become entirely dependent on bar owners.

Restriction of Movement

Another common feature of trafficking in the region is the limitation of movement once in conditions of sexual exploitation. In most cases, this is achieved through confiscation of documents, which leaves victims vulnerable to deportation. Reports were also received of armed guards being placed outside of private brothels (*casas de cita*). Even where restrictions are more lenient, women must purchase their free days or free time, contributing to their debt bondage.

In Panama, immigration officials, health officers and advocates all reported that women's passports and return tickets are regularly retained by bar owners, even if the woman has a valid "alternadora" visa. It was reported that in practice, women having "alternadora" visas are not permitted to leave Panama without the bar owner's release. Bar owners in Belize also are in the practice of retaining passports and travel documents.

According to a recent survey of women and minors in prostitution in Belize,

> …[W]orkers [in the Corozal district] feel that they are not able to leave as they desire. Respondents noted that it is possible to purchase free days. Many of the workers are brought to work on a contractual basis. This contract involves the owners paying for transportation to Belize, which need to be repaid by the girls as they are working. Those girls living in rooms at established locations pay a percentage of their earnings to the employer. Their free day if they have any is to purchase any needed accessories or such. Time off is not given to those who have children but rather that time must be bought, as it is a loss of earnings to the employer.[38]

Often, justifications are created for retaining documents. In Belize, one brothel manager stated that such practice was necessary to prevent them from being robbed from the women and in case of immigration revisions. An immigration official in Panama attempted to explain why most bar owners demand documents, citing the need to secure against the women finding other employment for the duration of the visa and to guarantee the bar owner's investment.

Threats and Use of Force

More infrequently, traffickers rely on threats and use of force to ensure their power over victims and to guarantee their silence. Some reports of bar owners beating victims were received. In three identified cases, threats of violence were used to discourage reporting and participating in trial proceedings. One Colombian woman was cut on her face after complaining to authorities in Panama of her condition. Upon her return to Colombia, she was attacked, her assailants reportedly stating: "This is for what you did in Panama."

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[38] NCFC/UNICEF, *supra* note 38.

Forced Drug Use

On occasion, it was reported that bar owners used drugs to control women and children. Drugs are used to make victims more compliant. They are also a means to induce dependence on the owner and to increase the debt of the victim. Even at its most benign, women and children are regularly expected to drink with clients. This daily high-volume intake of alcohol often has health consequences. Alcohol and drugs in many instances became coping mechanisms for women and children.

Physical Health Implications

The health consequences to trafficked women and children in the region are serious. Victims have reported physical and sexual abuse by clients and law enforcement. Trafficked women and children also appear to be at greater risk of HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) due to a relative ignorance of sexual health and contraception and the lack of access to health services. They are also in less of a position to be able to negotiate with clients regarding condom use. The occurrence of unwanted pregnancies and unsafe abortions was also detected. Finally, service providers noted the high rate of alcohol and drug dependency in trafficked women.

One NGO that counsels women in prostitution in Guatemala informed researchers that their staff has found it necessary to introduce informal classes on proper condom use, especially to trafficked women and adolescents from El Salvador, Nicaragua, and Honduras, who neither anticipated working in a brothel nor were familiar with how to use a condom.

A survey of 100 sexually exploited girls and boys in San Pedro Sula, Honduras found that 68 had suffered an STD, 29 of whom had contacted an STD more than once. One quarter of these children self-treated their symptoms.[39]

According to UNICEF, 67% of sexually exploited girls and boys in San Pedro Sula, Honduras suffered some type of abuse that produced an injury. The children identified clients and municipal/national police as aggressors.[40]

A recent survey of 100 minors in Costa Rica in conditions of sexual exploitation showed that 86% drank alcohol, 82% smoked tobacco, 80% used marijuana, and 34% and 41% consumed cocaine and crack, respectively.[41]

Due to the nature of their circumstances, trafficked women and children are more likely to have these health conditions go undetected and untreated. Despite the mandatory

[39] UNICEF, *supra* note 37.
[40] *Id*.
[41] MARIA CECILIA CLARAMUNT, *supra* note 40.

health revision requirements for sex workers in the region, the establishment owner usually controls access to health services. Even if available, not all trafficked women are willing to participate in testing. In many cases, trafficked women are undocumented and will evade such controls for fear of deportation. Similar fears keep women from seeking medical treatment for injuries. In addition, the private organizations that provide health screenings to sex workers report that they do not have access to many establishments, especially private homes that are used as brothels, and thus are probably not seeing the majority of trafficked women. The situation of children is particularly acute. Since child prostitution is illegal in all countries of the region, medical centers are prohibited from registering children in sex worker health programs and thus providing regular health exams.

Mental Health Implications

Little information regarding the specific emotional health consequences to trafficked women in the region was discovered. It can be assumed that the violence, isolation, and dependence associated with trafficking results in depression and lowered self-esteem, among other conditions. Groups working with sex workers in the region commented on the low self-worth and inability to participate in a healthy partnership that many female sex workers exhibit. Damage to adolescent and child victims is more pronounced, with effects of sexual exploitation lasting into adulthood and interrupting full emotional development.

Exit

Relatively limited information exists about the exit of trafficked women and children from conditions of sexual exploitation. Police, immigration, prosecutors and juvenile judges have facilitated a small number of rescues of trafficked children through coordinated raids. Immigration raids and counter-smuggling activities have also extricated women from trafficking situations, who in turn usually face deportation. Some reports of independent escapes were received. Finally, bar owners sometimes release victims if diagnosed with disease or pregnancy (although many women have had children while remaining in conditions of exploitation).

VI. RESPONSE MECHANISMS: POLICY AND LEGISLATION

The problem of trafficking remains almost completely hidden and ignored in the region. In terms of institutional responses, the Dominican Republic alone has effectively placed the trafficking of persons on the national agenda; no other government has directed resources to specific programs or policies on the issue. Initial steps have been taken against child trafficking for sexual exploitation, but concrete initiatives have not yet been developed and plans remain without funding. Within the ambit of their duties consular missions and law enforcement have provided assistance to victims and prosecution of traffickers. Punishment efforts, however, can only be described as minimal. In some countries, the Office of the Human Rights Ombudsman had positively intervened in cases and had

conducted minor investigations within the scope of their mandate. Finally, some encouraging developments toward articulating national and regional responses to trafficking were noted.

In an area where civil society has traditionally been strong, few groups have focused on sex trafficking for women and children or advocated the issue within a human rights framework. Region-wide efforts against child trafficking and other forms of commercial sexual exploitation of children are beginning, and many positive partnerships between non-governmental organizations and official agencies have resulted. These relationships are precarious, however, and are in need of further strengthening.

Services for trafficked persons, whether by government or other sources, are non-existent, with the exception of in the Dominican Republic where important orientation, assistance, protection and health services are available through NGO providers. This lack of attention has left women and children survivors at greater risk of being retrafficked. Overall, the deficiencies in consciousness, articulation, and coordinated response strategies to trafficking in both women and children have facilitated continuation of trafficking activity in the region and the reinforcement of a culture of impunity.

A. International Legal Obligations

The region as a whole has assumed important legal obligations ensuring the protection of women and children against trafficking. The Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women (Belem do Para), and the ILO Convention No. 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labor have all been ratified. Together, these treaties require states to take meaningful action against trafficking, especially that of women and children. Under CEDAW, State Parties are required to move to suppress "all forms of traffic in women and exploitation of prostitution of women."[42] Trafficking and forced prostitution are specifically recognized as constituting violence against women under the Convention of Belem do Para, under which State Parties agreed to condemn such activity and to pursue policies to prevent, punish and eradicate trafficking.[43]

With special regard to children, the Convention on the Rights of the Child obligates States to take measures to prevent trafficking of children and ensure their protection against all forms of sexual exploitation.[44] Further, appropriate measures should be taken to promote physical and psychological recovery and social reintegration of child trafficking victims.[45] The ILO Convention No. 182 specifies that State Parties are to take immediate and effective measures to secure the prohibition and elimination of child trafficking as well as to provide

[42] CEDAW, Art. 6.
[43] Belem do Para, Arts. 2(b) and 7.
[44] CRC, Arts. 34-35.
[45] CRC, Art. 39.

necessary and appropriate direct assistance for the removal of children from situations of sexual exploitation, for their rehabilitation and for their social integration.[46]

Several states are party to the Optional Protocol to the CRC on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography and the Inter-American Convention on the International Traffic of Minors, which both outline important provisions on child trafficking. Under the Optional Protocol, which has been ratified in half of the countries under study, State Parties commit to preventing and punishing the sale of children into prostitution and other forms of sexual exploitation.[47] Appropriate measures are to be adopted "to protect the rights and interests of child victims" in judicial processes.[48] State Parties further are required to make all efforts to ensure appropriate assistance to victims, including programs aimed at their social reintegration and physical and psychological recovery.[49] The Inter-American Convention on the International Traffic of Minors specifically requires States to prevent and punish international trafficking in minors for "unlawful purposes" including prostitution, sexual exploitation and servitude.[50]

Within the region, Honduras is the lone party to the 1949 Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others. This treaty obligates State Parties to penalize trafficking for purposes of prostitution and other associated acts,[51] among numerous other provisions aimed at the control and eradication of sex trafficking.

None of the states have yet ratified the UN Convention on Transnational Organized Crime and its Trafficking Protocol, although several have signed and are in the process of reviewing the document for possible ratification.[52]

The region is failing in its international commitments, especially with respect to prevention, protection and integration measures. States have been glaringly deficient in their protection against the trafficking of women. The counter-trafficking provisions of the CEDAW and the Convention of Belem do Para are completely ignored. In none of the countries studied, except for the Dominican Republic, were trafficking and forced prostitution seriously contemplated within policy and legislation against violence against women.

In general, and despite obligations, periodic reports by State Parties to the various monitoring mechanisms have not contained information on trafficking, an omission

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[46] ILO Convention No. 192, Arts. 1, 3 and 7(2).
[47] Optional Protocol, Arts. 1, 3, and 9(1).
[48] Optional protocol, Art. 8.
[49] Optional Protocol on Sale of Children, Art. 9.
[50] Inter-American Convention on the International Traffic of Minors, Art. 2.
[51] Art. 2.
[52] For a complete list of relevant treaties and ratification status, see Annex C.

commented on by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women.[53] Regardless of these urgings, researchers saw little evidence of steps being taken toward the collection of evidence on trafficking activity.

The United Nations and OAS mechanisms have been underutilized with respect to trafficking in the region. The visit of the UN Special Rapporteur on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography to Guatemala in 1999 was a promising signal of international intervention on the issue. Her report includes many valuable and important recommendations regarding trafficking, although Government action on these points has not been immediate. [54] Within the Inter-American system, the Special Rapporteur on Migrant Workers of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights asked states to provide information on trafficking but received few responses. Comments provided reference to relevant legislation but did not assess its application. Finally, groups in the region have not used UN forums for civil society participation and the Inter-American Commission and Court on Human Rights to advocate or register concern for sex trafficking.

B. Policy

While institutionalization of counter-trafficking initiatives has yet to occur, a few common policy platforms are beginning to emerge in the region that may support more targeted response strategies. International mobilization against the commercial sexual exploitation of children, the worst forms of child labor, and violence and discrimination against women have encouraged the creation and adoption of national plans in these areas. In great measure, these platforms follow the principles established in the Declaration and Agenda for Action against the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (World Congress in Stockholm, 1996) and the international instruments mentioned in the previous section. In addition, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), through its country offices, has been supporting coordinated national policy responses to issues related to migration; although, with the exception of the Dominican Republic, none have focused on trafficking.

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[53] See *Concluding Obeservations of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women: Nicaragua*, UN Doc. A/56/38 (July 31, 2001) paras. 314-15, 317.

[54] *Report of the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, Ms. Ofelia Calcetas-Santos*, UN Doc. E/CN.4/2000/73/Add.2 (Jan. 27 2000).

Table 8
Policies, Platforms and Forums on Trafficking Related Issues

Country	Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children	Violence against Women	Child Labor	Immigration
Belize	---	---	---	---
Costa Rica	National Plan against Child Sexual Exploitation; National Council against Child Sexual Exploitation (CONACOES)	---	International Program for the Eradication of Child Labor	Permanent Forum of Migrants
Dominican Republic	National Plan; National Commission on the Eradication of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children	Inter-Institutional Committee for the Protection of Migrant Women (CIPROM)	International Program for the Eradication of Child Labor	Inter-Institutional Committee for the Protection of Migrant Women (CIPROM)
El Salvador	National Plan; ECPAT Network	National Policy on Women	National Plan for the Eradication of Child Labor; International Program for the Eradication of Child Labor	Migration Forum
Guatemala	National Plan against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children; Articulating Group	National Policy on the Promotion and Development of Guatemalan Women; National Commission on the Prevention of Violence against Women (CONAPREVI)	National Plan for the Eradication of Child Labor; International Program for the Eradication of Child Labor	Proposed National Plan; National Table on Migration (MENAMIG)
Honduras	---	National Plan	International Program for the Eradication of Child Labor	National Forum
Nicaragua	Public Policy against the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents; National Board for Integrated Attention and Protection of Children and Adolescents (CONAPINA)	National Plan for the Prevention of Domestic and Sexual Violence	International Program for the Eradication of Child Labor	Nicaraguan Forum on Migration (FONIMI)
Panama	---	---	---	---

Unfortunately, the existence of these plans has not necessarily translated into action. Concerning the National Plans against the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children, none of the countries that adopted such plans have obtained the necessary funding for implementation. Instead, application is dependent on the availability of already strained resources of participating government and civil society institutions. Most of the child sexual exploitation policies also lack operational plans. Guatemala and Nicaragua are the only countries beginning the process of transforming the policy principles into concrete projects through their coordinating, inter-institutional bodies.

