

e-Bulletin



Global Alliance Against Traffic in Women

GAATW e-Bulletin

January 2010

Dear Members and Friends,

We welcome you to the first issue of the e-Bulletin for 2010! We hope that you all had a great start for New Year.

We would also like to extend our deep sympathy to all those affected by the tragedy that hit Haiti this month. It's disheartening to see the aftermath of the earthquake and we hope that sufficient relief operations reach the people who need it.

Reflecting on our work in 2009, we at the International Secretariat are grateful for your support in completing our planned activities and state interventions. We hope that the same enthusiasm and determination to support the Alliance will go on in the years ahead.

As you know, 2010 is going to be an important year for GAATW as it is the year we begin planning for the next programme cycle in 2011-13, and hold the International Members Congress and Conference (IMCC) in July. We will also hold the 3rd Roundtable meeting in March to review the Feminist Participatory Action Research (FPAR) reports and the GAATW Thematic working papers which will be presented at the IMCC. More so, GAATW will intensify its advocacy programmes including the Stop, Look, Listen campaign to urge state parties that have ratified or signed UNTOC to support a review mechanism to review the Convention. We look forward to our members and allies' active participation in these series of exciting events planned this year.

In this issue, we highlight the successful meetings that happened this month including the meeting with SR on Trafficking in Persons, Joy Ngozi Ezeilo, in Bangkok to discuss her October 2010 report focusing on protection, prevention and rehabilitation, and the working group meetings and side event held at the 4th Conference of Parties of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime in Vienna.

Thank you and we look forward to hearing your thoughts on the articles below. Send us your comments and suggestions at gaatw@gaatw.org

Warmly,

The GAATW International Secretariat

GLOBAL HIGHLIGHTS

International Non-Governmental Organisations urge the United Nations to take a victim centred approach to human trafficking

Professor Manfred Nowak, UN Special Rapporteur on Torture, stated 'Unless States agree on a comprehensive, transparent human rights approach to trafficking in persons, efforts to combat the crime will remain ineffective and trafficked persons will remain vulnerable'. Professor Nowak was speaking at an NGO Meeting organized in parallel to UN negotiations on the Human Trafficking Protocol (the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children).

The Global Alliance against Traffic in Women (GAATW), based in Bangkok, is a network of over 90 anti-trafficking organisations worldwide. Lefö, the Austrian anti-trafficking NGO and GAATW member in Austria, which contributed to the event, has been urging governments to adopt a victim centred approach to trafficking for over 15 years. On behalf of the network, Evelyn Probst of Lefö stated: 'Whilst international legislation on trafficking has now been in place for 10 years, actual progress in this area by States has been very limited'.

<http://www.ungift.org/ungift/en/stories/ngo-meeting-25-jan-2010.html>

Report is critical of UAE on labour

Representatives from Human Rights Watch (HRW), the New York-based watchdog, were in Dubai for the regional release of their 2010 World Report, focusing on conditions in Bahrain, Iran and Iraq, as well as the UAE. Joe Stork, HRW's deputy Middle East director, stated "The combination of political tensions and economic downturn has brought a heightened hostility toward human rights in a number of Middle Eastern countries in 2009, in some cases reaching crisis proportions." The HRW report centred on labour issues, alleging that the rights of migrant workers in particular had been affected by the economic crisis and political tensions, with thousands leaving the country or forced to take mandatory unpaid breaks.

<http://www.thenational.ae/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20100125/NATIONAL/701249791/1010/national>

Slave trade booms as poverty bites

Poverty has been identified as a factor that forces Somalis as well as women in Kenya's North Eastern province (which borders Somalia) to be trafficked into Nairobi, other parts of Africa and the Middle East for forced labour and sexual exploitation. According to this news article, Nairobi's Eastleigh estate is increasingly becoming a hub for human trafficking. A large number of migrants from neighbouring countries (Somalia, Ethiopia, and Eritrea) reside in Eastleigh. In some parts of the article, the writer does not distinguish between smuggling and human trafficking: this confusing of smuggling with human trafficking among the general public might pose a challenge to tackling trafficking in persons in Eastern Africa. The article quotes Ngazi Moja, GAATW's new member organisation :

<http://www.nation.co.ke/News/-/1056/837336/-/item/1/-/w8glbg/-/index.html>

The OSCE has appointed **Maria Grazia Giammarinaro** as the new **Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings** replacing Eva Biaudet. This is great news as she's been a key figure in implementing a HRBA to anti-trafficking in Europe (including the development of Article 18 in Italy).

More information at: http://www.osce.org/cthb/item_1_42229.html

Legal Update

Cyprus Found Guilty for Failing to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings

In an unprecedented judgment on trafficking in human beings, on 7 January 2010, the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) found the Republic of Cyprus guilty on multiple counts, in the case of *Rantsev v. Cyprus and Russia* for failing to protect Oxana Rantseva, a

Russian national who fell to her death in March 2001 under mysterious circumstances. Oxana Rantseva was in Cyprus on an “artiste visa” to work in a local cabaret. The issuing of special ‘artiste’ or ‘entertainment’ visas was for many years directly related to trafficking in women for sexual exploitation with women being forced into prostitution by traffickers who fraudulently recruited victims for work as ‘entertainment’ dancers in cabarets and nightclubs.

Within this context, the ECHR unanimously ruled that although trafficking in human beings is not explicitly mentioned in the ECHR, it falls within the scope of Article 4 on the prohibition of slavery, servitude, and forced labour. More significantly, it clarified states’ positive obligations to prevent trafficking and protect victims. The Court found that Cyprus had violated Article 4, firstly, for its failure to put in place an appropriate legal and administrative framework to combat trafficking as a result of the existing regime of “artiste visas”, and, secondly, for the failure of the Cyprus Police to take appropriate measures to protect her, despite that fact that they had reason to suspect that she was a victim of trafficking. Furthermore, the court found that Cyprus had violated Oxana Rantseva’s right to life under Article 2 of the ECHR, by holding her in custody without charge, placing her in the custody of her traffickers, and failing to adequately investigate the circumstances of her death. Source: Mediterranean Institute of Gender Studies [MIGS]

[Click here](#) to read the abridged press release from the ECHR.

REGIONAL/MEMBER UPDATES

Africa

Kiwohede (Kiota Women Health and Development), a GAATW member based in Tanzania is actively involved in advocating for the **ILO domestic workers Convention**. They are part of the Domestic workers network who participated during the December 10th celebration of the International Domestic Workers Day. They issued a press release together with other organisations who are part of the steering committee on the country committee on domestic workers such as CHODAWU, IUF, Good Samaritan and WOYCH. They are also working together on issues concerning domestic workers in the East Africa regional block in preparation for the ILO conference in Geneva in June this year.

The Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA Kenya), a GAATW member in Kenya was quoted in a news commentary about the country’s weak laws and policing for continued trafficking of many Kenyans to the Middle East. The group said Kenya lacked adequate laws to deal with human trafficking and called on the government to strengthen High Commissions and Embassies abroad to ensure they safeguard the rights of Kenyans working abroad.

In the statement signed by its chairperson Naomi Wagerika, reports confirm that various international reports have identified Kenya as a source, transit and even destination for trafficking of persons for purposes of forced labour and commercial sex.

