

Distr.: Limited
29 January 2010

English only

Working Group on Trafficking in Persons

Vienna, 27-29 January 2010

Draft Report

Addendum

Agenda item 6: Good practices and tools for use in case management, including by front-line law enforcement authorities responding to trafficking in persons

1. In its decision 4/4, the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime decided that the chairperson of the working group should submit a report on the activities of the working group to the Conference at its fifth session, in 2010 and would review and take a decision on the effectiveness and future of the working group at its sixth session, in 2012.
2. On 29 January, the Working Group considered agenda item 6, on good practices and tools for use in case management, including by front-line law enforcement authorities responding to trafficking in persons.
3. The Chairperson presented the document before the Working Group for its consideration of agenda item 6. For its consideration of this item, the Working Group had before it a background paper on good practices and tools for use in case management, including by front-line law enforcement authorities responding to trafficking in persons.¹

Deliberations

4. The Chairperson invited the Working Group to discuss the incorporation of cooperative approaches among and between anti-trafficking actors; incorporating safety measures in case management; incorporating uniform procedures and policies to prevent revictimization and reduce delays in case management; incorporating gender-sensitivity and measures to address the special needs of children into case management.

¹ Background paper prepared by the Secretariat “Good practices and tools for use in case management, including by front-line law enforcement authorities responding to trafficking in persons” (CTOC/COP/WG.4/2010/5).



5. The Chairperson invited Ms. Irene Herrerías Guerra to share the experience of case management in Mexico. Ms. Guerra highlighted the Mexican experience of information sharing to enhance cooperation and coordinated response and the significance of victim protection at trial. Mexican cooperation with the United States was raised as a good practice of cross border multi-agency cooperation. Ms. Guerra also underlined the value of specialized units to bring together various anti-trafficking actors in both investigation and prosecution.

6. The Chairperson invited Mr. Jean-François Minet who is in charge of national coordination in the field of anti-trafficking in Belgium. Mr. Minet stressed that case management means two things: on the one hand, research and prosecution and on the other hand, victim identification. These issues are distinct but related. Mr. Minet showcased three mechanisms used in Belgium. One, the appointment of specialized magistrates to serve as focal points for anti-trafficking responses in their jurisdiction; two, the organization of coordination meeting to bring anti-trafficking actors together; and three, ongoing and effective evaluation of the work of these initiatives. Mr. Minet highlighted the fact that coordination should not just be national and international, but also regional and local.

7. Under agenda item 6 of the agenda, the Working Group heard statements from the following states: Japan, Oman, Philippines, Greece, Peru, Israel, Albania, UAE, Nigeria, Argentina, Germany, China, Pakistan, Sudan, Brazil, Indonesia, Qatar.

8. Speakers discussed the following issues: the necessity of coordination at local, regional, national and international levels; the value of information sharing to strengthen measures to enhance international police cooperation; the establishment and usefulness of specialized units in law enforcement and prosecution; trainings for criminal justice practitioners; sensitization of gender issues and children's special needs as well as cultural training and sensitivity; language and interpretation challenges; and the role that UNODC can play in proposing a model of case management.

Recommendations: agenda item 6

9. The Working Group on Trafficking in Persons, established pursuant to decision 4/4 of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, adopted the recommendations below, on agenda item 6, for consideration of the Conference at its fifth session.

10. States parties should ensure that case management approaches should broadly encompass all phases of the criminal justice process, with appropriate follow-up, from the point of interception to the point of reintegration. States parties should ensure that case management systems are knowledge-based by regularly reviewing processes against changing situations and circumstances.

11. States parties should take measures to ensure that anti-trafficking responses are centralized and coordinated through national coordination agencies and specially trained staff in law enforcement agencies and other parts of the criminal justice system. States parties should ensure that specialized actors receive necessary psychological care, as required.

12. The Secretariat should consider establishing a roster of accredited anti-trafficking training courses and United Nations accredited experts to support States parties efforts to train their criminal justice practitioners.
 13. The Conference of States parties should request UNODC to establish frameworks and collecting promising practices in the management of trafficking in persons cases that incorporate a cooperative approach among and between law enforcement agencies and other specialized services such as victim service providers. Such frameworks should also provide clear procedures and policies and written agreements to avoid delays and secondary victimization of trafficking victims, incorporate a gender, age and culturally-sensitive approach that also addresses the special needs of children; language assistance for potential victims from the point of interception through to the point of reintegration, and health and psychological assistance in consideration of the particular challenges faced by victims of trafficking.
 14. States parties should ensure that specially trained criminal justice practitioners are appointed on human trafficking cases. Such training should also be extended to all court staff and victim representatives who may potentially be involved in such cases and should include sensitization to trauma, and appropriate gender, age, cultural and other considerations.
 15. Upon request, the Secretariat should assist States parties to increase their capacity to collect, analyse and share data regarding the trafficking situation and response.
-