Maintaining coordinating bodies has also proved an overwhelming challenge. After successfully articulating guidelines, the mixed forums in El Salvador and Costa Rica have nearly dissolved, essentially halting implementation. None of these National Plans has resulted in the creation of a trafficking-specific program or project.

Policies directed to violence against women have predominately focused on domestic abuse. None of the existing policies address trafficking of women. Nevertheless, several women's institutions in the region expressed eagerness in incorporating counter-trafficking platforms into existing policies.

The region-wide ratification of the ILO Convention No. 182 has enabled UNICEF and the International Programme on the Eradication of Child Labor of the International Labor Organization to help governments establish common policies and programs combating child labor and elaborate measures against child sexual exploitation, as one of the worst forms of child labor. These programs generally highlight enforcement capabilities of the respective Ministries of Labor against child employment in corrupting environments.

In practice, the contributions of these programs against trafficking have been minimal, largely due to extremely limited inspection capabilities. Even if inspection occurs, victim attention is not a priority. For example, the Ministry of Labor in Nicaragua has implemented a pilot project monitoring nightclubs and other establishments where children may be sexually exploited. A preliminary investigation is conducted undercover. If a minor is suspected, the inspector formally notifies the owner and confirms the age of the individual. If shown to be a minor, the owner is informed of the violation and requested to cease the practice. A formal second inspection is scheduled for a later date. Labor inspectors provide no services to the minor, do not remove them from the exploitative situation, and do not inform police or other authorities of the activity.

Lastly, regional integration plans, the formation of regional coordination and consultation bodies for immigration issues, and the activities of the IOM national offices have prompted some progress toward the development of national migration plans. Guatemala is currently considering a National Plan, which includes provisions for human rights protection mechanisms for migrants. El Salvador and Honduras, while not working

under a national plan, have created inter-institutional coordinating bodies that assist in the development and implementation of immigration-related programs.

The most promising of these bodies is the Inter-Institutional Committee for the Protection of Migrant Women (CIPROM) in the Dominican Republic. Focused exclusively on issues affecting migrant women, its activities have centered on combating trafficking in the country. CIPROM currently supports programs for consular training on trafficking in persons; a certificate program in trafficking and gender for government and non-governmental representatives; awareness programs; legislative reform; and other activities.

C. Criminal Legislation

While no country in the region has legislation against all forms of trafficking in persons, or specifically against trafficking for the purposes of commercial sexual exploitation, virtually all countries in the region—with the exception of El Salvador—do have laws in their penal codes that punish trafficking activity for the purposes of prostitution. While these laws bear a general resemblance to one another, they do vary from country to country. Notable differences in these laws include: various countries' definition of what acts constitute trafficking; the characteristics a victim of trafficking must possess to receive protection under these laws; the scope of geographic coverage contemplated by each law; the purposes for which trafficking is prohibited; and the strength of the penalty imposed when trafficking has occurred. The crime of trafficking is not explicitly identified in all countries. In Belize, Panama and the Dominican Republic, for example, trafficking is best characterized as a modality of the crime of "procurement." Other countries have criminalized trafficking for prostitution in name – *trata de personas* or *trata de blancas*.

Trafficking Victims

The various pieces of trafficking legislation contemplate three basic categories an individual might need to possess to be considered a victim of trafficking. These categories include gender, age, and nationality. Regarding gender, all laws except for those of Belize are gender-neutral; that is, both males and females can be victims of trafficking. Some laws establish this gender neutrality via express provisions in the trafficking law; for example, Honduras's and Costa Rica's laws explicitly include "people of either sex," and the Dominican Republic's law includes "persons, men or women …." Laws which do not contain such express gender provisions, such as those of Nicaragua and Panama, contain general terms such as "victim," "foreigners," and "nationals," which can all be read to be gender-neutral. In contrast to the rest of the laws in the sub-region, Belize's trafficking legislation applies only to "women."

Without exception, the trafficking provisions in these criminal codes contemplate that both adults and minors can be trafficked. As with the provision on gender, different countries use different statutory language to include/acknowledge minors as potential trafficking victims. For example, the Dominican Republic explicitly refers to "minors" in the

text of the law, while Honduras explicitly offers protection to "people of…any age." Guatemala, Nicaragua, and Panama do not expressly refer to minors in their codes; however, as mentioned above, the general language used in these countries' trafficking provisions can be understood to include both adults and minors. In many cases, age and/or status as a minor is considered as an aggravating factor in the crime as described below.

Most of these trafficking provisions can be understood to apply both when certain acts are carried out upon nationals of a country and also when they are carried out upon foreigners. In Belize, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, and Panama's legislation, this is implied by the fact that the provisions contemplate that trafficking can include both a person's entry into and exit from the national territory. In the cases of Nicaragua and the Dominican Republic, it is less clear whether these countries' trafficking provisions apply both when the victims are nationals and foreigners. Nicaragua's law includes those who are trafficked for prostitution "within or outside of the country," and the Dominican Republic's law encompasses those situations where victims of procuring have been submitted or incited to engage in prostitution "outside of national territory," "upon their arrival abroad," or "on their location prior to their arrival abroad."

Table 9
Victims of Trafficking

Country	Both Men and Women Protected	Minors Protected	Both Nationals and Foreigners Protected
Belize		●	●
Costa Rica	●	●	●
Dominican Republic	●	●	unclear
Guatemala	●	●	●
Honduras	●	●	●
Nicaragua	●	●	unclear
Panama	●	●	●

Defining Acts

With the exception of Costa Rica, every country in the sub-region with trafficking legislation specifically limits the crime of trafficking to acts that are done for the end purpose of prostitution. Costa Rica's law further applies to trafficking for "sexual servitude." None of the laws further define "prostitution" and it remains unclear whether trafficking for other forms of sexual exploitation such as pornography, sex tourism, and stripping would be covered.

A comparison of the laws of this sub-region shows both similarities and differences in the specific acts that constitute trafficking. In Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, and Panama, for example, the act of trafficking is defined as "promoting" and/or "facilitating" a

victim's entry into or exit from national territory for purposes of prostitution. In the Dominican Republic, trafficking is defined as "delivering" or "inciting" victims to engage in prostitution abroad, and in Nicaragua, "recruiting" or "enlisting" people for the purpose of prostitution are the acts, which the law regards as trafficking.

Table 10
Acts the Constitute Trafficking

Country	**Acts That May Constitute Trafficking**	**Purpose of Act (Required for Act to Constitute Trafficking)**
Belize	*Procuring* victims' exit of country or abandonment of regular residence	Prostitution
Costa Rica	*Promoting, facilitating or encouraging* victims' entry to or exit from country	Prostitution or Sexual Servitude
Dominican Republic	*Delivering or inciting* victims to engage in prostitution abroad	Prostitution
Guatemala	*Promoting, facilitating, supporting* victims' entry to or exit from country	Prostitution
Honduras	*Promoting, facilitating* victims' entry to country *Promoting* victims' exit from country	Prostitution
Nicaragua	*Recruiting, enlisting* victims (within or outside country)	Prostitution
Panama	*Facilitating* victims' entry or exit from country	Prostitution

Penalties

All States in the sub-region that have trafficking statutes penalize trafficking activities with prison sentences. In addition to imposing a prison sentence on traffickers, the statutes of the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, and Honduras also provide that a monetary fine will be imposed. Comparing the severity of penalties across States, the statutes which carry the lightest penalties are found in Guatemala (1-3 years in prison plus a fine) and Panama (2-4 years in prison). The rest of the statutes under review here carry substantially similar penalties (see table below). While most of the statutes make no mention of attempt, Belize and the Dominican Republic expressly establish the attempt to commit the crime as punishable to the same extent as the successful completion of the trafficking act.

In all States except for Belize, the Dominican Republic,[55] and Honduras, the penalty for trafficking is increased when aggravating factors are present. The most common aggravating factors found in the trafficking statutes in this sub-region are where the trafficking victim is a minor, and where the acts which constitute trafficking are carried out using coercion, deceit, violence, or abuse of authority. Other aggravating factors include: when the perpetrator is a close relative or caregiver; when the act of trafficking is done with an intention to make a profit or satisfy the desires of a third person; or when as a consequence of being trafficked, the victim suffers a deprivation of liberty abroad, has a crime committed against them, or dies due to violent causes. The table below illustrates which aggravating factors correspond to the statutes of the various countries in the sub-region.

[55] The legislation of the Dominican Republic presents a special case in that the crime of trafficking is itself an aggravating factor of the crime of procuring.

Table 11
Criminal Penalties for Engaging in Trafficking

Country	Basic Penalty	Penalty if Aggravating Factors Present	Aggravating Factors	Penalty for Attempt
Belize	5 years	N/A	N/A	Yes
Costa Rica	3-6 years	4-10 years	►Victim is a minor ►Use of coercion / fraud / violence / abuse of authority / abuse of victim's situation of need / any other form of intimidation ►Perpetrator is a relative or caregiver	No
Dominican Republic	2-10 years plus fine of 100,000-1,000,000 pesos	N/A	Trafficking itself is an aggravating factor of the crime of pimping. Additional aggravating factors: ►Victim is a minor ►Use of threats / violence / abuse of authority / fraud	Yes
Guatemala	1-3 years plus fine of 2,500-15,000 quetzals	Penalty increased by 2/3	►Victim is under 12 ►Act done with intention to make a profit or satisfy the desires of a third person ►Use of deceit / violence / abuse of authority	No
Honduras	5-8 years plus fine of 100,000-200,000 lempiras	N/A	N/A	No
Nicaragua	4-10 years	Maximum penalty imposed	►Victim is under 14 ►Victim is married to or in a stable common law union with the perpetrator	No
Panama	2-4 years	6 years	►Victim is under 12 ►Act carried out for profit ►Use of deceit / violence / abuse of authority / any other means of intimidation or coercion ►Perpetrator a close relative or guardian	No

As discussed briefly above, a survey of the trafficking laws in the sub-region illustrates that in all countries, minors are afforded protection from trafficking, and in most countries, the penalty for trafficking at least some subgroup of minors is higher than that for trafficking adults. The main difference in the various countries' statutes is that while some regard the trafficking of *any* minor as an aggravated offense, others only define a trafficking offense as aggravated if the minor is younger than a certain cut-off age. For example, Nicaragua does not consider the trafficking of a minor to be an aggravated offense unless the minor is under the age of 14. Honduras, Panama, and Nicaragua have chosen an even younger cut-off age: under their trafficking statutes, a victim who is a minor must be under 12 years old for the offense to qualify as aggravated. By contrast, in Costa Rica, the trafficking of minors under 18 constitutes an aggravated offense.

The inclusion of these laws in the various penal codes of the sub-region represent improvements—many of them recent improvements—over the attention previously given to the issue of human trafficking in these countries. It is important to mention, however, that by and large these laws are rarely enforced, and even more rarely do they result in the conviction of traffickers.

Criminal Legislation Against Procuring and Pimping

Individuals who traffic women and children for the purposes of commercial sexual exploitation can also be prosecuted for their actions under domestic pimping and pandering laws. As with the trafficking laws discussed above, these laws focus almost exclusively on acts connected to prostitution; unlike trafficking laws, they are concerned primarily with acts that do not involve the crossing of international borders.

Procuring

The procurement laws within the sub-region are quite similar from country to country. While the exact language varies somewhat from statute to statute, each of these laws have at their core the criminalization of the acts of promoting or facilitating the prostitution of another person. In all countries except for Belize, which limits the application of its procurement law to situations where the person being prostituted is female, the law applies regardless of whether the victim (or would-be victim) is male or female. In all countries except for Guatemala, a conviction for procurement carries a possible prison term (see table below for exact penalties). Just as Guatemala's penalty for trafficking is the most lenient in the sub-region, its penalty of a fine and no prison term is the most lenient penalty for procuring that exists in the sub-region.

As is illustrated in the table below, all countries in the sub-region except for Belize contemplate increased penalties for the crime of procurement when aggravating factors are present. While some countries include these aggravating factors in the basic provision on pandering, other countries have established a separate crime entitled "aggravated procurement." The most common aggravating factors for pandering include the following: where the victim is a minor (in countries where prostitution is legal for adults); where deceit,

violence, abuse of authority, or coercion are involved; where the perpetrator is a partner, close relative or guardian; and where the perpetrator is a repeat offender or vested with public authority.

A handful of other differences in the scope of these laws prohibiting procurement are significant enough to be highlighted. For example, Panama and Guatemala limit the definition of procuring to apply only to those individuals who promote or facilitate prostitution for profit or to satisfy the desires of others. The Dominican Republic, on the other hand, expands the basic definition of pandering to include individuals who "by threats, pressure, or any other means disturb the prevention, assistance and re-education activities of those qualified organizations working with males and females engaged in or at risk of engaging in prostitution." Finally, Honduras includes in the scope of its procuring law the individual who "prevents or impedes another person from abandoning prostitution."

Pimping

Living off the profits of a person engaged in prostitution is another crime under which traffickers can be prosecuted. The crime of pimping is nearly identical in the countries that have this crime, which includes all countries in the sub-region except for El Salvador and Honduras. To be guilty of pimping, it is not necessary that an individual makes his entire living off of others' prostitution; rather, the provisions in this region explicitly provide that maintaining oneself—even if only in part—off of a person engaging in prostitution is sufficient. The Dominican Republic, while it does not have a specific provision on pimping, does include in its definition of pandering the broad phrase "whoever receives benefits from the exercise of prostitution." Arguably, this phrase could include pimping activities.