<http://www.nation.co.ke/News/-/1056/841014/-/vpac1h/-/>

Asia

Lights Out is a film produced and directed by Wang Eng Eng and Chan Kah Mei, local filmmakers who are concerned with the plight of homeless migrant workers. The film was inspired by the Cuff Road Project, a meals programme coordinated by volunteers of **Transient Workers Count Too (TWC2)** to temporarily assist migrant workers who are in limbo while awaiting the fate of their pending cases.

Two short films made by Shelley Thio, a committee member of TWC2 were also screened. Based on true stories, the films documented a group of Bangladeshi migrant workers who were not given work or sufficient meals. The second short film, *Plight of Migrant Workers* showed the extreme living conditions of the workers and the spread of chicken pox across the

dormitory which later led to the death of Kamaluddin.

The film which was screened on 23rd December 2009 at Sinema Old School, a local film house attracted 30 viewers from various backgrounds, some of whom have been following news reports on the mistreatment of foreign workers. There was a Q & A session and panel speakers from TWC2 were on hand to respond. Some of the questions posed had to do with how Singapore can help these workers. Viewers were concerned about the unscrupulous agents who are ripping workers off their hard-earned money as seen through the interviews of the workers in the films. One viewer was puzzled as to why the Cuff Road project is only catered to South Asian workers and not Chinese workers. Noor Abdul Rahman, committee member of TWC2 responded that the geographical spot of Cuff Road is in Little India which is a hotspot for South Asian workers. There were plans on doing a food programme for Chinese workers however manpower in low. Essentially, a resounding overall question from the screening was on the larger forces that expose and make migrant workers vulnerable to exploitation.

A summary of the film Lights Out can be found on this blog: <http://sealdogs.blogspot.com/>

FROM THE SECRETARIAT

At the **4th Conference of Parties of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime**, the parent convention to the Human Trafficking Protocol (UNTOC), a working group was established to present a report to the 5th Conference on mechanisms for reviewing the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols. The second working group meeting took place in Vienna from 25-26 January 2010.

GAATW Member organisations, CHAME, Institut Perempuan, Lefo, WOREC and La Strada Moldova including staff from the IS were present in Vienna in order to advocate on GAATW's campaign for a review mechanism to the human trafficking protocol. In this regard GAATW held a side event entitled 'Reviewing the Human Trafficking Protocol: A Victim Centred Approach' in order to persuade delegates of the need to include civil society in any review of UNTOC.

Following this working group a meeting of the UNTOC Trafficking in Persons Working Group was also convened with the following issues on the agenda: Analysis of key concepts of the Trafficking in Persons Protocol; Good practices and tools in discouraging the demand for exploitative service; Non-punishment and non-prosecution of victims of trafficking; Administrative/Judicial approaches to offences committed in the process of trafficking; Good practices and tools for case management, including front line law enforcement authorities in responding to trafficking in persons. Both Working Groups were closed to NGOs but GAATW representatives spoke to delegates at the margins to persuade them of our proposals for an effective review mechanism which are available on the GAATW website: www.gaatw.org.

**Thai and International Groups meet with the Special Rapporteur on Trafficking in Persons,
Joy Ngozi Ezeilo**
January 18, 2010, Bangkok, Thailand



GAATW and Foundation for Women (FFW), a Thai Alliance member, in cooperation with the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights Regional Office for South East Asia organised a consultation between Thai groups, international organisations and Ms Joy Ngozi Ezeilo, the Special Rapporteur on Trafficking in Persons to discuss her October 2010 report focusing on protection, prevention and rehabilitation. Main topics discussed included prevention of the root causes of trafficking, negative implications of the term ‘rehabilitation’ on trafficked persons’ recovery, the need to shift prevention campaigns beyond de-politised awareness raising campaigns, the need for flexible methodologies and approaches when working from human rights based approach and the barriers trafficked persons encounter when receiving assistance from the government. Women’s Fight for Life, a returnee migrant women’s group working with Foundation for Women called for governments to respect the rights of trafficked women to travel and talked about cases where women were required to pay back the government for their flight expenses when they were repatriated and instances where women who had been trafficked were later denied passports as an anti-trafficking “prevention” measure. Women’s Fight for Life also recommended that returnee migrant women be provided resources to engage with the anti-trafficking sector as a part of civil society. Save the Children (Thailand) called on the Special Rapporteur to remind governments that anti-trafficking measures need to consider the best interests of the child, including the right for trafficked children to remain in the country if they choose. Foundation for Women emphasised the great risk of re-trafficking undocumented migrants as the direct result of government actions - if countries of destination deport undocumented migrants back to the border and if countries of origin refuse to accept their citizens without documents, undocumented migrants are likely to be handed over to agencies and recruiters, the only actors that may be willing to take them.

GAATW will be contacting members in the coming months for further contributions to the Special Rapporteur’s report. For more information contact Fleur Dewar at GAATW-IS fleur@gatw.org

A **handbook for legal actors and justice providers in Nigeria** has been developed together with **National Agency for Prohibition of Traffic in Persons (NAPTIP)** and **UNIFEM Nigeria** as part of the GAATW Access to Justice programme. While the handbook was developed specifically with Nigerian legal practitioners in mind, it is relevant and will be handy to legal and assistance providers working in various parts of the world. The book will be launched in Nigeria by NAPTIP in coming months. For more information about the handbook, please email Nkirote Laiboni nkirote@gatw.org

Coming Soon



GAATW is coming out with the 32nd issue of the Alliance News, the last of the Regional Spotlight Series, which has featured Africa, Europe and Latin America. This issue focuses on the theme 'The changing context of trafficking and migration in Asia'. We will post the newsletter soon on the GAATW website. For more information, contact us at info@gaatw.org

RESOURCES

Reports

A research was recently undertaken by **Koinonia Advisory Research and Development Service (KARDS)** to review interventions carried out by **Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) in Kenya and Tanzania on trafficking of women and children for sexual exploitation**. The main purpose of the research was to investigate the services available to assist trafficked children and women in the two East African countries, and also to establish the needs of the CSOs in terms of capacity building and financial assistance. The findings are interesting: organisations working on human trafficking in Kenya and Tanzania are most likely to be involved in other issues, mostly children's rights, gender issues and HIV/AIDS. As relates human trafficking, most organisations work in prevention, social support and advocacy. Also, there is a general lack of awareness on human trafficking among Faith-based organisations even though they represent a big percentage of CSOs and assist a large population of women and children who are exploited. A noteworthy finding was the hesitation among NGOs in Tanzania to share information, which could be due to competition for funding resources or lack of awareness on human trafficking. This fear of sharing information on human trafficking by NGOs could perpetuate the problem, according to the researcher. The study also found that CSOs including grassroots organisations are mainly based in destination points rather than in sending communities. Some of the gaps identified include: the need for organisations to form or join existing networks for information sharing as one way of strengthening interventions, the need for more research in sending areas as well as for organisations to focus their interventions in both source areas and destination points.