Table 12
Criminal Penalties for Procuring and Pimping

Country	Penalty for Basic Procurement Offense	Penalty for Procurement When Aggravating Factors Present	Penalty for Pimping	Attempt Punishable with Same Penalty
Belize	5 years	N/A	1st Conviction: Fine up to $100 or up to 6 months Subsequent conviction: up to 1 year	•
Costa Rica	2-5 years	4-10 years	2-8 years 3-9 years where victim is 12 to 18 4-10 years where victim is under 12	
Dominican Republic	6 months-3 years and fine of 50,000-500,000 pesos	2-10 years and fine of 100,000-1,000,000 pesos	N/A	•
El Salvador	2-4 years	2-4 years and fine of 50-100 days' pay	N/A	
Guatemala	Fine of 2,500-10,000 quetzals	Penalty increased by one-third	Fine of 2,500-15,000 quetzals	
Honduras	5-8 years and fine of 50,000-100,000 lempiras	Penalty increased by half	N/A	
Nicaragua	3-6 years	10 years	2-4 years	
Panama	2-4 years	3-5 years	2-4 years	

D. Treatment of Trafficked Persons under Domestic Legal Regimes

Trafficking and Prostitution

Trafficking for purposes of sexual exploitation is intimately related to prostitution itself. As was discovered in the region, individuals offering sexual services are considered

to be prostitutes, regardless of age, the circumstances of their involvement, or current conditions. Similarly, the demand for sexual services does not discriminate between coerced and voluntary service – between service providers who may have been trafficked and maintained under debt bondage, coercion and violence, and those who may enjoy a greater sense of agency. The response from state actors – police, prosecutors, judges, immigration officers, public health workers, social service agents – is equally informed solely by an individual's position in the commercial sex industry, rather than answering to the particular circumstances of the woman, adolescent or child or whether they have been trafficked. In the expanded Central American region, the legislation, regulation and policies toward prostitution provide a working context for sex trafficking.

In the absence of specific trafficking legislation or programs offering victim services, trafficked persons are subjected to the particular laws and regulations regarding prostitution, including health controls. The following chart summarizes the regulatory regime of each country in the region:

Table 13
Status and Regulation of Prostitution

COUNTRY	Relevant Legislation	Health Controls
Belize	Adult prostitution is legal except for solicitation in public areas; procuring, trading on prostitution, and owning a brothel are prohibited. Facilitating the movement or exit of a woman for prostitution is illegal. Child prostitution is illegal.	Ministry of Health provides STD and HIV/AIDS testing. Considering instituting required health exams and issuing health cards.
Costa Rica	Adult prostitution is legal. Pimping and pandering are prohibited. Facilitating the entry or exit of a person for prostitution is illegal. Child prostitution is illegal.	Required health exams through the Ministry of Health. Required to carry health card. NGOs offer testing as well.
Dominican Republic	Adult prostitution is legal. Pimping and pandering are prohibited. Facilitating the entry or exit of a person for prostitution is illegal.	Regular testing is required.
El Salvador	Adult prostitution is legal; solicitation in public areas is punishable by fine in San Salvador. Pimping and pandering are prohibited. Induction into prostitution is a crime. Child prostitution is illegal.	Health exams are provided by Ministry of Health and several NGOs.
Guatemala	Adult prostitution is legal. Pimping and pandering are prohibited. Facilitating the entry or exit of a person for prostitution is illegal. Child prostitution is illegal.	Health checks are required and offered by the Ministry of Health. An NGO in Guatemala City offers testing and education to women inside bars and brothels.
Honduras	Adult prostitution is legal; solicitation in public is punishable under municipal police code. Pimping and pandering are prohibited. Facilitating the entry or exit of a person for prostitution is illegal. Child prostitution is illegal.	Health checks required. Ministry of Health issues cards.
Nicaragua	Adult prostitution is legal. Pimping and pandering are prohibited. Facilitating the entry or exit of a person for prostitution is illegal; inducing prostitution is also a crime. Child prostitution is illegal.	N/A
Panama	Adult prostitution is legal; solicitation in public is punishable under municipal police code. Pimping and pandering are prohibited. Facilitating the entry or exit of a person for prostitution is illegal, unless accomplished by petitioning for a special “alternadora” visa, regulated by Immigration and the Ministry of Labor. Child prostitution is illegal.	Mandatory weekly testing. Required to carry health cards.

Enforcement of procuring and pimping laws is extremely poor. In most countries, bar and brothel raids are conducted where child prostitution is suspected, but adults found in

circumstances of prostitution, even as a result of coercion, deception, force, etc. are ignored. Further, law enforcement and prosecution sources in the region reported obstacles in successful raids – either minors are counseled to lie about their age or carry false identification, or children are removed from the premises having been forewarned of police activity. Police complicity is certain. In addition to being clients, many sources suspect police involvement in notifying owners of planned inspections and raids. Throughout the region, judges, prosecutors, police officers, and forensic doctors acting together often perform raids. Some sources complain that this level of coordination inevitably results in information reaching suspected criminals.

Trafficking and Health

The increasing numbers of persons suffering from HIV/AIDS in the region have prompted the creation of special legislation on HIV/AIDS treatment and rights of its victims, the establishment of inter-sectorial AIDS commissions involving state and non-state participation, and the emergence of regional forums for information sharing and coordination. These bodies recognize not only the particular vulnerabilities of the community of commercial sex providers, but also the dangerous implications of migration of both sex providers and their clients. Unfortunately, these groups have not yet addressed the particular health needs of trafficked persons or identified trafficked persons as a separate vulnerable group apart from sex providers.

Many health professionals consulted explained their compromised position: they are forced to chose between reporting a crime and providing for the health needs of trafficked women and children in prostitution. One NGO in Guatemala explained that sharing any information with women and minors regarding their rights would result in the automatic restriction of access and termination of services. Health professionals have convinced bar owners that it is in their business interest to maintain the health of the women and minors but cooperation extends no further than that.

Trafficking and Illegal Immigration

Immigration policies and legislation have a profound impact on victims of trafficking and the trafficking trade. As a function of being trafficked, many victims are often in destination points illegally. Their legal status has made them vulnerable to deportation and the threat of reporting is a frequent control mechanism used by traffickers. Within the region, the legal status of trafficked persons was most frequently an issue in Belize and Panama, and to a lesser extent Guatemala and Costa Rica.

The application of immigration and related criminal provisions most often further victimizes trafficked women and children. Victims face fines, imprisonment and/or deportation. Currently, none of the countries have formal procedures in place to identify trafficked persons. According to immigration sources, women who claim to have been trafficked are allowed to report the crime to law enforcement authorities. In practice,

because identification mechanisms are not in place, trafficked women are not informed of their legal rights as a victim. Threats, stigma and a general unwillingness to cooperate with authorities also keep women quiet as to their experiences, so options, even if available, are rarely used. Protection measures were similarly undeveloped, although instances of positive intervention by consulates of the trafficked individual were noted.

The destination countries of Belize and Panama presented the most visible reliance on immigration measures to respond to foreign women and children found in situations of prostitution and other forms of sexual exploitation. In Belize, for example, women from Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador discovered in brothels are arrested and prosecuted for being illegally in the country. This offense is punishable by six months imprisonment and a $500 fine. Immigration authorities in Belize stated that immigration law is being used to control prostitution because such offenses are easier to prosecute successfully than procurement and related crimes, which would hold traffickers responsible. In Panama, women are also subject to deportation through immigration proceedings. Consulates, who have largely proven to be the sole instances of protection for trafficked women in the region, are sometimes able to secure early release of their nationals.

E. Major Obstacles

In consideration of the above policies and legislative schemes that are available to combat trafficking, it is important to highlight how these measures have been applied in practice. Overall, implementation of existing protection measures is weak, contributing to impunity for traffickers and rendering trafficking victims and survivors without necessary services. One of the most significant problems is the scarcity of available resources – human, technical and financial. A vast majority of the region's police and immigration units are working without adequate equipment (computers, vehicles, video cameras, tape recorders, phones, faxes, etc.). With the limited technology available, activities such as strict border monitoring and undercover operations are extremely compromised. Many sources indicated the need for increased personnel – in law enforcement, immigration, and protection and welfare services. Understaffing has kept pressing issues ignored and has not allowed for the specialization that is required, especially when responding to trafficking activity, victims and survivors. Finally, financial limitations overall have required government services to prioritize. Because of the lack of information on trafficking, minimal reporting (via *denuncia*), lack of political pressure and other factors, the issue looses in the competition for scare resources.

Certain incentives exist in maintaining the status quo. As recent experience has taught many countries in other areas of the world, an effective response to trafficking must not only target the criminal behavior, but also provide protection, recovery and integration services to victims. It has been recommended that these human rights protection measures include provision of shelter, legal assistance, medical attention and counseling, temporary visa programs in states of destination to allow victims to recover and participate in judicial proceedings, and continued support services and vocational training programs for those who

return to countries or regions of origin. For already impoverished infrastructures, these financial obligations may be too overwhelming to assume.

While appreciative of such resource constraints, this alone does not explain the extent of the neglect. Many other factors contribute to existing inaction, the most visible being the following: (1) scarcity of information on trafficking and a minimal reporting level by victims; (2) absence of the issue on regional and national agendas; (3) weaknesses in enforcement mechanisms; (4) lack of expertise and specialized services; and (5) minimal coordination between relevant actors at all levels (within agencies; between institutions; and between governments). These elements often occur together, consequentially reducing the possibility of positive intervention against trafficking, and increasing the potential for continued victimization or revictimization of trafficked women and children.

Information Needs

The process of consultation and investigation in the region has revealed how relatively unfamiliar government institutions and, to a lesser extent, non-governmental agencies, are with trafficking. This lack of knowledge is not surprising, given the vast information gaps that have kept the issue largely hidden.

Existing data systems do not produce information that would assist in formulating a clear understanding of the phenomenon. Law enforcement and court records on trafficking and related crimes only reflect those cases that resulted from complaints, which for many reasons is extremely rare. Child welfare reports use the most basic classifications to register children – either as juveniles in conflict with the law or at risk. Information that may be revealed in the course of treatment does not filter into generalized databases. Statistics on migration, where they exist, are rarely disaggregated by sex and/or age and do not report the conditions of exit or return. The health monitoring systems of sex workers and programs focused on HIV/AIDS, while providing consistent information, offer only indirect indicators about trafficking. Further, these records are not likely to include the population of trafficked women and children in the most extreme circumstances – those unable or unwilling to access services. Currently, no statistics are available to accurately quantify the magnitude of trafficking in the region or within particular countries.

The little information that is being collected is not being meaningfully circulated. Throughout the region, researchers were told of instances where crucial information was not shared with appropriate authorities. For example, labor inspectors who knew of children working in bars and nightclubs did not coordinate intelligence with police and prosecutors; judicial authorities have failed to inform consulates of trafficking cases involving their nationals, either as defendants or victims; consulates, in turn, have overlooked notifying law enforcement authorities in their home countries, even when recruitment and other activities occurred there. Lists of suspects involved in international trafficking are often unavailable to all border posts. Finally, NGO and civil society sources have valuable information that does not always reach government actors.

Information collection and sharing systems have to match those of the traffickers themselves. It appears from interviews that intelligence, even government-generated, is often more easily accessible on the black market than through official channels. In several states, prosecutors and advocates complained of the inability to respond quickly enough to reports. Coordinated raids of establishments would often find that the bar had been closed or an absence of minors that had been reportedly working there just hours earlier. Authorities suspect corruption, but little action has been taken to address the problem.

Absence of Political Commitment

Perhaps due to the lack of information, the issue of trafficking in persons, and particularly trafficking of women and children for commercial sexual exploitation, has not been adopted as a significant priority in national agendas. Some attention is beginning to emerge through policy initiatives against the commercial sexual exploitation of children. But even where counter-trafficking language is included in such platforms, it does not benefit from full explanation. Recommendations for action rarely respond to the particular nature of trafficking – the coerced movement and dislocation that differentiates it from other exploitative practices. Furthermore, these policies have struggled with lack of independent funding and frequent destabilization of their coordinating bodies throughout the region. Attention is even weaker for trafficking of women. Out of all eight states, the Dominican Republic was the only one to have assigned institutional resources to combat female trafficking.

In absence of strong policy statements, attention to the issue has been difficult to obtain. Law enforcement, immigration and welfare institutions, which juggle many competing priorities, turn to other issues. In addition, coordination between agencies is difficult absent a clear, unified vision that can recognize the appropriate roles of each institution and of civil society.

Enforcement Challenges

The application and enforcement of criminal and administrative penalties against traffickers is extremely weak in the region for a variety of reasons. First and foremost is the problem of reporting. The prevailing attitude in policing and prosecution is that the crime of trafficking does not occur unless it is reported. In many cases, this position reflects a legal requirement that permits investigation of adult trafficking only upon receipt of an official complaint.[56] Since reports and complaints of trafficking involving women rarely occur, time and resources are diverted elsewhere. Even in the case of child trafficking, independent investigations do not happen unless prioritized, which rarely is the case. In addition, units are ill equipped to perform undercover operations due to lack of training, time, and technical equipment.

[56] Prosecutors can, however, can initiate independent investigations into suspected trafficking of children and child prostitution.

In practice, trafficking cases are prosecuted on the basis of a victim's statement and little else. Cooperation after initial proceedings often falters, and the majority of cases are dismissed for want of evidence. States are particularly incapable of handling trafficking cases where the victim is a non-national and lacks independent means to remain in the country. Cases will commonly be opened with an initial victim statement but abandoned after the individual is deported or returned to her country of origin. It is up to the victim to find the means to return to testify in court at the proper time.

As applied, police and enforcement actions usually result in greater consequences (positive and negative) to the victim than the trafficker, since laws applicable to the victim's circumstances are easier to apply. Instead of prosecuting traffickers, law enforcement more regularly simply remove victims. They focus on immigration-based arrests of adults, many of who may be victims, and protection-based rescues of child victims. Since criminal charges related to trafficking and other crimes have proved difficult to prosecute, especially with material witnesses unavailable, the trafficker remains unpunished.