The research report can be accessed online at

<http://kardsafrica.org/images/Women%20and%20Children%20Trafficking%20Report.pdf> To access KARDS's directory of organisations working on human trafficking in Kenya and Tanzania: <http://humantrafficking.kardsafrica.org/joomla/>

On the occasion of the **20th Anniversary Year of the UN Migrant Workers Convention, December 18** released the first paper of a new series of regional papers on the significance of the Convention. The author of the paper, Mariette Grange, argues that in many respects, the Middle East provides exemplary case studies that demonstrate why a specific human rights treaty such as the Convention is necessary. The first part of the paper looks at the specific characteristics of the region and provides an overview of the main features of the Convention and their relevance to the protection of migrants' rights. It is based on research findings from international and regional non-governmental organizations, UN independent human rights experts as well as media, governmental and academic sources. The paper concludes with a short section on challenges for ratification in the region.

The download is available here:

<http://www.december18.net/sites/default/files/MWCinME.pdf>

We invite you to visit the **Women Workers Library** online at www.womenworkerslibrary.org. The library has its unique feminist labour resource cataloguing system developed by generations of Committee for Asian Women (CAW) staff based on the International Standard

Bibliographic Description (ISBD). It has now more than 3,000 items including books, magazines, reports and other materials (i.e. campaign posters, leaflets and brochures). The number is growing every day. The library does not lend out books currently but it is possible to visit their office to enquire how to access the books.

Events

Migrants Rights Network (MRN) in partnership with MRC and other 4 European partners from Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Spain is organising a conference entitled **Migration, the media and the message - Migrants using media to turn around the immigration debate**, which will be held at the University Of East London on 29/30 March, 2010. This conference aims to bring together groups involved in media and cultural activities, which promote a positive engagement with the issue of migration.

To find out more about this event please go to

http://www.migrantsrights.org.uk/downloads/initiatives/migrants_Media_europeanconference.pdf

Call for input

The Committee on Migrant Workers is seeking input and recommendations for its forthcoming General Comment on migrant domestic workers:

http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cmw/cmw_migrant_domestic_workers.htm

Please send your input by the end of February 2010 to: cmw@ohchr.org

We urge GAATW member organisations working on the issue of domestic migrant workers to send in comments.

Grants

The United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery allocates project grants (for a maximum of 15 000 USD), for programmes of humanitarian, legal and financial assistance to individuals whose human rights have been severely violated as a result of contemporary forms of slavery. Contemporary forms of slavery include trafficking, sexual slavery, child labour and child servitude, debt bondage, serfdom and forced labour, forced marriage and sale of wives ect.

The application form in English is available on the following weblink:

http://www2.ohchr.org/SPdocs/Slavery/App_SH_EN_2011.doc

Application forms should be duly completed and submitted by 31 Mars 2010.

For more information on the Fund, you can consult the website of the OHCHR:

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Slavery/Pages/SlaveryFundMain.aspx>.

In order to ensure that the Review Mechanism is complementary and non-duplicative, there should be coordination and reference to, inter alia, core human rights treaties, international labour standards and international organisations with a mandate to offer guidance to States in developing policies to tackle migration, labour, human rights especially women and child rights, security, crime-control and prevention.

GAATW Commentary (Recommendation 4) to the Open-ended intergovernmental meeting of experts on possible mechanisms to review implementation of UNTOC

http://www.gaatw.org/UNAdvocacy/Advocacy_Note_UNTOC.01.2010.pdf

The GAATW e-bulletin is sent out to all member organisations of the Alliance as well as to many of its friends and sister NGOs worldwide.

- The e-bulletin is published every last week of the month. A Spanish version goes out three days after the English version. Sometimes additional follow up information and/or reminders are also sent via email to member organisations.
- Primarily a tool for communication between the International Secretariat and the Alliance members, the e-bulletin aims to cover a broad range of topics although trafficking related issues remain its special focus. We also use this e-bulletin to inform members about upcoming events and provide regular updates about the Secretariat.
- We strongly encourage members and friends to send us their input to the e-bulletin at info@gaatw.org
- If you do not want to receive this e-bulletin please send us a message at info@gaatw.org and we will delete your address from the list.

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Global Alliance Against Traffic in Women

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February 2009

Dear Members and Friends,

Greetings from the GAATW International Secretariat.

In this month's issue, we note concern over the Royal Thai government's National Verification Process (NVP) deadline for migrant workers, on February 28; the government has threatened mass deportation for those unable to register. GAATW is deeply concerned that the governments' punitive actions towards undocumented workers could lead to more human rights' violations and increased risks of human trafficking.

News from other parts of the world include the Ecuadorian government's appeal to the Organization of American States (OAS) to curtail the deportation of irregular immigrants as a matter of human rights, and the adoption of a resolution by the European Parliament that calls for unconditional support for victims of human trafficking, especially women and children. We also welcome the expansion of the UK's new unit in Scotland Yard that will also look at human trafficking for labour exploitation.

We are pleased to share with you information on anti-human trafficking workshops organised by our member organisation Women's Rights Development Centre (WORD), based in Bangkok, and the initiative undertaken by another member organisation, Association of Indonesian Migrant Workers in Hong Kong (ATKI-HK), to organise a picket action on 26 February at the Thai consulate in Hong Kong to stop the deportation of migrant workers in Thailand. As usual the Resources section lists some useful documents and shares details of upcoming events.

The coming months are going to be a hectic time for GAATW. The 3rd Roundtable Meeting in March to review the Feminist Participatory Action Research (FPAR) reports and the GAATW Thematic Working papers will be held. We will also be preparing for GAATW's Third International Members' Congress and Conference (IMCC), to be held on 4-7 July 2010 in Bangkok, Thailand. More details about the conference will be posted in the coming weeks. We hope to see many of you at the IMCC.

Warmly,
The GAATW International Secretariat

GLOBAL HIGHLIGHTS

Press Release from GAATW: Thai deadline for migrant workers increases risk of trafficking

The Royal Thai government is in danger of increasing the risk of trafficking for over 2 million migrants from Burma, Cambodia and Laos by threatening mass deportation for migrant workers who do not register with the Thai government's Nationality Verification Process (NVP) by February 28, 2010.

Restrictive migration policies are one of the main causes of trafficking. If working-class migrants are not able to access legal or safe migration and labour channels, third party agents become one of their only options to access opportunities abroad.

According to the Special Rapporteur on Trafficking in Persons, Ms Joy Ngozi Ezeilo, undocumented migrants face increased risks of trafficking. Migrants without documentation are regularly refused entry to their country of origin, making their presence 'illegal' in both countries of destination and origin, leaving traffickers then as the only option for migration and employment. [Click here](#) to read the full article

Human trafficking: call for unconditional aid to victims

A resolution to the European Parliament (EP) this month, demanded that victims of trafficking, especially women and children be given protection and 'unconditional' assistance. The resolution highlights that victims are entitled to assistance irrespective of their willingness to cooperate in criminal proceedings. According to the EP, trafficked persons should be entitled to legal aid and other forms of assistance including access to temporary residence permits and to the labour market. The parliamentarians also call for massive awareness-raising campaigns. Read more

http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/expert/infopress_page/019-68647-039-02-07-902-20100209IPR68645-08-02-2010-2010-false/default_en.htm

Unrestricted Migration and Open Western Borders Proposed

The Ecuadorian government will ask the Organization of American States (OAS) to promote the free movement of people within the continent in order to curb the deportation of immigrants who are in an "irregular condition". Hernan Holguin, sub-secretary of the Ecuadorian national department that oversees migrant issues, indicated that the matter will be presented before the OAS as "a matter of human rights".