Child Trafficking

The trafficking of minors incurs a greater responsibility and burden on governments and service providers than adults due to the particular vulnerabilities of this population. The rising number of unaccompanied children in the migration process will only increase the number of potential child victims of sex trafficking.

Based on interviews, identification of children in trafficking has grown more difficult with the use of false identifications and the counseling of minors to report to authorities that they are of age. Once identified, children rarely get the necessary attention and treatment appropriate to their experience. Government institutions charged with caring for children were ranked as some of the worst in the region, suffering from poor financing, lack of human resources (in numbers and quality) and poor organization. As reported by *Casa Alianza*, trafficked girls rescued from brothels in Guatemala City in early July were placed in prison "for their safety." Institutions rarely offer integration programs and little to no follow-up is given to cases.

Specialization Needs

While police and law enforcement have been advancing toward establishing specialized units to handle such crimes as violence against women, child sexual exploitation, and organized crime, most of these units are poorly funded and few reach beyond the capital city of each country. Problems arise when one branch is specialized but investigative or other key branches remain generalized. Information is often lost or misdirected in the necessary handoffs between them.

Specialized training in organized crime, including trafficking of persons, is beginning with the assistance and cooperation of countries such as the United States and Spain. Many of those consulted, however, noted that once trained, the individuals often are not placed in positions where the training can be used, or the training is given to individuals who already handle different matters.

Changes in administration often hinder continuity in policies and services. In the course of this investigation, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Honduras hosted presidential elections, which radically altered the governmental framework. Programs in place from a prior administration, even of the same political party, were interrupted for evaluation, if not discontinued. A high percentage of political and technical staff was replaced, sacrificing any capacity building that occurred under the prior administration.

Lack of Regional or International Cooperation and Coordination

Trafficking in the region most commonly involves transnational movement; yet coordinated law enforcement activities across these borders do not exist. Facilitated rescues of foreign minors may prompt an investigation by police and prosecutors in the destination country, but case information is never transmitted to law enforcement agencies in the country of origin. Even along border areas, government officials have not engaged in any bi-lateral enforcement activities. As noted by a police investigator in Nicaragua, communication between counterparts is crucial not only for information sharing, but also to better understand the human and technological resource strengths and limitations of the partner country. None of the police and prosecuting units consulted had the ability to make international telephone calls or transmit faxes. INTERPOL assists to a limited extent by providing lists of international fugitives, but few of the agents consulted view INTERPOL as sufficiently active.

Primary means of regional information sharing are through consulates, human rights ombudsman's offices and non-governmental organizations. Consulates have served important liaison functions between complainants, such as parents of missing minors, and the local enforcement agencies of the host country. Complaints received through Human Rights Ombudsman's offices in one country are usually shared with the counterpart institution in the concerned country. Finally, the loose network of human rights organizations that accept complaints on these issues regularly correspond and rely on each other to investigate, transmit complaints to local authorities, or report it to media sources. These communication networks have proved extremely effective, and are well poised to provide necessary protection and integration services to victims. Nevertheless, they are limited in significant ways: the organizations and institutions often are constrained in their ability to continue with additional investigations, and have no competence to pursue and arrest traffickers. Absent similar coordination between law enforcement agencies, the region's trafficking problem will only be treated, but not solved.

VII. CONCLUSIONS

Trafficking is a crime and a human rights violation that affects each country individually and the extended Central American region as a whole. Women and children are being trafficked into sexual exploitation within countries, within the region and internationally. Smuggling and trafficking networks readily exploit the region's most vulnerable citizens' economic needs and ambitions of a better life. The behavior of these criminal networks – existing at all levels of organization and sophistication – remains largely unchecked, further fueling the trafficking trade. Children, many who have suffered past sexual abuse, have become particularly unprotected against domestic and international exploitation rings, encouraged by a growing child prostitution market.

Traffickers work primarily by means of deception, with false promises of decent and lucrative employment in *maquilas*, restaurants, bars, hotels and homes, among others. Following these promises of prosperity, women and children are pressed into sexual servitude in order to work off transportation fees and additional debts. Control is maintained through violence and threats, debts and fines, a restriction of access to earnings, physical restraint and use of armed guards, and demonstrations of impunity through open collaboration with authorities. The initial investment in migration and the lack of viable alternatives once transported leave many women and children without options. The risk of deportation, return or institutionalization (in the case of minors) keeps many victims silent as to their condition.

In the course of trafficking, traffickers violate the following human rights of their victims:

- the right not to be held in slavery, involuntary servitude, or slave-like conditions;
- the right to be free from exploitation;
- the right to be free from cruel and inhumane treatment;
- the right to be free from violence;
- the right to be free from discrimination based on gender;
- the right to health;
- the guarantee of freedom of movement.

Societal tolerance of the commercial sexual exploitation of women and children, taboos regarding sexuality, and a culture that discourages the reporting of suspected trafficking and sexual exploitation activity contribute to the invisibility of the phenomenon.

Thus far, government response mechanisms have been non-existent or inadequate. Disinterest, corruption and constrained resources plague law enforcement and immigration sectors, which have severely limited their effectiveness. Criminal prosecutions for sex trafficking and related crimes are minimal and convictions are rare. Child and women's welfare agencies offer little to no services adequate to meet the special needs of survivors of trafficking.

Overall, the region suffers from an absolute paucity of prevention, protection, suppression and integration strategies. Nascent attention has been drawn to the trafficking of children, but lack of funding and other obstacles have stalled implementation of targeted programs.

The information that is available paints a disturbing picture of criminals acting with near-absolute impunity and an absence of identification, treatment, and protection of victims. Many forums for action, advocacy and attention are not being utilized at the moment, in part, because trafficking in persons has not been placed on the national agenda of the majority of countries in the region. These instances, if mobilized, can generate awareness, help to harmonize data collection from different institutions and countries, contribute research, draft policy and legislative reform, and articulate strategies for victim protection and integration, prevention and sanction.

VIII. RECOMMENDATIONS

In order to be effective, efforts to address trafficking require that the states adopt tactics that respond to the specific dynamics of the problem. Trafficking involves both intra-state and international activities involving vulnerable populations largely unable to avail themselves of existing protection mechanisms. This requires a state strategy that attacks the problem from a regional, international and local level.

A. At the Regional Level

1. Create a Regional Framework. As this research and the long history of sex trafficking in this region reveals, a common understanding of trafficking and agreement on basic principles does not yet exist. Yet the necessary coordinated response cannot proceed without such an agreement. Since a variety of international instruments provide a useful framework through which to address this problem it is recommended that governments:

a. Adopt the UN Convention on Transnational Organized Crime and its Trafficking Protocol. The UN Convention on Transnational Organized Crime and its Trafficking Protocol, already adopted by the international community and expected to enter into force in the near future, can be used to introduce a uniform language to facilitate the creation and implementation of regional strategies. Ratification of these documents will give meaningful guidance to States as they begin to address trafficking in the region.

b. Implement Existing Related Treaties. Recognizing that the Organized Crime Convention and Trafficking Protocol were designed to assist states in combating international crime, the provisions of the Trafficking Protocol should be understood as complementary to the human rights protections related to trafficking contained in treaties universally ratified by the region's states: Convention on the Rights of the Child, ILO

Convention No. 182, Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, and the Inter-American Convention of Belem do Para. Toward this end, the Basic Principles and Guidelines on Human Rights and Human Trafficking issued by UN High Commissioner for Human Rights will offer important guidance.

c. Adopt the Inter-American Convention against Trafficking of Children and the Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography.

d. Coordination through the Central American Parliament (PARLACEN). Given the similarities in existing legislation on trafficking, bringing existing laws into conformity with each other and enhancing those laws where necessary may be facilitated through the Central American Parliament (PARLACEN) and the development of model legislation against trafficking that includes all forms of exploitation.

2. Regional Coordination. Trafficking in the countries that participated in this study has been shown to have a heavy regional dynamic. Particularly between the states of Nicaragua, Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala and Belize, trafficking occurs in a manner ignorant of the borders that lie between the states. As has been shown, the required institutional responses from law enforcement, immigration departments, courts, child welfare agencies, women's protection agencies and others are still constrained by national boundaries. In order to address these problems it is recommended that:

a. Bilateral and Multilateral Agreements. Regional mechanisms and bi- and multi-lateral agreements in these areas are necessary tools to work despite the physical separation of states. Based on current trafficking activity, priority issues for regional agreements include:

- law enforcement and immigration cooperation and exchange of intelligence;
- safe and secure return of trafficked citizens;
- special procedures for interventions, treatment, protection and return of trafficked children within the region;
- mechanisms for the participation of non-national material victim-witnesses in criminal and other legal proceedings; and
- regional information collection systems and databases.

b. Bilateral Forums and Organizational Collaboration. Existing regional mechanisms and forums[57] - governmental, non-governmental and mixed - can play an important role in facilitating dialogues between the States. In addition, the coordination between non-governmental organizations that currently contribute to combating trafficking can be further encouraged; partnerships between state and non-state actors should also be enhanced.

[57] A list of many of these mechanisms appears in Annex D.

B. At the National Level

The trafficking of women and children for purposes of commercial sexual exploitation in the region has demonstrated itself to be a complex and sensitive matter affecting the core dignity and human rights of its victims. Accordingly, strategies to combat trafficking activity will need to engage and address the diversity of issues that contribute to its existence. Broad, coordinated actions between all relevant actors in law enforcement, immigration, social services, health, education, labor, foreign affairs and human rights will assist in responding to this characteristic of trafficking.

1. Create a Comprehensive Information System. In order to develop policy and measure the expenditures of resources and the achievement of identified goals, it is necessary to first develop accurate reporting systems to measure the problem. To do this, it is recommended that governments create a centralized information managements system to collect, assemble, analyze and distribute reliable date on trafficking. Such a data collection system must be sensitive to how information is kept in other systems, including that:

- Information can be registered by a number of different institutions: law enforcement, migration authorities, health and labor departments, ombudsman's offices, and the justice sector.
- Data may be hidden or obscured by the particular registry systems of an institution.
- Available information may not be collected due to incomplete forms and other deficiencies.

2. Establish an Integrated, Policy Framework. Broad, coordinated actions between all relevant actors in law enforcement, immigration, social services, health, education, labor, foreign affairs and human rights will assist in responding to the multidimensional characteristics of trafficking. As has been done on the issue of commercial sexual exploitation of children and child labor, a National Action Plan on Trafficking in Persons can contribute to awareness, encourage reporting, articulate clear policy aims and assist in information sharing between institutions. It is also a means to further strengthen and enforce international legal obligations effective throughout the region such as those found in the CRC, ILO Convention No. 182, CEDAW and the Inter-American Convention of Belem do Para. Plans can also reinforce existing trafficking provisions in National Plans against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children and other policies.

3. Provide Effective Public Leadership. Experience with policy development and implementation in the region has demonstrated the importance of strong, independent leadership of a coordinating body and the need for independent financial resources to underwrite the plan. An independent, staffed and financed technical group to oversee and manage this process is important. Given the constantly changing features of trafficking, it will be crucial to periodically review and update policies, plans and initiatives.

4. Tailor Programs to Meet the Needs of Trafficked Persons. As repeatedly noted, the evils of trafficking cannot be fully addressed – either in terms of prosecuting traffickers or remedying the harms of trafficking – without careful attention to the needs of the victims of trafficking. It has been well documented that the specific needs of trafficked persons are unique as compared to other crime victims. In particular, the fact that trafficking involves dislocation results in the unavailability of the victim's usual sources of protection. This includes government services that are unavailable to victims trafficked abroad.

a. Training Officials. The first challenge is to identify victims and direct them towards appropriate care. Sensitive and trained protection officers at all points of a trafficking experience (from recruitment to recovery) can help ensure that needs are recognized and responded to. Training should target those officials most likely to come in contact with victims including:

- Consular Officials: Consular officials have been shown to work at the forefront of this problem. Those likely to interact with victims should receive appropriate training.
- Service Providers: Training for child social workers in areas of welfare agencies where child victims may receive evaluation and attention.

b. Provide Transition Integration Programs. Programs need to be developed that offer them hope, such as:

- Well-funded and effective integration programs to meet the specific needs of trafficked victims. Participation of adult trafficked persons should be voluntary.
- Tailored health services for returning women and children including physical and psychological care.

c. Develop Supports for Victim's Participation in Prosecutions. Many victims are unable to participate in prosecution efforts due to ignorance or problems relating to their status within the country to which they have been trafficked. Programs need to be develop to counterbalance this, including:

- Consular treatment protocols. Consulates should establish a uniform protocol to handle trafficking cases. This would include adopting measures to register cases and facilitate victim participation in legal proceedings against traffickers, if they so desire.
- Services to provide orientation and accompaniment through legal proceedings.

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APPENDIX A

QUESTIONNAIRE

The Trafficking of Women and Children for Commercial Sexual Exploitation

Country:
Counterpart Organization:
Legal status of the organization:
Legal representative:
Designated project coordinator:

Brief description of the work of the counterpart organization on the topic of trafficking of women and children for commercial sexual exploitation. When was the organization founded? Does it have any relationship with the government or other political institution? Indicate the number of organization staff members and their positions.

A. Conceptualization and articulation of the problem of trafficking of women and children for commercial sexual exploitation.

1. Based on the opinion of different sectors, what is the history of the problem of trafficking of women and children for sexual exploitation in your country? Please include sources of the information.

2. What forms of trafficking exist in your country? (prostitution, pornography, domestic work, sexual tourism, others)

    a. Do you consider that the situation has varied in the last ten years? If so, to what circumstances have these changes obeyed?

3. In what areas, provinces or regions of your country is the problem of trafficking mostly observed?

    a. What is the common knowledge regarding the problem in these areas?

4. What are risk factors that influence the problem of trafficking? (e.g., internal or external migration, national or international criminal networks, unemployment and labor situations, education, domestic violence). Distinguish responses by type of source: (a) government; (b) non-governmental; (c) civil society/general public information; (d) academic; (e) other.

B. Statistical Aspects

1. Is a quantification of women and children that are being sexually exploited available? If possible, distinguish between (a) women; (b) girls; and (c) boys.
    a. Are any direct statistics available? *E.g.*

- no. persons trafficked by age, gender, nationality
- no. reports/investigations/prosecutions/convictions for trafficking & related crimes with information on victim age, gender, nationality; defendant age, gender, nationality; summary of facts; sentence

b. Are any indirect statistics available? *E.g.*

- no. sex workers by age, gender, nationality
- no. known or licensed establishments related to sex industry with breakdown of type of activity in each establishment (official and unofficial)
- no. entertainment/artist visas issues by gender and age
- no. visas issued for unaccompanied minors
- no. deportations and repatriations by age, gender, nationality
- statistics on health of sex workers
- no. reports of missing children by age, gender
- no. requests to consular office/embassy for assistance with missing person
- no. consular facilitated repatriation
- no. persons deported following prostitution-related conviction

2. What instruments are used or have been used in the country to measure the incidence and prevalence of the problem of trafficking? (e.g., survey, polls, census, registries, complaints)

Type of Instrument	Applied by? When? Coverage?	Results (please provide copies of final documents)	Sources and means utilized

3. What is the perception of different sectors regarding the problem of trafficking of women and children for sexual exploitation? Distinguish responses by type of source: (a) government; (b) non-governmental; (c) civil society/general public information; (d) academic; (e) other.

4. What individuals, groups or organizations have financed studies, research or other data on the subject of trafficking of women and children for sexual exploitation? What were the objectives of these studies?

C. Social Aspects

1. What policies exist that address the problem of trafficking of women and children for sexual exploitation? Divide in the following categories: (a) awareness; (b) investigation and research; (c) training; (d) victim attention and treatment; (e) rehabilitation.

2. Are there any government institutions, councils, ministries or other agencies that address, either alone or inter-institutionally, the issue of trafficking of women and children for sexual exploitation? Include information on membership, main objectives, activities, and achievements to date.

3. What portion of the national or local budget is assigned to combating the problem of trafficking of women and children for sexual exploitation? What is the actual amount available or spent?

4. What government programs and projects have existed over the past ten years for the assistance and protection of women and children trafficked? Include the implementing agency, program/project description, results obtained, geographical target or scope.

5. What resources exist for victim and family assistance (including prevention) for women and children that are sexually exploited? Include information on services offered, name of the coordinating institution or organization, results obtained, and funding.

6. Are any reintegration programs (short and long term) offered including provisional treatment of minors? Are these or other services available to foreign women and minors?

7. What civil society organizations work directly with the issue of trafficking of women and children for sexual exploitation in your country?

    a. What type of work do they do?
    b. Since when have they worked with this issue?
    c. Are they based on principles contained the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Stockholm Declaration or other international treaties?
    d. Do they receive state/official funding?
    e. Are there situations or practices that constitute obstacles to their work?

8. Have there been any reports, evaluations or assessments regarding the work, programs and projects on the issue of trafficking of women and children for sexual exploitation? Describe.

9. Please provide case studies, anecdotes or other information --both official and unofficial-- regarding the issue. All stories are important, as long as they have a source.

D. Legal Aspects

1. Is sexual exploitation of women and children and trafficking for the same considered a crime in your country? Is consent taken into account? How is consent understood? Is it taken or seen as an attenuating factor?

Type of crime	Frequency with which it occurs	Penalty	Statistical relationship between cases reported and sanctions

2. Are there other crimes typified in your country that relate to trafficking of women and children for sexual exploitation?

3. What is the age at which children become adults? Does this coincide the criminal age? Do minors have the legal capacity to denounce? What are the procedures?

4. What laws, proposed legislation, reforms or amendments to the law currently exist regarding trafficking of women and children for sexual exploitation in your country?

Law or Bill #	Date of approval or current status	General content	Objectives and issuers

5. Do these laws respond to the principles of the Convention of the Rights of the Child and to the Stockholm Declaration or other international treaty obligations?

6. How is prostitution treated in legal terms (criminalization/regulation/tolerance)?

7. Are trafficked persons vulnerable to criminal charges or other administrative penalties? Do they have access to legal assistance, translation? Witness protection? Access to medical treatment and counseling? Shelter?

8. In circumstances of international trafficking, how are victims treated (e.g. deportation, temporary stay based on cooperation with authorities, option for voluntary repatriation, etc.)? What agencies are responsible? Is the treatment different for minors?

E. International Protection

1. Has your country ratified the following human rights international instruments?

- UN Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others (1949)
- Slavery Convention (1926)
- UN Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, Slave Trade and Institutions and Similar Practices (1956)
- UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (1979) & its Optional Protocol
- UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989) & Protocol on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography
- UN Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime & its Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking of Persons, Especially Women and Children (2000) not yet in force
- International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights & its first Optional Protocol
- International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (1966)

- ILO Convention No. 29 concerning Forced Labor (1930)
- ILO Convention No. 105 concerning the Abolition of Forced Labor (1957)
- ILO Convention No. 182 concerning the Worst Forms of Child Labor (1999)

- OAS American Convention on Human Rights (1969)
- OAS Inter-American Convention on International Traffic in Minors (1994)
- OAS Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence Against Women (“Belem do Para,” 1994)

Others?

2. How are these treaties being implemented with respect to trafficking?

3. Have other legislative measures been adopted to adjust domestic legislation to these norms?

4. Have any complaints against the government been presented before international organs for the violation of rights regarding sexual exploitation in any of its forms during the past five years? If so, please describe them as well as the results to date.

5. Has your country been included in any report of international organizations regarding the generalized and systematic violations of rights caused by sexual exploitation in any of its forms during the past five years? If so, please list the causes and reports.

6. Has the government participated in any international or regional cooperation or intelligence sharing programs relating to trafficking? Does the government work with INTERPOL? Provide information on activities.

APPENDIX B

RATIFICATION TABLE

INTERNATIONAL LEGAL PROTECTIONS

International treaties have significantly contributed to providing a framework and guidance for domestic legislation. For the extended Central American region, the impact of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence Against Women (Belem do Para), and the ILO Convention number 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labor have been particularly effective. Each of these instruments contains provisions against trafficking in some form; together they offer potential tools in combating the proliferation of trafficking.

CENTRAL AMERICA & THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	Belize	Costa Rica	Dominican Republic	El Salvador	Guatemala	Honduras	Nicaragua	Panama
UN Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others (1949)						●		
Slavery Convention (1926)					s		s	
► Protocol amending the Slavery Convention (1953)					●		●	
UN Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, Slave Trade and Institutions Similar Practices (1956)			●	s	●		●	
UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (1979)	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
► Optional Protocol to CEDAW (1999)		●	●	s	s			●
UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989)	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
► Protocol on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography (2000)	s	●			●	●		●
UN Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime (2000, *not in force*)		s	s	s	s	s	s	s
► Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking of Persons, Especially Women and Children (2000, *not in force*)		s	s					s

International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (1966)	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (1966)	s	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
ILO Convention No. 29 concerning Forced Labor (1930)	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
ILO Convention No. 105 concerning the Abolition of Forced Labor (1957)	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
ILO Convention No. 182 concerning the Worst Forms of Child Labor (1999)	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
OAS American Convention on Human Rights ("San Jose," 1969)		●	●	●	●	●	●	●
► Additional Protocol in the Area of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights ("San Salvador," 1988)		●	s	●	●		s	●
OAS Inter-American Convention on International Traffic in Minors (1994)	●	●						●
OAS Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence Against Women ("*Belem do Para*," 1994)	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

● = ratification; s = signature only

Special Note on the UN Convention on Transnational Organized Crime and Supplemental Protocol on Trafficking

The UN Convention on Transnational Organized Crime or its supplemental Trafficking Protocol is still relatively unknown in the region. In almost all interviews with relevant government and non-government officials, interviewees expressed their ignorance as to its existence and/or terms. No country has yet ratified the Convention, and only three countries have signed the Protocol. Nevertheless, signs do exist of its increasing support. In Honduras, the Special Prosecutor on Organized Crime has encouraged the government to take steps toward signature and ratification of all three instruments – the Convention and both is protocols. The inter-institutional working group, CIPROM, together with the IOM hosted a seminar in June 2002 in the Dominican Republic to discuss national trafficking legislation in the context of the Trafficking Protocol. A university in Costa Rica hosted a seminar on the UN Convention and its protocols. Ratification of the Convention and its protocols has also been placed on the agenda of the Regional Conference on Migration, and ratification status was discussed at its last meeting of ministers in May 2002.

APPENDIX C

REGIONAL MECHANISMS

The following regional bodies and networks are some of the many forums available for counter-trafficking initiatives and/or development and coordination of strategies.

Forum	Action
PARLACEN: Commission on Women, Children and Family	Legislative assistance
Central American Police Organization	Policy and coordination
Central American Council of Human Rights Ombudsmen (*Consejo Centroamericana de Procuradores de Derechos Humanos*)	Policy and coordination
Central American Commission of Migration Directorates and the Regional Conference on Migration	Policy and coordination
International Organization on Migration	Technical assistance
Save the Children	Financing and coordination
International Program for the Eradication of Child Labor (ILO/IPEC) – Regional program against child sexual exploitation	Financing and technical assistance
UNICEF	Financing and coordination
ECPAT	Advocacy
Casa Alianza (Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua)	Advocacy and victim assistance
Local NGOs	Advocacy, coordination, victim assistance

APPENDIX D

BEST PRACTICES

The following initiatives take meaningful steps toward establishing an effective strategy to reduce, control and combat the trafficking of women and children for sexual exploitation in the Americas.

Prevention:

- Campaign Viajera (Dominican Republic): The NGO COIN has produced multiple information and awareness materials for potential and actual female migrants. The materials include: a booklet with NGO and consular contacts in traditional destination countries and a basic legal protections; and a comic book of stories of trafficked women, based on actual experiences.
- Police Warnings (Guasaule, Nicaragua): Police stations at the border in Guasaule inform young female migrants traveling alone of the dangers of trafficking. Written advisory materials (press reports) are distributed.

Protection:

- Consular Training (Dominican Republic): trafficking and gender issues have been incorporated into the foreign service training curricula. In addition, posted consuls in Europe were specially trained on similar issues.
- Mobile Health Services (Belize, Guatemala, El Salvador): public health officials in Belize and independent NGOs in El Salvador and Guatemala provide direct health services, HIV/AIDS and contraceptive use awareness, and self-esteem courses to women in their locations of employment/captivity (streets, parks, bars and brothels).
- Police Training (Honduras): Save the Children-UK has trained over 500 preventive police have received specialized training on child sex trafficking and related issues of child sexual exploitation.

Investigation & Prosecution:

- Gender-Sensitive Policing (Nicaragua): The Nicaraguan Women's Institute together with the National Police have opened offices to assist women and children who are victims of violence. Legal orientation and assistance, accompaniment, and basic medical attention is offered.
- Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation Investigation Unit (Chiandega, Nicaragua): Police created a special unit of female officers to investigate trafficking and other crimes related to sexual exploitation. The unit works in consultation with an NGO women's network, *Red de Mujeres*. [A similar unit exists in San Jose, Costa Rica within the Ministry of Public Security.]

- NGO Partnerships (Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras, Guatemala): Casa Alianza has worked directly with law enforcement partners to assist in detection and investigation of trafficking activity and investigation. These partnerships have been especially successful. The pooled resources yield stronger investigations and improved victim protection.

Integration:

- Casa de la Mujer (Guatemala): Offers shelter and educational opportunities to trafficked women and girls.
- Casa Alianza (Nicaragua, Honduras, Guatemala): Provides shelter, vocational training programs and specialized counseling to child victims of trafficking.
- COIN (Dominican Republic): Offers orientation and health services to trafficked women.

Awareness:

- Certificate Program on Trafficking and Gender (Dominican Republic): CIPROM and FLACSO offer a certificate program for public officials and NGOs on issue of Gender, Migration and Trafficking in the Dominican Republic. A similar program has been incorporated into diplomatic corps curricula.
- La Cuerda (Guatemala): A network of women journalists. Members, acting individually and through the network's publications, have published sensitive reports on trafficking and child sexual exploitation.
- Association of Relatives of Missing Migrants (Progreso, Honduras): Hosts a weekly radio broadcast, "Without Borders," on issues of migration including trafficking and other migration risks.
- Campaign against Child Sexual Exploitation (El Salvador): The Office of the Human Rights Ombudsman launched a campaign against the commercial sexual exploitation of children. A symbolic pin in the shape of a triangle and colored orange was distributed to be worn in a public showing of protest against sexual exploitation.