Holguin emphasized that the process of returning to one's country of origin should be "orderly, planned and supported" in order to avoid situations in which the undocumented immigrant might be arrested and deported for a minor infraction, and consequently destroy their future. He added that Ecuador has signed a migratory agreement with Peru in order to address this matter.

<http://www.rightsidenews.com/201002178719/border-and-sovereignty/unrestricted-migration-and-open-western-borders-proposed.html>

London Cracks Down on Domestic Servitude

Scotland Yard has a brand new unit that focuses not only trafficking for prostitution, but also for domestic work and other labour exploitation. In its first month of work, it has already identified three victims of trafficking in domestic work. The new unit is a merge of the vice unit with the former anti-trafficking unit, which lost funding. Despite its initial success, some concerns have been raised. Amanda Kloer's article in Change.org on Feb 19th states: 'obviously, this merging has worked out well for the unit and resulted in some great activity. But does human trafficking belong with vice crimes? Trafficking is a crime of exploitation, of removing another person's freedom, a violation of human rights. Vice crimes, on the other hand, are usually about issues which are socially and legally frowned-upon, but are not basic human rights issues, like gambling or drug use.' While grouping vice and trafficking crimes together may be helpful for law enforcement on the ground, Amanda argues that it will only

further confuse the differences between voluntary prostitution and human trafficking, and force trafficking crimes into a vice crimes mould.

http://humantrafficking.change.org/blog/view/london_cracks_down_on_domestic_servitude

REGIONAL/MEMBER UPDATES

[PHOTO] January 22-24, 2010, **Women's Rights Development Centre (WORD)**, a GAATW member organisation based in Bangkok, Thailand, organised the second training workshop on the establishment of anti-human trafficking surveillance mechanisms, a continuation of the first training workshop held December 19-21, 2009. The first workshop provided information about trafficking in Thailand and Cambodia; related laws and Memorandums of Understanding between the Thailand and Cambodia including the Bilateral Cooperation for Eliminating Trafficking in Children and Women and Assisting Victims of Trafficking; and information about anti-trafficking mechanisms. The second training aimed to deepen knowledge and understandings about laws related to human trafficking and to introduce organisations working in anti-trafficking and related issues to participants who attended the first training.

The **Association of Indonesian Migrant Workers in Hong Kong (ATKI-HK)** had organised a picket action on Friday, 26 February at the Thai Consulate office in Hong Kong, SAR. The action is in solidarity with the civil society groups' calling the Thai government to stop threats of mass deportation of migrant workers in Thailand.

Enhance Minimum Wages for Domestic Workers

Domestic workers demand for the enhancement of proposed minimum wages for services rendered by them in a convention organised on the eve of Domestic Workers' Day on 9th January. The demand emerges in the wake of the proposal of Labour Department of Government of Orissa to fix minimum wages for different period of work. The Labour and Employment Department has recently published a proposal for fixing minimum rates of wages to rupees 190/- per 1/2 hour, 340/- per one hour, 525/- for 2 hours per day and for eight hour service rupees 2340/- per month. The domestic workers who participated in the Convention said that the proposed minimum wages is even less than existing market rate and it is inadequate to lead a minimum standard of living.

The Convention organised jointly by **Institute for Social Development**, a GAATW member; **Committee for Legal Aid to Poor (CLAP)** and **Centre for World Solidarity** has sent out a Memorandum to the concerned Department for enhancement of wages for domestic workers. For more information, contact ISD at isd_bbsr@rediffmail.com

FROM THE SECRETARIAT

GAATW Roundtable 3

Bringing together 'Linkages' topics: Feminist Participatory Action Research and GAATW Working Papers

The 3rd Roundtable, March 10-14, 2010 in Bangkok will review the Feminist Participatory Action Research (FPAR) reports and GAATW thematic working papers. This Roundtable is a wrapping up and synthesizing of our Linkages work from the 2008-2010 working cycle. The FPAR reports are stand-alone reports of each group's work. The reports are to be used for the research group's advocacy and action in communities, as well as for GAATW's work.

Based on the working papers GAATW-IS and the **New York University International Human Rights Clinic** are writing 4 small booklets which will later form the core of GAATW's upcoming Linkages Training Module. This training module will combine booklets with Powerpoints easily

tailored for different regions or national level organisations. They will cover: Migration-Trafficking Links, Labour-Trafficking Links, Gender-Trafficking Links, Globalisation, Trade & Security -Trafficking Links. They are targeted to GAATW members and other NGOs, UN and regional advocacy mechanisms, donors, academics, and policy makers. They are to include both conceptual clarity about the links between topics but also discussions about how fields are linked in the promotion and restriction of human rights. Contact xenia@gaatw.org for more information.

GAATW International Conference (IMC) and International Members Congress July 4-7, 2010

GAATW organises a thematic conference and a member's congress every three years. The International Conference and Members Congress, scheduled to be held this year on 4-7 July 2010 in Bangkok, will adopt a format similar to the previous two IMCs; a **conference** that will be open to like-minded colleagues from various parts of the world and a **Members Only** event that will discuss GAATW's strategic direction in the coming years and other organisational matters.

Findings from the FPAR project will be shared in the international conference. The conference will also showcase a series of Working Papers on the linkages between trafficking, migration, gender, labour and global security. Discussions will be organised on the theoretical, practical and policy implications of these linkages. Additionally, papers will be solicited from activists and academics who are working on these issues.

More details will be posted in the coming weeks. For further information, please contact GAATW International Secretariat at info@gaatw.org.

Announcements

GAATW is on Facebook!!!

Click here to join the GAATW group:

<http://www.facebook.com/search/?q=ayi+gordo&init=quick#!/group.php?gid=342829641479>

Rights! Art! Action! call for Art Submissions

GAATW has extended the deadline date for entries until end of May 2010. GAATW challenges groups and individuals to move beyond the images of victimhood and vulnerability instead depict the strengths and agency of women - as a migrant worker, an activist, a mother, so on... [Click here](#) for more information about the contest.

RESOURCES

Reports/Articles

The **UNODC** has launched a new tool: The [International Framework for Action](#), a technical assistance tool that supports Member States in the effective implementation of the Palermo Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children (United Nations Trafficking Protocol), supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC). The framework consists of a narrative part and a set of tables. The narrative describes key challenges in the implementation of the Trafficking Protocol and proposes general measures that can be taken in order to more effectively address these challenges. The set of tables details these measures further, through five pillars containing practical actions to support the implementation. Next to many intergovernmental organisations, ECPAT, Lefo and Anti Slavery have also contributed to the framework.

Both documents/tools can be recommended to national counter trafficking working groups or

task forces to once again emphasise the need for good implementation of legislation based on the human rights approach and the monitoring of the implementation and the impact of the measures and policies. GAATW IS would like to thank Marieke van Doorninck of La Strada International for sharing this information.