APPENDIX E

INDEX OF UNITED NATIONS DOCUMENTS ON THE TRAFFICKING OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN

Trafficking and the Exploitation of the Prostitution of others Traffic in Persons

2002

E/CN.4/2002/80 Traffic in women and girls

E/CN.4/RES/2002/51 Traffic in women and girls

E/CN.4/RES/2002/48 Traffic in women and girls

E/2002/68/Add.1 Recommended Principles and Guidelines on Human Rights and Human Trafficking - Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to the Economic and Social Council

E/2002/68 Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to the Economic and Social Council

E/CN.4/Sub.2/AC.2/2002/3 Review of the implementation of and follow-up to the Conventions on Slavery - Status of the Conventions

E/CN.4/Sub.2/AC.2/2002/1/Add.1 Annotations to the provisional Agenda

E/CN.4/Sub.2/AC.2/2002/1 Provisional Agenda

E/CN.4/2002/L/63 Traffic in Women and Girls

2001

E/CN.4/2001/73/Add.2 Trafficking of women and girls: Mission to Bangladesh, Nepal and India - Report of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women

E/CN.4/2001/73 Violence against women - Report of the Special Rapporteur

E/CN.4/2001/72 Traffic in women and girls

E/CN.4/2001/25 The right to development - Report of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

E/CN.4/Sub.2/AC.2/2001/4 Trafficking in persons

E/CN.4/Sub.2/2001/26 Smuggling and trafficking in persons and the protection of their human rights

E/CN.4/SUB.2/RES/2001/14 Report of the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery

A/56/36 Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

A/RES/56/132 Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly

HR/GVA/OHCHR/STM/CHR/01/04 Observations by the United Nations High commissioner for Human Rights and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the Proposal for an EU Council Framework Decision on Combating Trafficking in Human Beings

A/CONF.189/PC.3/5 Violence against women, on the subject of race, gender and violence against women - contribution submitted by the Special Rapporteur

A/CONF.189/PC.2/3 Report of the Asian-Pacific regional seminar of experts on migrants and trafficking in persons with particular reference to women and children

2000

E/CN.4/2000/68 Report of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences, Ms. Radhika Coomaraswamy, on trafficking in women, women's migration and violence against women

E/CN.4/2000/L.59 Traffic in Women and Girls

E/CN.4/RES/2000/44 Traffic in Women and Girls

E/CN.4/SUB.2/DEC/2000/110 Smuggling and trafficking in persons and the protection of their human rights

E/CN.4/SUB.2/RES/2000/19 Report of the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery

S/2000/788/Corr.1, A/55/282/Corr.1 Situation of human rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia - Note by the Secretary-General

S/2000/788, A/55/282 Situation of human rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia - Report of the Special Rapporteur

A/RES/55/67 Traffic in women and girls

1999

E/CN.4/RES/1999/40 Traffic in Women and Girls

E/CN.4/Sub.2/1999/16 Note by the Secretariat on systematic rape, sexual slavery and slavery-like practices during armed conflict, including internal armed conflict

A/AC.254/16 Informal note by the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of a Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime

E/CN.4/1999/66 Note by the Secretary-General on the report on trafficking in women and girls

E/CN.4/1999/75 Note by the Secretariat on vulnerable groups and individuals

E/CN.4/RES/1999/40 Traffic in Women and Girls

E/CN.4/Sub.2/1999/17 Report on the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery on its 24th session

A/AC.254/16 Informal note by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of a Convention against Transnational Organized Crime

1998

E/CN.4/Sub.2/1998/13 Report of the Special Repporteur on systematic rape, sexual slavery and slavery-like practices during armed conflict

E/RES/1998/12 Conclusions of the Commission on the status of Women on critical areas of concern identified in the Beijing Platform for Action

E/RES/1998/20 Action to combat international trafficking in women and children

A/53/36 Report of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights

E/CN.4/1998/66 Report of the Special Rapporteur on the Situation of human rights in the Sudan

E/CN.4/1998/86 Note by the SG on the traffic in women and girls

E/CN.4/1998/95 Report by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Human Rights in Cambodia

E/CN.4/RES/1998/20 Traffic in Women and Girls

E/CN.4/RES/1998/30 Traffic in Women and Girls

1997

E/CN.4/1997/108 Note by the Secretary-General on traffic in women and girls

E/CN.4/RES/1997/19 Traffic in women and girls

E/CN.4/RES/1997/20 Contemporary Forms of Slavery

1996

E/CN.4/1996/100 Report of the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

E/CN.41996/101 Report of the working group on its second session on the question of a draft optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, as well as basic measures needed for their eradication

E/CN.41996/53 Report of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences

E/CN.41996/53/Add.1 Report of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences: mission to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Republic of Korea and Japan in the issue of military sexual slavery in wartime

E/CN.4/1996/98 Note by the Secretary-General on Programme of action for the prevention of the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

E/CN.4/DEC./1996/107 Systematic rape and sexual slavery during periods of armed conflict

E/CN.4/Sub.2/1996 Report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of systematic rape, sexual slavery and slavery-like practices during periods of armed conflict

E/CN.4/SUB.2/RES/1996/12 Report of the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery

E/CN.4/1996/79 Note by the Secretary-General on the traffic in women and girls

E/CN.4/1996/82 Note by the Secretariat transmitting the final draft programme of action for the prevention of traffic in persons and the exploitation of the prostitution of others

E/CN.4/RES/1996/24 Traffic in women and girls

E/RES/1996/26 Measures to prevent illicit international trafficking in children and to establish penalties appropriate to such offenses

1995

A/RES/50/167 Traffic in women and girls

E/CN.4/RES/1995/25 Traffic in women and girls

E/CN.4.Sub.2/1995/28/Add.1 Report of the Working Group on Contemporary Forms Of Slavery

E/CN.4/Sub.21995/38 Working paper on the situation of systematic rape, sexual slavery, and slavery like-practices during wartime, including internal armed conflict

E/CN.4/SUB.2/DEC/1995/109 Draft program of action on the traffic in persons and the exploitation of the prostitution of others

E/CN.4/SUB.2/RES/1995/14 Systematic rape and sexual slavery during periods of armed conflict

E/CN.4/SUB/RES/1995/16 Report of the Working Group on Contemporary forms of Slavery

1994

A/RES/49/166 Traffic in women and children

E/1994/76 Report on the suppression of the traffic in persons and the exploitation of the prostitution of others

E/CN.4/1994/71 Draft programme of action for the prevention of traffic in persons and the exploitation of the prostitution of others

E/CN.4/1994/71/Add.1 Draft programme of action for the prevention of traffic in persons and the exploitation of the prostitution of others.

1993

E/CN.4/1993/58 Report of the Secretary General on the draft programme of action for the prevention of traffic in persons and the exploitation of the prostitution of others

E/CN.4/1993/58/ Add.1 Report of the Secretary General on the draft programme of action for the prevention of traffic in persons and the exploitation of the prostitution of others

E/CN.4/Sub.2/AC.2/1993/7 Development of National and International Measures and Strategies to Prevent and Eliminate Contemporary Forms of Slavery; Encouragement of the Creation of National Institutions for the Prevention of Prostitution and the Economic and Social Integration of Prostitutes

UN Treaty Monitoring Bodies: Trafficking in Women and Children – Central America & the Dominican Republic

2001

CCPR/CO/72/GTM Human Rights Committee (HRC) Concluding Observations: Guatemala

CCPR/CO/71/DOM HRC Concluding Observations: Dominican Republic

A/56/38,paras.277-318 Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) Concluding Observations: Nicaragua

CRC/C/15/Add.154 Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC) Concluding Observations: Guatemala

CRC/C/15/Add.150 CRC Concluding Observations: Dominican Republic 2000

CCPR/C/DOM/99/3 ICCPR State Party Report: Dominican Republic

CCPR/C/GTM/99/2 ICCPR State Party Report: Guatemala

CRC/C/15/Add.117 CRC Concluding Observations: Costa Rica

CRC/C/65/Add.10 CRC State Party Reports: Guatemala

1999

CCPR/C/79/Add.107 HRC Concluding Observations: Costa Rica

A/54/38,paras.31-69 CEDAW Concluding observations: Belize

CRC/C/15/Add.105 CRC Concluding Observations: Honduras

CRC/C/15/Add.108 CRC Concluding Observations: Nicaragua

CRC/C/15/Add.99 CRC Concluding Observations: Belize

CRC/C/8/Add.40 CRC State Party Reports: Dominican Republic

1998

CCPR/C/103/Add.6 ICCPR State Party Report: Costa Rica

A/53/38,paras.312-353 CEDAW Concluding observations: Dominican Republic

CRC/C/65/Add.7 CRC State Party Reports: Costa Rica

CRC/C/65/Add.4 CRC State Party Reports: Nicaragua

CRC/C/65/Add.2 CRC State Party Reports: Honduras

1997

CRC/C/3/Add.46 CRC State Party Reports: Belize

1996

CCPR/C/79/Add.63 HRC Concluding Observations: Guatemala

CEDAW/C/BLZ/1-2 CEDAW State Party Report: Belize

CRC/C/8/Add.28 CRC State Party Reports: Panama

1995

CCPR/C/81/Add.7 ICCPR State Party Report: Guatemala

CRC/C/15/Add.36 CRC Concluding Observations: Nicaragua

CRC/C/3/Add.33 CRC State Party Reports: Guatemala

1994

CCPR/C/79/Add.31 HRC Concluding Observations: Costa Rica

CCPR/C/79/Add.34; A/49/40 HRC Concluding Observations: El Salvador

A/49/38,paras.38-87, 209-224 CEDAW Concluding observations: Guatemala

CRC/C/15/Add.24 CRC Concluding Observations: Honduras

CRC/C/3/Add.25 CRC State Party Reports: Nicaragua

1993

CCPR/C/79/Add.18 HRC Concluding Observations: Dominican Republic

A/48/38,paras.359-404 CEDAW Concluding observations: Nicaragua

CRC/C/15/Add.11 CRC Concluding Observations: Costa Rica

CRC/C/15/Add.9 CRC Concluding Observations: El Salvador

CRC/C/3/Add.9 CRC State Party Reports: El Salvador

1992

CCPR/C/70/Add.3 ICCPR State Party Report: Dominican Republic

Sale of children

2000

A/54/L/84 Optional protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child-children in armed conflict and on the sale of children, child prostitution and pornography

A/55/201 Status of the Convention on the Rights of the Child – Report of the Secretary General

E/CN.4/2000/72 Note by the Secretariat on the Programme of Action for the Prevention of the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography

E/CN/4/2000/73 Sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography – Report of the Special Rapporteur

E/CN.4/2000/73/Add.1 Sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography: mission to Belgium and Netherlands

E/CN.4/2000/73/Add.2 Sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography: mission to Guatemala

E/CN.4/200/73/Add.3 Sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography: mission to the Republic of Fiji

E/CN.4/2000/75 Draft Optional Protocol on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography – Report of the WG on its sixth session

E/CN.4/2000/NGO/35 Written statements submitted by Anti-Slavery International

E/CN.4/2000/WG.14/1 Provisional agenda – WG for optional protocol on the sale of children, prostitution and pornography

E/CN.4/2000/WG.14/2 Comments on the report of WG for optional protocol on the sale of children

E/CN.4/RES/2000/59 Question of draft optional protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on involvement of children in armed conflict and sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

1999

A/54/265 Report on the Status of the Convention on the Rights of the Child

A/54/411 Report prepared by the Special Rapporteurs on the sale of children

E/CN.4/1999 Report of the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

E/CN.4/1999/71/Add.1 Report of the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography: Mission to the Lao People's Democratic Republic

E/CN.4/1999/WG.14/1 Provisional agenda of the working group for the elaboration of a draft optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

E/CN.4/1999/WG/14/2 Note by the Secretary General on the working group for the elaboration of a draft optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

E/CN.4/1999/WG.14/2Add.1 Note by the Secretary General on the working group on the elaboration of a draft optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

E/CN.4/RES/1999/40 Traffic in women and girls

W/CN.4/RES/1999/80 Rights of the child

1998

A/53/621 Report of the Third Committee on the promotion and protection of the rights of children

A/RES/53/128 The rights of the child

A/CN.4/1998/100 Report of the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

E/CN.4/1998/101 Report of the Special Rapportuer on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

E/CN.4/1998/101/Add.1 Report on the mission of the Special Rapportuer in the issue of commercial sexual exploitation of children to Kenya

E/CN.4/1998/103 Report of the working group on the question of a draft optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

E/CN.4/RES/1998/76 Rights of the Child

E/DEC/1998/271 Rights of the Child

1997

A/52/482 Report of the Special Rapportuer on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography

A/RES/52/107 The rights of the child

E/CN.4/1997/95 Report of the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

E/CN.4/1997/95/Add.1 Report of the Special Rapportuer on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography: Visit to the Czech Republic

E/CN.4/1997/95/Add.2 Report of the Special Rapportuer on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography: Mission to the United States of America

E/CN.4/1997/97 Report of the Working Group on the question of a draft optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, as well as basic measures needed for their eradication.

E/CN.4/1997/19 Traffic in women and girls

E/CN.4/Sub.2/1997/11 Report of the Secretary General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Prevention of the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography

1996

A/51/456 Interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

A/RES/51/77 The rights of the child

1995

A/50/456 Sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

A/RES/50 153 The rights of the child

E/CN.4/RES/1995/78 Question of a draft optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, as well as the basic measures needed for their prevention and eradication

E/RES/1995/35 Question of a draft optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, and the basic measures needed for their prevention and eradication

E/RES/1995/36 Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

1994

A/49/478 Report of the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

A/RES/49/210 Need to adopt efficient international measures for the prevention, eradication of the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

E/CN.4/19994/84 Sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography: Report submitted by Special Rapporteur

E/CN.4/RES/1994/90 Need to adopt effective international measures for the prevention and eradication of the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

E/CN.4/RES/1994/92 Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

E/RES/1994/9 Question of a draft optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, as well as the basic measures needed for their prevention and eradication

1993

A/RES/48/156 Need to adopt efficient international measures for the prevention of the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

E/CN.4/Sub.2/1993/31/Add.1 Report of the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery

Sexual Exploitation of Children

2001

E/CN.4/2001/78 Sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography-Report of the Special Rapporteur

E/CN.4/2001/78/Add.1 Mission to the Kingdom of Morocco-Report of the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

E/CN.4/2001/78/Add.2 Mission to the Russian Federation-Report of the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children

2000

A/54/L.84 Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Children in armed conflict and on the sale of children and child pornography

A/55/201 Status of the Convention on the Rights of the Child – Report of the Secretary General

E/CN.4/2000/72 Note by the Secretariat on the Programme of Action for the Prevention of the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography

E/CN.4/2000/73 Sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography – Report of the Special Rapporteur

E/CN.4/2000/73/Add/1 Sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography: mission to Belgium and the Netherlands

E/CN.4/2000/73/Add.2 Sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography: mission to Guatemala

E/CN.4/2000/73/Add.3 Sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography: mission to the Republic of Fiji

E/CN.4/2000/75 Draft optional protocol on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography – Report of the WG on its sixth session

E/CN.4/2000/L.62 Question of draft optional protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child

E/CN.4/2000/L.94 Rights of the child

E/CN.4/2000/NGO/88 Written statement submitted by the American Association of Jurists

E/CN.4/2000/WG.14/1 Provisional agenda – WG for optional protocol on the sale of children, prostitution and pornography

E/CN.4/2000/WG.14/2 Comments on the report of the WG for optional protocol on the sale of children

E/CN.4/2000/WG.14/CRP.1 Working group for a draft optional protocol on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

E/CN.4/2000/WG.14/CRP.2 Draft optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

E/CN.4/2000/WG.14/CRP.3 Working group on the elaboration of a draft optional protocol on the dale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

E/CN.4/RES/2000/59 Question of draft optional protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on involvement of children in armed conflict, sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

1999

A/54/265 Report on the status of the Convention on the Rights of the Child

A/54/411 Report prepared by the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children

E/CN.4/1999/71 Report of the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

E/CN.4/1999/71/Add.1 Report of the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography: Mission to the Lao People's Democratic Republic (duplicate)

E/CN.4/1999/74 Report of the Working Group on a draft optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography on its fifth session

E/CN.4/19999/WG.14/1Provisional agenda of the working group for the elaboration of a draft optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights if the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

E/CN.4/1999/WG.14/2 Note by the Secretary General on the working group for the elaboration of a draft optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

E/CN.4/19999/WG.14/2/Add.1 Note by the Secretary General on the working group on the elaboration of a draft optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

E/CN.4/RES/1999/40 Traffic in women and girls

E/CN.4/RES/1999/80 Rights of the child

E/CN.4/Sub.21999/15 Report of the Secretary General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Prevention of the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography

1998

A/53/311 Report of the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

A/53/621 Report of the Third Committee on the promotion and protection of the rights of children

A/RES/53/127 The girl child

A/RES/53/128 The rights of the child

E/CN.4/1998/100 Note by the SG on the Programme of Action for the Prevention of the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography

E/CN.4/1998/101 Report of the Special Rapportuer on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

E/CN.4/1998/101/Add.1 Report on the mission of the Special Rapporteur on the issue of commercial sexual exploitation of children to Kenya (duplicate)

E/CN.4/1998/101/Add.2 Report on the mission of the Special Rapporteur on the issue of commercial sexual exploitation of children to Mexico

E/CN.4/1998/103 Report of the Working Group on the question of a draft optional protocol to the convention on the Rights of the Child, on the sale, of children, child prostitution and child pornography

E/CN.4/1998/NGO/123 Written statement submitted by the North-South XXI

E/CN.4/1998/NGO/15 Written statement submitted by the Baha'i International Community

E/CN.4/Sub.2/1998/12 Report of the Secretary General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Elimination of the Exploitation of Child labour

E/DEC/1998/271 Rights of the child

1997

A/52/482 Report of the Special Rapporteur on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography

A/RES/52/107 The rights of the Child

E/CN.4/1997/95 Report of the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

E/CN.4/1997/95/Add.1 Report of the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography: Visit to the Czech Republic

E/CN.4/1997/95/Add.2 Report of the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography: Mission to the United States of America

E/CN.4/1997/97 Report of the Working Group on the question of a draft optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution , as well as basic measures needed for their eradication

E/CN.4/RES/1997/19 Traffic in women and girls

E/CN.4/Sub.2/1997/11 Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Prevention of the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography.

1996

A/51/306 Report of the expert of the Secretary-General on the impact of armed conflict on children

A/51/456 Interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

E/CN.4/SUB.2/RES/1996/12 Report of the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery

1995

A/50/456 Sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

A/RES/50/153 The rights of the child

E/CN.4/Sub.2/1995/29 Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Prevention of the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography

E/CN.4/SUB.2/RES/1995/16 Report of the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery

E/RES/1995/35 Question of a draft optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, and the basic measures needed for their prevention and eradication

E/RES/1995/36 Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

1994

A/49/478 Report of the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

A/RES/49/210 Need to adopt efficient international measures for the prevention and eradication of the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

A/RES/49/211 Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child

E/CN.4/1994/45/Add.1 Report of the second International Workshop on National Institutions

E/CN.4/1994/82 Programme of Action for the Prevention of the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography

E/CN.4/1994/84 Sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography: Report submitted by the Special Rapporteur

E/CN.4/1994/NGO/17 Written statement submitted by the International Federation Terre des Hommes

E/CN.4/RES/1994/90 Need to adopt effective international measures for the prevention and eradication of the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

E/CN.4/RES/1994/91 Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child

E/CN.4/RES/1994/92 Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

E/RES/1994/9 Question of a draft optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, as well as the basic measures needed for their prevention and eradication

1993

A/RES/48/156 Need to adopt efficient international measures for the prevention of the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

E/CN.4/Sub.2/1993/31/Add.1 Report of the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery

Slavery

2000

A/55/204 Status of the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery-Report of the Secretary General

E/CN.4/2000/69 Abduction of children from Northern Uganda: Report of the Secretary General

E/CN.4/2000/80/Add.1 Recommendations adopted by the Board of Trustees of United Nation Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery at its fifth session

E/CN.4/Sub.2/2000/20 Systematic rape, sexual slavery and slavery-like practices during armed conflict

E/CN.4/Sub.2/2000/3 Systematic rape, sexual slavery and slavery-like practices during armed conflict-update report by the special rapporteur

E/CN.4/Sub.2/2000/3 Update review of the implementation of and follow-up to the conventions on slavery-Working paper: Mr. David Weissbrodt and Anti-Slavery International

E/CN.4/Sub.2/2000/3/Add.1 Updated review of the implementation of and follow-up to the conventions on slavery

E/CN.4/Sub.2/AC.2/2000/2 Status of the Conventions – Note by the Secretary General

E/CN.4/Sub.2/AC.2/2000/3 Status of the Conventions – Note by the Secretary General

E/CN.4/Sub.2/AC.2/2000/4 Review of developments in the field of contemporary forms of slavery-Report of the Secretary-General

E/CN.4/Sub.2/AC.2/2000/4/Add.1 Review of developments in the field of contemporary forms of slavery-Report by the Secretary-General

1999

A/54/348 Status of the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery

E/CN.4/1999/85 United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery

E/CN.4/1999/NGO/5 Written statement submitted by Christian Solidarity International

E/CN.4/DEC/1999/105 Systematic rape, sexual slavery and slavery-like practices during armed conflict, including internal armed conflict

E/CN.4/RES/1999/40 Traffic in Women and Girls

E/CN.4/RES/1999/46 Contemporary Forms of Slavery

E/CN.4/Sub.2/1999/16 Note by the Secretariat on systematic rape, sexual slavery and slavery-like practices during armed conflict, including internal armed conflict

E/CN.4/Sub.2/1999/17 Report of the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery on its twenty-fourth session

E/CN.4/Sub.2/1999/NGO/15 Written statement submitted by the Society for Threatened Peoples

E/CN.4/Sub.2/AC.2/1999/2 Note by the Secretary-General on status of the Conventions

E/CN.4/Sub.2/AC.2/1999/4 Recommendations adopted by the Board of Trustees of the UN Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery at its fourth session

E/CN.4/SUB.2/RES/1999/16 Systematic rape, sexual slavery and slavery-like practices

E/CN.4/SUB.2/RES/1999/17 Report of the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery

E/CN.4/SUB.2/RES/1999/18 United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery

E/CN.4/Sub.2/AC.2/1999/6 Executive summary of the working paper prepared by David Weissbrodt and Anti-Slavery International

1998

A/53/339 Report of the Secretary General on the status of the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery

A/53/364 Report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Myanmar

E/CN.4/1998/66 Report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Sudan

E/CN.4/1998/89 Report of the SG on the UN Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery

E/CN.4/1998/NGO/54 Written statement submitted by Human Rights Watch

E/CN.4/Sub.2/1998/12 Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Elimination of the Exploitation of Child Labour

E/CN.4/Sub.2/1998/13 Report of the Special Rapporteur on systematic rape, sexual slavery and slavery-like practices during armed conflict

E/CN.4/Sub.2/1998/14 Report of the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery

E/CN.4/Sub.2/1998/NGO/6 Written statement submitted by Christian Solidarity International

E/CN.4/SUB.2/RES/1998/18 Systematic rape, sexual slavery and slavery –like practices during armed conflict, including internal armed conflict

E/CN.4/SUB.2/RES/1998/19 Report of the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery

E/CN.4/SUB.2/RES/1998/20 United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery

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E/CN.4/1997/76 Report of the Secretary General on the UN Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery

E/CN.4/1997/78 Note by the Secretary-General on contemporary forms of slavery

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E/CN.4/RES/1997/20 Contemporary Forms of Slavery

E/CN.4/Sub.2/1997/13 Report of the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery on its twenty-second session

E/CN.4/Sub.2/1997/14 Recommendations adopted by the Board of Trustees of the UN Voluntary Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery at its Third Session

E/CN.4/SUB.2/DEC/1997/114 Systematic rape and sexual slavery and slavery-like practices during periods of armed conflict

E/CN.4/SUB.2/RES/1997/21 UN Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery

E/CN.4/SUB.2/RES/1997/22 Report of the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery

1996

E/CN.4/1996/100 Report of the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

E/CN.4/1996/101 Report of the working group on its second session on the question of a draft optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, as well as basic measures needed for their eradication

E.CN.4.1996/134 Letter from the Charge d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Croatia to the UN Office at Geneva addressed to the Chairman of the Commission on Human Rights

E/CN.4/1996/85 Report of the Secretary-General on the first session of the Board of Trustees of the UN Voluntary Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery

E/CN.4/1996/86 Report of the Secretary-General on the second session of the Board of Trustees of the UN Voluntary Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery

E/CN.4/1996/98 Note by the Secretary-General on Programme of action for the prevention of the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

E/CN.4/DEC/1996/107 Systematic rape and sexual slavery during periods of armed conflict

E/CN.4/RES/1996/61 Contemporary Forms of Slavery

E/CN.4/Sub.2/1996/24 Report of the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery

E/CN.4/Sub.2/1996/26 Report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of systematic rape, sexual slavery and slavery-like practices during periods of armed conflict

E/CN.4/SUB.2/RES/1996/11 Systematic rape and sexual slavery during periods of armed conflict

E/CN.4/SUB.2/RES/1996/12 Report of the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery

E/CN.4/SUB.2/RES/1996/18 United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery

1995

E/CN.4/RES/1995/27 Contemporary Forms of Slavery

E/CN.4/Sub.2/1995/28 Report of the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery

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E/CN.4/Sub.2/1995/39 Note by the Secretariat on the contemporary forms of slavery

E/CN.4/SUB.2/RES/1995/14 Systematic rape and sexual slavery during periods of armed conflict

E/CN.4/SUB.2/RES/1995/15 UN Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery

E/CN.4/SUB.2/RES/1995/16 Report of the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery

1994

E/CN.4/RES/1994/24 United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery

E/CN.4/RES/1994/25 Report of the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities

E/CN.4/Sub.2/1994/33 Report of the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery

E/CN.4/Sub.2/1994/41 Note by the Secretariat on Contemporary Forms of Slavery

E/CN.4/SUB.2/DEC/1994/109 Slavery during wartime

E/CN.4/SUB.2/RES/1994/5 Report of the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery

E/CN.4/SUB.2/RES/1994/6 United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery

E/CN.4/SUB.2/RES/1994/7 Machinery for monitoring the international conventions on slavery

1993

A/RES/48/102 Prevention of the smuggling of aliens

E/CN.4/1993/59 Note by the Secretariat on United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery

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E/CN.4/Sub.2/1993/31 Report of the Working Group on contemporary forms of slavery

E/CN.4/Sub.2/1993/35 Note by the Secretary General on contemporary forms of slavery

E/CN.4/Sub.2/1993/44 Preparatory document submitted by the Special Rapporteur on the question of systematic rape, sexual slavery and slavery-like practices during wartime

E/CN.4/Sub.2/1993/30 Report of the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery on its eighteenth session

Violence Against Women

2001

E/CN.4/2001/72 Traffic in Women and Girls

E/CN.4/2001/73 Violence Against Women-Report of the Special Rapporteur

E/CN.4/2001/73/Add.1 Communications to and from Governments-Report of the Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women

E/CN.4/2001/73/Add.2 Trafficking of women and girls: Mission to Bangladesh, Nepal and India: Report of the Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women

2000

E/CN.4/2000/68 Violence against women, its causes and consequences-Report of the Special Rapporteur

E/CN.4/2000/68/Add.2 Violence against women: Mission to Cuba

E/CN.4/2000/68/Add.3 Violence against women: Report on mission to Haiti

E/CN.4/2000/68/Add.4 Violence against women: its causes and consequences-Mission to Pakistan and Afghanistan