An Evaluation Framework for USAID-funded TIP Prevention and Victim Protection Programs

This document is one of a series of publications sponsored by Social Transition Team in the Bureau for Europe and Eurasia on social transition issues in the region. This report provides concrete guidance on *how* to evaluate anti-TIP programs to those who are designing and implementing such programs. It presents the foundations of an evaluation framework, and includes the design strategies, challenges and recommendations for evaluating counter-trafficking programs. The last two sections of the report lay out concrete plans for evaluating two sample prevention and protection programs. Both examples consider the strategies and recommendations presented in the earlier sections of the report. The document can be downloaded from the USAID Development Experience Clearinghouse website <http://dec.usaid.gov>

The book, entitled ‘**Domestic Work - Decent Work**’, published in seven languages including Thai, Burmese, Lao, Shan and Karen, by the ILO in Thailand will be distributed through the Thai Labor Ministry and labor advocacy groups. Thetis Mangahas, the ILO’s regional migration specialist, said the aim of the guidebook is to help domestic workers so they do not fall into labor exploitation traps, while simultaneously empowering them with the necessary information about their rights. Click here to download the PDF copy of the guidebook.

http://www.ilo.org/asia/whatwedo/publications/lang--en/docName--WCM_041809/index.htm

Read more: <http://www.mizzima.com/news/regional/3460-ilo-releases-book-promoting-domestic-worker-rights.html>

Vietnamese Daughters in Transition: Factory Work and Family Relations

by Danièle Bélanger and Katherine Pendakis

This paper assesses the social implications of employment opportunities in manufacturing for rural young unmarried Vietnamese women. It looks at one group of women’s perceptions regarding their multiple roles as daughters and workers and the implications that their migration to the city has for their familial relationships. This paper also highlights the manifestation of empowerment and pride expressed by the women in terms family decisions and future marital relationships after becoming workers.

<http://mrzine.monthlyreview.org/2010/bp020210.html>

Mauritania-Senegal: Defending the rights of migrants

A publication by the International Trade Union Federation (ITUC) about what trade unions in Mauritania and Senegal are doing to promote and protect the rights of migrant workers. A summary of one of the articles:

Mauritania, in North-West Africa, is increasingly attracting migrant workers not only because of the diversion of migration routes by would-be European migrants (due to border controls in North Africa and Europe), but also because of the country’s economic development.

Furthermore, the global economic crisis has left African migrants in Europe with fewer job choices. Migrants come from other African countries (mainly West Africa) and increasingly, Asia - mainly due to the rise of Chinese investment in Africa. Migration into the country is primarily female and is usually for work in the informal sector. While migration and human trafficking-related laws are in place, they are more focused on security measures and do not take into account migrants’ rights. Trade unions in Mauritania are advocating for the ratification of ILO conventions relating to migrant workers rights, and are working to protect migrants’ rights in other ways - including establishing shelters for migrant workers.

For other articles in the publication including one that links migrant protection to organising in the informal sector, go to: http://www.ituc-csi.org/IMG/pdf/VS_migrant_EN.pdf

Database

The WomanStats Project is the most comprehensive compilation of information on the status of women in the world. The Project facilitates understanding the linkage between the situation of women and the security of nation-states. The project has scaled various aspects of women's experiences from the WomanStats Database, and have used those scales to create mappings of practices concerning women, as well as using these scales as inputs into more conventional statistical analyses.

<http://www.womanstats.org/>

Events

Trafficking, migration and the sex industry: Framing the questions, Providing the proofs
Lecture by Laura Agustín, author of *Sex at the Margins: Migration, Labour Markets and the Rescue Industry* on Wednesday, 10 March 2010, 18:45 - 21:00 at Rockefeller University, Weiss Building Room 305, York avenue at 66th St: Enter the campus at 66th Street. Contact pugwash@rockefeller.edu for more information.

The Justice and Home Affairs Section at the Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS) is organising together with the European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC), the Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants (PICUM) and EURO CITIES a conference on ***Undocumented Migrants and the Stockholm Programme: Assuring Access to Rights?*** The event focuses on the status of undocumented migrants in the EU and aims at structuring a pluralistic dialogue on their fundamental rights in light of the implementation of The Stockholm Programme by the Spanish Presidency and the adoption of the implementation plans by the Commission. The discussions taking place at the conference will be structured around the specific themes addressed in the final report and a set of policy recommendations conducted by the Justice and Home Affairs Section of CEPS on the status of undocumented migrants in Europe and their access to rights.

The report can be downloaded for free from CEPS website at:

<http://www.ceps.eu/book/undocumented-immigrants-and-rights-eu-addressing-gap-between-social-sciences-research-and-police>). The conference will take place on the **9th March 2010** at CEPS (Place du Congrès, 1 - 1000 Brussels). The Programme and online registration form is available at: <http://www.ceps.eu/event/undocumented-migrants-and-stockholm-programme-assuring-access-rights>. For those who are interested to join, please fill out the registration form before the 7th March.

II Latin American Congress on Trafficking 21-24 September 2010. Puebla, Mexico

The Iberoamerican University of Puebla, the University of Buenos Aires, the Center of Social and Culturales Studies Antonio de Montesinos A.C., the Center Fray Julián Garcés "Human Rights and Local Development" A.C., "Infancia Común" A.C. and other inviting institutions, are pleased to invite the academic community of Latin America and civil society organisations, to participate in the: ***II Latin American Congress on Trafficking and smuggling: Migration, Gender and Human Rights***.

For more information on the background and context of the congress as well as the agenda and its objectives go to: <http://www.tratacongreso2010.org/>



"The lives of migrants are sometimes difficult to put in words. They don't have time to write or maybe people don't have time to read either...Therefore, an exhibition (like this) will be a good format to have people look at things differently," said Jackie Pollock, director of the Migrant Assistance Programme (MAP) at the opening of the 'Illegal, Temporary and Precarious States of Being - Migration', an exhibition that highlights the contradictions faced by migrant workers who are not always accepted or appreciated for their contributions.

<http://ipsnews.net/news.asp?idnews=50374>

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- Primarily a tool for communication between the International Secretariat and the Alliance members, the e-bulletin aims to cover a broad range of topics although trafficking related issues remain its special focus. We also use this e-bulletin to inform members about upcoming events and provide regular updates about the Secretariat.
- We strongly encourage members and friends to send us their input to the e-bulletin at info@gaatw.org
- If you do not want to receive this e-bulletin please send us a message at info@gaatw.org and we will delete your address from the list.

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e-Bulletin



Global Alliance Against Traffic in Women

GAATW e-Bulletin

March 2010

Dear Members and Friends,

Greetings from GAATW International Secretariat.

March was the month of International Women's Day, an opportune time for 10 member organisations and friends to meet in Bangkok to share their findings on a GAATW initiated Feminist Participatory Action Research (FPAR) project. It was enlightening and inspiring to hear how the projects explored the intersect between women's familial roles and their roles as migrant workers in the global economy; the social as well as the economic consequences of migration in their home communities; the impact of women's migration status on their ability to exercise agency; and the diverse livelihood and activist strategies women use in countries of origin and destination.

This month's bulletin brings you global news about the launching of Jordan's national strategy to combat human trafficking, South Africa's development of a specific law on human trafficking, and Australia and Indonesia's leaders' commitment to cooperate in fighting human smuggling.

News from GAATW members highlights a joint project with La Strada Belarus, EU, UNDP, UNICEF and the Belarusian government, focusing on the improvement of protection and reintegration systems for trafficked persons, as well as Safe Horizon's upcoming Champion Awards honouring people and organisations who are visionaries of hope for victims of violence. For the Secretariat's update, we feature the recently concluded 3rd Roundtable Meeting on Feminist Participatory Action Research (FPAR) reports and the GAATW Thematic Working Papers.

We also have plentiful resources to share, from working papers, campaigns, books and reports to upcoming events. We hope that you find this issue enriching and we always look forward to your ideas and feedback.

Warmly,

The GAATW International Secretariat

GLOBAL HIGHLIGHTS

Jordan: National Strategy to combat human trafficking launched

On 2 March, Jordan launched their national strategy to combat human trafficking with an emphasis on prevention, protection, law enforcement and international cooperation. The strategy calls for policies to bring an end to trafficking, raise awareness on the dangers of human trafficking and identify victims, in order to protect and support them. Justice Minister

Ayman Odeh pointed out that the strategy was developed to reiterate the Kingdom's role in safeguarding human dignity and rights. The Kingdom has ratified several international agreements related to human trafficking such as the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, which is part of the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organised Crime.

http://www.menafn.com/qn_news_story_s.asp?StoryId=1093310435

Legislative Update

South Africa hastens human trafficking law

South Africa is to fast-track a comprehensive new law against human trafficking before the start of the soccer World Cup in June, 2010. Work on the law, intended to bring together disparate pieces of legislation against trafficking and enhance prosecution, began in 2003. The law would give South African courts extra-territorial jurisdiction to prosecute acts outside its borders and obliges internet providers to report suspicious activity. South Africa is following other Southern African countries: Mozambique, Zambia, Swaziland and Tanzania which also have specific legislation dealing with human trafficking.

http://www.sagoodnews.co.za/crime/south_africa_to_fast-track_human_trafficking_law.html

Australian and Indonesian leaders discuss people smuggling

The leaders of Indonesia and Australia have discussed plans to fight people smuggling and say the two nations will continue to cooperate in fighting the problem. The discussion came during Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudoyono's visit to Australia. The Indonesian president told the Australian Federal Parliament that his country will toughen laws against people smuggling. Thousands of people, primarily from South Asia, have tried to enter Australia over the past several years, many of them paying people smugglers to take them by boat from Indonesia.

<http://www1.voanews.com/english/news/Australian-Indonesian-Leaders-Discuss-Human-Trafficking-87210687.html>

REGIONAL/MEMBER UPDATES

Europe

Joint project of La Strada, EU, UNDP and UNICEF in Belarus

La Strada Belarus is implementing a joint project with the EU, UNDP, UNICEF and the Belarusian government titled, "Preventing, Fighting and Addressing the Social Consequences of Trafficking in Human Beings". The project focuses on the improvement of protection of, and reintegration systems for, trafficked persons. The project offers financial and technical support to trafficked persons, including accommodation, psychological assistance and social support, as well as, medical care and legal advice. The different stakeholders involved unite their actions in the project. La Strada Belarus contributes by operating a hotline and a shelter for trafficked persons. The hotline provides consultations regarding safe travel abroad and emergency counselling. For more information, contact La Strada Belarus <Lastrada@infonet.by>

Source: *La Strada International Newsletter, Issue 16, March 2010*

Americas

US NGO **Safe Horizon**, the latest organisation to join the Alliance who works to prevent violence, provide support and promote justice for victims of crimes and abuse, their families and communities will celebrate their annual Champion Awards on June 3rd 2010, Gotham Hall, New York City. The Awards is a celebration of the extraordinary people and organisations who are visionaries of hope for victims of violence. For more information about registration or to advertise in the Champion 2010 Journal please contact events@safehorizon.org

FROM THE SECRETARIAT

Initial Feminist Participatory Action Research (FPAR) Findings Presented at 3rd Feminist Roundtable, Bangkok, Thailand, 10-14 March 2009



In 2009, as part of the Research and Linkages programme GAATW initiated a Feminist Participatory Action Research (FPAR) project to better understand women's agency and the complexities in their migration, labour and trafficking experiences. 10 member organisations and allies from Asia, Latin America, Europe, Africa and North America met this month to present their project findings to each other and to discuss their future plans for carrying the research findings forward. Research projects explored the migration and labour struggles and strengths of Middle Eastern immigrant women in Vancouver, Canada (SWAN Vancouver), migrant women in the informal sector in Nairobi, Kenya (FIDA Kenya), rural returnee migrant women workers in Moldova (La Strada Moldova), Filipino migrant domestic worker activists in Europe (RESPECT), African asylum-seekers in Irish detention centers (AkiDWA), rural returnee migrant women in Indonesia (ATKI and LRC-KJHAM), returnee migrant women in Northern Thailand (SEPOM), sex workers in the Dominican Republic (MODEMU) and migrant women in Brazil (Sodireitos). Many of the projects explored the intersect between women's familial roles and their roles as migrant workers in the global economy, the social as well as the economic consequences of migration in their home communities, the impact of women's migration status on their ability to exercise agency, and the diverse livelihood and activist strategies women used in countries of origin and destination. After the FPAR presentations, GAATW allies reviewed a series of four Working Papers on the links between trafficking, migration, gender, labour and globalisation and discussed the implications of FPAR findings on GAATW's conceptual analysis on trafficking and related issues.

The results of the research will be presented at GAATW's International Members' Congress and Global Conference in July 2010. For more information, please contact Xenia Commandeur xenia@gaatw.org or Nerea Bilbatua nerea@gaatw.org. For more information about individual member organisations, please visit www.gaatw.org.

GAATW Board Member Eni Lestari from the Association of Indonesian Migrant Workers Association in Hong Kong (ATKI-HK) and Alfie Gordo from the GAATW Secretariat attended the **United for Foreign Domestic Workers Rights (UFDWR)** meeting, in Chiang Mai, Thailand, March 30th, to discuss the upcoming International Labour Conference on domestic workers in June. At the meeting, hosted by the Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development (APWLD), members and the core committee reviewed past UFDWR activities and developed future strategies, including joint advocacy work and national and regional action plans. The overarching message of the UFDWR campaign 'Recognise domestic work as work' calls for

foreign domestic workers to have one paid day off weekly; the right to organise and to have collective actions; ensured access to health services and protection of health-related rights; and ensured access to justice and redress.

For more information on the UFDWR campaign, go to www.ufdwr.blogspot.com

RESOURCES

Books

Moving People, Moving Images: Cinema and Trafficking in the New Europe

by William Brown, Dina Iordova, and Leshu Torchin

Over the past decade, the dramatic rise in migration and the demise of national borders across the 'new' Europe have helped to turn human traffic into one of the dominant narratives of contemporary cinema. *Moving People, Moving Images* focuses on the representation of human trafficking in films. The volume considers a range of films including the work of internationally renowned directors such as *Promised Land* (Amos Gitai), *Lorna's Silence* (the Dardenne Brothers) and *Ghosts* (Nick Broomfield), popular genres such as *Taken* (Pierre Morel), and lesser known but unquestionably important works such as *The Bus* (Tunç Okan) and *When Mother Comes Home for Christmas* (Nilita Vachani).