E/CN.4/RES/2000/45 Elimination of violence against women

E/CN.4/RES/2000/54 Violence against women migrant workers

E/CN.4/Sub.2/2000/20 Systematic rape, sexual slavery and slavery-like practice during armed conflicts

1999

A/54/342 Secretary General's Report on Violence against women migrant workers

A/54/69.E/1999/8 Elimination of Violence against women-Report of the Secretary General

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E/CN.4/199/68 Report of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences

E/CN.4/1999/68/Add.1 Report of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences: Communications to and from Governments

E/CN.4/1999/68/Add.2 Report of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences: Mission to USA

E/CN.4/1999/NGO/44 Written statement submitted by Human Rights Watch

E/CN.4/1999/NGO/71 Written statement submitted by the International Human Rights Law Group

E/CN.4/1999/NGO/8 Written statement submitted by Christian Solidarity International

E/CN.4/1999/NGO/95 Written statement submitted by Human Rights Advocates

E/CN.4/SUB.2/RES/1999/14 The situation of women and girls in Afghanistan

E/CN.4/RES/1999/42 Elimination of violence against women

1998

A/53/318 Report of the Secretary-General on the Status of the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women

A/53/363 Note by the Secretary-General on the activities of he UN Development Fund for Women

E/CN.4/1998/54 Report of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences

E/CN.4/1998/54/Add.1 Report of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women. Mission to Rwanda on the issue of situations in armed conflict

E/CN.4/1998/74 Report of the SG on violence against women migrant workers

E/CN.4/1998/74/Add.1 Report of the SG on violence against women migrant workers-NGOs Human Rights Advocates and World Young Women's Christian Association

E/CN.4/1998/NGO/48 Written statement submitted by Human Rights Advocates

E/CN.4/1998/NGO/51 Written Statement submitted by Human Rights Watch

E/CN.4/1998/NGO/59Written Statement submitted by Human Rights Watch

E/CN.4/RES/1998/17 Violence against women migrant workers

E/CN.4/RES/1998/52 Elimination of violence against women

E/RES/1998/12 Conclusions of the Commission on the Status of Women on critical areas of concern identified in the Beijing Platform for action

1997

A/RES/52/97 Violence against women migrant workers

E/CN.4/1999/47 Report of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women

E/CN.4/1997/47/Add.1 Report of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women: mission to Poland on the issue of trafficking and forced prostitution of women

E/CN.4/1997/47/Add.2 Report of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women: mission to South Africa on the issue of rape in the community

E/CN.4/RES/1997/44 The Elimination of violence against women

E/DEC/1997/255 The Elimination of violence against women

E/RES/1997/24 Crime prevention and criminal justice measures to eliminate violence against women

1996

A/RES/51/115 Rape and abuse of women in the areas of armed conflict

A/RES/51/65 Violence against women migrant workers

A/RES/71 Report on the violence against women migrant workers

E/CN.4/1996/117Note by the secretariat on the role of the UN Development Fund for Women in eliminating violence against women

E/CN.4/1996/53Report of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences: a framework for model legislation on domestic violence

E/CN.4/RES/1996/17 Violence against women migrant workers

E/CN.4/RES/1996/49 The elimination of violence against women

E/RES/1996/12 Elimination of violence against women

1995

A/RES/50/168 Violence against women migrant workers

A/RES/50/193 Situation of human rights in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro)

E/CN.4/1995/42Preliminary report submitted by the Special Rapporteur on violence against women

E/CN.4/RES/1995/20 Violence against women migrant workers

E/CN.4/RES/1995/85 The elimination of violence against women

E/CN.4/Sub.2/1995/38 Working paper on the situation of systematic rape, sexual slavery and slavery-like practices during wartime, including internal armed conflict

1994

A/RES/49/165 Violence against women migrant workers

A/RES/49/205 Rape and abuse of women in the areas of armed conflict in the former Yugoslavia

E/CN.4/1994/5 Rape and abuse of women in the areas of armed conflict in the former Yugoslavia-Report of the Secretary General

E/CN.4/RES/1994/77 Rape and abuse of women in the areas of armed conflict in the former Yugoslavia

E/RES/1994/7 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

1993

A/RES/48/104 Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women

A/RES/48/110 Violence against women migrant workers

A/RES/48/143 Rape and abuse of women in the areas of armed conflict in the former Yugoslavia

E/RES/1993/10 Draft declaration on the elimination of violence against women

E/RES/1993.26 Violence against women in all its forms

Women

2000

A/55/38 Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination

E/CN.4/Sub.2/2000/13 Globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of human rights

E/CN.4/Sub.2/2000/19 The role and equal protection of women in development-Note by the secretariat

1999

A/54/38/Rev.1 Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against women

E/CN.4/Sub.2/1999/NGO/5 Written statement submitted by the International Council of AIDS Service Organizations: The impact of HIV/AIDS on women, children and development

Womens Rights

2000

E/CN.4/2000/66 Trafficking in women and girls-report of the Secretary-General

E/CN.4/Sub.2/2000/17 Fourth report on the situation regarding the elimination of practices affecting the health of women and the girl child

1999

A/54/123,E/1999/66 Improvement of the situation of women in rural areas: Secretary General's Report

A/54/227_1999 World Survey on the Role of Women in Development: Globalization, Gender and Work Report of the Secretary General

A/54/587/Add.3 Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: women in development, Report of the second committee

A/C.3/54/L.19 Improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat

A/C.3/54/L.46 The girl child

A/C.3/54/L.54 Follow-up to the 4th World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action

A/RES/54/135 Improvement on the situation of women in rural areas

A/RES/54/137 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

A/RES/54/148 The Girl Child

A/RES/54/4 The Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

E/CN.4/SUB.2/RES/1999/15 Women and the Right to Development

APPENDIX F

Trafficking Report –6/18/02

Source		Title	Date	FOCUS	
60 Minutes	TV	R&R in SE Asia	10/27/96	SE Asia	800-739-7979
A/E	TV	Child Sex Trade		US and Canada	800-423-1212
BBC	TV	No Experience Necessary	9/22/2000	Latvia	http://www.bbc.co.uk/cgi-bin/search/results.pl?q=%22No%20Experience%20Necessary%22&go=homepage&meta=&tab=allbbc
BBC	TV	EU to Protect Sex Slaves	3/8/2001	Europe	
BBC	TV	Greek Sex Industry Uncovered	12/24/2001	Europe/Greece	
BBC	TV	Sex Workers Want Anti-Trafficking Measures	3/6/2001	SE Asia	
BBC	TV	Criminals Turning to Sex Trade	11/24/2000	SE Asia	
BBC	TV	Sex Slavery: One Woman's Story	12/12/2000	Americas	
BBC	TV	Cambodia Deports Sex Slaves	2/23/2000	SE Asia	
BBC	TV	Un Warns of Human Trafficking	2/19/2002	Russia	
BBC	TV	US Highlights Human Trafficking	2/26/2002		
BBC	TV	Sex Slaves Trapped in UK	6/2/2000	UK	
BBC	TV	Trafficking Nightmare for Nigerian Children	6/19/2000	Europe/Africa	
BBC	TV	Sex Slavery Under Attack	3/29/2000		
BBC	TV	Africa's Trade in Children	1/10/2001	Africa	
BBC	TV	Albania Blamed for Human Trafficking	4/17/2001	Albania	
BBC	TV	Frontier Sex Trade Vigil	2/3/99	SE Asia	
BBC	TV	Slave Trade Thrives in Bosnia	3/3/01	Eastern Europe	

CH4 UK	TV	WEST AFRICA: CHILD SLAVERY	21/02/2000		http://www.channel4.com/apps26/search/index.jsp
CH 4 UK	TV	CHILD SLAVERY: SLAVE BOAT: from West Africa	4/14/2001	West Africa	
Ch 4 UK	TV	SEX TRADE:/Eastern Europe	16/02/2001	Eastern Europe	
CH 4 UK	TV	BOSNIA: SEX SLAVE TRAFFICKING:	08/06/2000	Bosnia	
APTN	TV	Benin Child Slaves	4-16-2001		#301670 http://www.aptn.com/80256812004D9CF5/pages/New+APTN+Library
APTN	TV	Russian Women/Human Traffick.	5-16-2001	Russia	#304400
APTN	TV	Major Human Trafficking Route Busted	6-27-2001	US	#308194
APTN	TV	Human Trafficking/Thai Boy	7-23-2001	US/Thai	#310444
APTN	TV	Sexual Trafficking of Children/Europe	5-4-2001		#303423
APTN	TV	New Initiative Human Trafficking	5-16-2001	Russian Women	#304400
APTN	TV	Powell reports Human Trafficking	6-5-2002		#340545
APTN	TV	France Fight Against Trafficking	6-6-2002	France	#186991
APTN	TV	Phillipines: Human Trafficking Industry	3-30-2002	Phillipines	#178896
APTN	TV	Forced labour, slavery and trafficking	5-25-2001	Global	#322064
APTN	TV	Child Slaves	4-15-2001		#301590
Ellen Bruno	Doco	Sacrifice *Dateline also did a piece based on this documentary.		Burmese girls	800-343-5540
Global Fund for Women/Chela Blitt	Doco	Sisters and Daughters Betrayed		Nepal, Philippines, Thailand	415-202-7640
Global Fund for Women	Doco	The Circle Against Sex Trafficking			415-202-7640

Malofilm/William Cobban	Doco	The Selling of Innocents		Asia Nepal-India pipeline	416-480-0453
Global Survival Network	Doco	Bought and Sold		Russia	202-387-0028
BBC/Kevin Bales	Doco	Free the Slaves			Freetheslaves.net
International Organization for Adolescence	Video	Smooth Flight		Latvia	(718) 222-5802
Pauline Nguyen	Doco	Four Walls No Doors		Currently in Production	
Dept. of Justice		Victims of Trafficking Far from Home and Helpless			http://search.usdoj.gov/compass
Dept. of Justice		A Balance to Maintain (INS Training Video)			
BR - Bayerischer Rundfunk	TV	Report aus Munchen - **"Verlorene Kindheit: Prostitution an der Tschechischen Grenze**	7/24/00		http://nachrichten.br-online.de/br/owa/br_main_okt98.no_login?p_dir_id=&p_act_type=CTX_BRO
BR - Bayerischer Rundfunk	TV	Frauensache - **"Illegal in Deutschland: Rechtslos, Wehrlos, Ausgebeutet**			frauensache@br_online.de
BR - Bayerischer Rundfunk	TV	Alpha-Forum Extra - Starke Frauen II: **"Menschenhandel - Ein Florierender Wirtschaftszweig**	9/26/00		
BR - Bayerischer Rundfunk	TV	Report aus Munchen - **"Chinesen auf der Flucht: Das Geschaft der Mafia**	: 7/24/02		
BR - Bayerischer Rundfunk	TV	Frauensache - "Madchenhandel und Zwangsprostitution auf dem Balkan	5/10/02		

BR - Bayerischer Rundfunk		Weltspiegel - **"In den Bordellen des Balkans - Deutsche Soldaten und Kinerprostitution**	1/9/02		
ZDF - Zweites Deutsches Fernsehen	TV	Show: Weltspiegel - **"In den Bordellen des Balkans - Weisse Sklaverei**			http://www.zdf.de/ratgeber/monalisa/archiv/index.html
ZDF - Zweites Deutsches Fernsehen	TV	Mona Lisa - **"Menschenhandel und illegale Prostitution auf der Reeperbahn**	11/4/01		
ZDF - Zweites Deutsches Fernsehen	TV	Mona Lisa - **"Mit Straps und Steuerkarte: Huren heut**			
ZDF - Zweites Deutsches Fernsehen	TV	Leben im Untergrund - **"Von Schleusern und Grenzschutzern**:	6/3/01		
ZDF - Zweites Deutsches Fernsehen	TV	Show: Heute in Europa - **"Polen - Frauenhandel**	: 7/2/01 or 4/26/02		
ZDF - Zweites Deutsches Fernsehen	TV	1. Mona Lisa - **"KFOR Soldaten II"**; author: Inge Bell	1/21/01		
ARTE	Tv	**Nepals Verkaufte Tochter**	3/19/02		
ORF - Osterreichisches Fehrnsehen	TV	Thema - **Madchenhandel**;			http://tv.orf.at/search
WDR - West Deutscher Rundfunk	TV	**Verraten und Verkauft - Kinderhandel in Italien nach dem Krieg**	4/23/01		http://suchen.wdr.de/htsearch

WDR - West Deutscher Rundfunk	TV	Babylon Spricht Viele Sprachen Relevant Programs: **"Turkei: Die Strassenmadchen von Instanbul**," **"Portugal: Kinderhandel auf den Azuren**," **Griechenland: Die Ampelkinder von Athen"**;			
WDR - West Deutscher Rundfunk	TV	Show: Westpol - **"Frauenhandel**			
WDR - West Deutscher Rundfunk	TV	Blikpunkt Europa - **"Menschenhandel in St. Petersburg**			
WDR - West Deutscher Rundfunk	TV	Europa Magazin - **"Zwangsprostitution in Bosnien**	4/8/00		
WDR - West Deutscher Rundfunk	TV	**Karo Projekt in Tschechien**	3/2/02		
WDR - West Deutscher Rundfunk	TV	Report Maiz **Rotlicht - Streit um Razien im Frankfurter Bordell**	10/9/02		
WDR - West Deutscher Rundfunk	TV	Show: Blickpunkt Europa; **"Kinderadoption in Rumanien**			
SWR - Sudwest Fernsehen	TV	**Kinderhandel in Griechenland**	11/20/01		http://search.swr.de/cgi-bin/htsearch
SWR - Sudwest Fernsehen	TV	Report Mainz; **"Illegaler Kinderhandel - Deutsche kaufen Baby's in Rumanien**	5/22/00		