To purchase a copy: <http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/filmbooks>

When I dare to be powerful - Sex Workers Oral History (On the Road to a Sexual Rights Movement)

A Publication by Akina Mama wa Afrika (AMWA)

This book presents the multiple dimensions of women's lives. This publication breaks the silence regarding women's sexuality. This breakthrough work is in line with AMWA's core mandate of creating space for African Women to SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES. It allows sex workers to speak for themselves; claim their spaces and share their stories. *When I Dare to be Powerful* redefines African sex workers; giving the power back to them and their struggles.

To download the publication: <http://www.nswp.org/resources/content/when-i-dare-to-be-powerful-sex-worker-oral-history/view>

Reports

From the Tiger to the Crocodile

This report by Human Rights Watch Thailand describes the widespread and severe human rights abuses faced by migrant workers in Thailand, including killings, torture in detention, extortion, and sexual abuse, and labor rights abuses such as trafficking, forced labor, and restrictions on organising.

To download the report: <http://www.hrw.org/en/reports/2010/02/23/tiger-crocodile>

Trapped: The Exploitation of Migrant Workers in Malaysia released by Amnesty International documents widespread abuses against migrant workers from eight South Asian and Southeast Asian countries who migrate to Malaysia on the promise of jobs, but are instead used in forced labour or exploited in other ways.

To download the report: <http://www.amnesty.org/en/news-and-updates/report/malaysia-must-end-abuse-migrant-workers-2010-03-24>

Working Papers

Standing together apart: Bilateral migration agreements and the temporary movement of

persons under “mode 4” of GATS

This paper written by Marion Panizzon analyses why the temporary movement of service providers, as liberalised by the WTO in the so-called mode 4 of GATS, lacks potential for managing labor migration. The author finds instead that international economic migration is increasingly steered by the vertical interplay of migration-related agreements at three levels: the multilateral opening of labor markets in GATS mode 4 and its replicas at regional level, the economic partnership agreements (EPA), the EU mobility partnerships and the bilateral migration management agreements. The latter have moved from the “old” guest worker agreements to second generation templates, which present the most comprehensive regulation of migration currently available in treaty law. This complex treaty landscape on migration is split horizontally along a skill divide: non-trade, bilateral migration agreements are channels for recruiting low-skilled migrants, while trade agreements, including GATS mode 4 tend to be high-skill biased.

<http://www.compas.ox.ac.uk/publications/working-papers/wp-10-75/>

Crossroads of Empowerment: The Organisation of Women Domestic Workers in Brazil IDS (Institute of Development Studies, UK) Bulletin

Special Issue: Negotiating Empowerment

This article by Terezinha Gonçalves draws on participatory research with women domestic workers in the city of Salvador, north-east Brazil. It aims to analyse how gender, race, and class inequalities play out in the women’s lives, how these inequalities challenge women’s access to empowerment, and the action women domestic workers are taking to seek greater rights, recognition and justice.

<http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/journal/122401808/group/home/home.html>

Campaign on domestic work

Anti-Slavery International recently launched its public campaign in support of their advocacy efforts for a new ILO Convention on domestic work.

The main web page for this campaign is:

<http://www.antislavery.org/homealone/>

Which links to:

- Web action targeting the UK government:
http://www.antislavery.org/english/campaigns/home_alone/call_on_uk_government_to_end_domestic_slavery.aspx
- A model letter that can be used for governments worldwide
http://www.antislavery.org/english/campaigns/home_alone/call_on_governments_worldwide_to_end_domestic_slavery.aspx
- Fact sheets on domestic work and the campaign:
http://www.antislavery.org/english/campaigns/home_alone/about_domestic_work_and_slavery.aspx
http://www.antislavery.org/english/campaigns/home_alone/about_home_alone_campaign.aspx
- A compilation of case studies:
http://www.antislavery.org/english/campaigns/home_alone/stories_of_domestic_workers/default.aspx
- Short film clips:
http://www.antislavery.org/english/campaigns/home_alone/films_on_domestic_work.aspx

Events

The Meaning and Practice of Immigration Detention: Perspectives from Legal, Political and Social Theory (21 May 2010, Oxford, UK)

A seminar organised by the Centre on Migration, Policy and Society (COMPAS), Oxford University

This workshop aims to provide an academic forum for discussion of immigration detention in liberal, democratic countries. For more information about the workshop, please contact the workshop conveners: Evelyne Massa evelyne.massa@sociology.ox.ac.uk; Stephanie J. Silverman stephanie.silverman@politics.ox.ac.uk
<http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/index.html?main>

The **11th Alliance against Trafficking in Persons conference** will be held on **17-18 June 2010** in the Neuer Saal, Hofburg, Vienna. This year's conference will focus on **trafficking in human beings for the purpose of domestic servitude**. This will act as a follow up to the 5th Alliance Conference on Human Trafficking for Labour Exploitation, as well as the Alliance Technical Seminar on Trafficking for Labour Exploitation Focusing on the Agricultural Sector. A more detailed information package will be circulated in the coming weeks. For more details please contact Nerea Bilbatua Thomas nerea@gaatw.org.

“When women are denied the opportunity to better themselves and their societies, we all lose. On this International Women’s Day, let us look critically at the achievements of the past 15 years so we can build on what has worked, and correct what has not. Let us work with renewed determination for a future of equal rights, equal opportunities and progress for all.”

Ban Ki-moon, Secretary General of the United Nations
International Women’s Day, 8 March 2010
Equal Rights, Equal Opportunities, Progress for All
http://www.un.org/en/events/women/iwd/2010/sg_message.shtml

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e-Bulletin



Global Alliance Against Traffic in Women

GAATW e-Bulletin

April 2010

Dear Members and Friends,

Welcome to the April issue of the e-Bulletin. April is traditionally the month of holidays and celebration in Thailand. In spite of the intense heat of summer the Thai sprit for 'sanook', and the water festival had always kept us cool and cheerful in April. Unfortunately, this year's celebrations were marred by the on-going political turmoil which turned violent and even resulted in serious injury and loss of life for many innocent civilians.

We express our deep concern over Thailand's current political crisis and call on the Thai government to implement measures that will ensure protection of human rights to all concerned parties. Many workers have lost earnings and others are at the edge of losing their jobs due to political unrest in the commercial business districts. We urge the government to plan for peaceful resolutions and to extend assistance to subsistence workers affected by the political crisis.

As we move towards the commemoration of the International Labor Day tomorrow, we call on all states to heighten their efforts to ensure labour rights protection for all workers. Workers in the informal sector many of whom are also migrants are often deprived of benefits, assistance and just wages, some become victims of repressive laws that promote racial and ethnic profiling. GAATW continues to advocate for the promotion of rights-based approaches for the treatment of all workers regardless of citizenship and immigration status.

Highlights

This issue features some of the events at the International Crime Congress, the launching of the AU.COMMIT campaign with West African States, the setting up of a Human Rights division in GCC states, the passage of the controversial immigration bill in Arizona, and the new Anti-Trafficking law in Egypt.

GAATW members from Europe and Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) have shared their latest activities in the regions which include the launching of a Feminist Participatory Research (FPAR) report focusing on the situation of asylum seekers in Ireland, and members' activities at the International Crime Congress in Brazil.

We hope that you find this issue enriching and we always look forward to your ideas and feedback.

Warmly,

The GAATW International Secretariat

GLOBAL HIGHLIGHTS

Twelfth United Nations Crime Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Salvador, Brazil, 12-19 April 2010

Representatives from GAATW attended the International Crime Congress held in Salvador, Brazil from 12-19 April 2010. Every five years since 1955, the United Nations Crime Prevention Congresses convene in different parts of the world, dealing with a vast range of topics. The Twelfth Congress focused on the theme, “**Comprehensive strategies for global challenges: crime prevention and criminal justice systems and their development in a changing world**”. It offered a unique opportunity to incite in-depth discussions and proposals for action along the three principal avenues by 1) establishing firmly the criminal justice system as a central pillar in the rule of law architecture; highlighting the pivotal role of the criminal justice system in development; emphasizing the need for a holistic approach to criminal justice system reform to strengthen criminal justice systems in dealing with crime; identifying emerging forms of crime that pose a threat to societies around the world and exploring ways to prevent and control them. The agenda covered eight substantive issues such as children, youth, terrorism; crime prevention; smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons; money laundering; cybercrime; international cooperation in fighting crime; and violence against migrants and their families.

A high-level segment was held during the last two days of the Congress, where Heads of State or Government and Ministers and other high-level government representatives addressed the main agenda of the congress. GAATW held five workshops, made one NGO oral intervention and one intervention on behalf of a State (Patricia Bustamante from CECASEM on behalf of the government of Bolivia) all focussed on promoting a victim-centred approach to trafficking. The GAATW workshop directed at *Member States* was attended by approximately 30 government officials and around 60 people in total and supported by the Governments of Canada, Austria, Norway, Switzerland, Brazil and Nigeria. Another workshop directed at NGOs was attended by around 20 NGOs who had expressed an interest in review mechanism advocacy.

The Congress adopted the Final Salvador Political Declaration which can be downloaded at: http://www.unodc.org/documents/crime-congress/12th-Crime-Congress/Documents/In-session/ACONF.213L6_Rev.2/V10528651A_CONF213_L6_REV2_E_18_04_FINAL_Clean.pdf

For inquiries about GAATW's participation during the International Crime Congress, please contact Caroline Hames, International Advocacy Officer at the GAATW-IS at caroline@gaatw.org

Source: <http://www.un.org/en/conf/crimecongress2010/>

AFRICAN UNION LAUNCHES THE AFRICAN UNION COMMISSION INITIATIVE AGAINST TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS (AU.COMMIT) CAMPAIGN WITH WEST AFRICAN STATES

The African Union, on March 24 to 26, held a workshop to launch the African Union Commission Campaign Against Trafficking in Persons (AU.COMMIT) with West African States. The main objective of the meeting was to operationalize the Ouagadougou Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings, Especially Women and Children (Ouagadougou Action Plan), a policy instrument that provides measures for African States to address trafficking in the region. While the meeting was held mainly for Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) members, other sub-regional communities, international agencies and civil society organisations were in attendance. The discussions covered sub-regional and Continental anti-trafficking policy instruments, as well as trafficking trends in West Africa and current efforts to address them by governments and UN agencies. GAATW made a presentation on the role that civil society plays in addressing trafficking at local, regional and global levels. The importance of harmonising regional and sub-regional anti-trafficking

policies was highlighted, and governments agreed that implementation and proper monitoring and evaluation of the policies was required. It was emphasised that reliable data and research on the scope and dynamics of trafficking in Africa was lacking, and this negatively affects anti-trafficking efforts.

As part of its plans to implement the Ouagadougou Action Plan, the African Union will hold similar workshops in other sub-regions between 2010 and 2011.

For further inquiries, write to Nkirote Laiboni, Africa Regional Programme Officer at the GAATW-IS at nkirote@gaatw.org

THE ORGANIZATION OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE (OIC) SETS UP HUMAN RIGHTS DIVISION

The Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) has announced that it is setting up a special division that will deal with human rights. The OIC spans 57 countries over four continents, making it the second-largest inter-governmental organization after the United Nations.

The announcement came after the visit of UN's High Commissioner for Human Rights Navi Pillay to Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. Pillay began a 10-day visit to six Gulf countries last week in an effort to improve cooperation between the UN human rights system and the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states: Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, Oman and the United Arab Emirates. Pillay said the GCC showed an "encouraging level of governmental activity to improve human rights," particularly in the areas of economic and social rights, children's rights and human trafficking. However she noted continuing concerns about women's rights, migration, statelessness, and freedom of expression, association and assembly.

<http://www.jpost.com/MiddleEast/Article.aspx?id=173731>

Legislative Update

Arizona Enacts Stringent Law on Immigration

Governor Jan Brewer of Arizona signed the nation's toughest bill on illegal immigration into law last week with the aim to identify, prosecute and deport illegal immigrants. The passage of the bill has sparked protests and opened debates over immigration reforms. The law, which proponents and critics alike said was the broadest and strictest immigration measure in generations, would make the failure to carry immigration documents a crime and give the police broad power to detain anyone suspected of being in the country illegally. Opponents have called it an open invitation for harassment and discrimination against Hispanics regardless of their citizenship status.

The law was to take effect 90 days after the legislative session ends, meaning by August. Court challenges were expected immediately.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/04/24/us/politics/24immig.html>

Egypt's Parliament approves law to combat human trafficking

The Egyptian Parliament approved a law on combating human trafficking during its session last week. The Assembly also approved Article 23 of the Draft Law to guarantee protection for trafficked persons and to create conditions in extending social assistance, rehabilitation and integration into society. The new anti-trafficking law also ensures the right to physical, psychological and moral health and integrity as well as the right to access legal and relevant judicial procedures and information. Joy Ngozi Ezeilo, the UN Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons met with officials from the Egyptian Government and representatives of civil society during her visit to Egypt. She said during a press conference in Cairo that one of the common forms of trafficking in human beings in Egypt underlined the "sexual exploitation of minors through temporary marriages." She also stressed the lack of public awareness on the various forms of human trafficking in the country.

<http://www.ikhwanweb.com/article.php?id=24464>

Europe

“Am Only Saying It Now” - Experiences of Women Seeking Asylum in Ireland

Akina Dada wa Africa (AkiDwa; Swahili for sisterhood), a GAATW member organisation based in Ireland, launched their new publication **‘Am Only Saying It Now’ (Experiences of Women Seeking Asylum in Ireland)** on 27th April at Galway City Museum, Republic of Ireland. This report is part of the GAATW initiated Feminist Participatory Action Research (FPAR) project to better understand women’s agency and the complexities in their migration, labour and trafficking experiences. Ten member organisations and allies from Asia, Latin America, Europe, Africa and North America participated in the FPAR research. Findings from other FPAR projects will be shared in the GAATW International Members Congress and Conference in July 2010. For more information about AkiDwa’s report, email AKiDWA at info@akidwa.ie or visit their website www.akidwa.ie

Americas

During the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice held in Salvador, Brazil from 12-19 April 2010, **Associacao de Defesa Da Mulher, Da Infancia E Da Juventude (Asbrad)** and **Sociedade de Defesa Dos Direitos Sexuais na Amazonia (Sodireitos)** both GAATW members from Brazil engaged with the Brazilian government on the review mechanism and the Brazilian National Action Plan at a governmental side event on Trafficking - during which the Brazilian government stated their support for a Review Mechanism, and for establishing processes from engagement with civil societies in drawing up the new National Action Plan (NAP).

FROM THE SECRETARIAT

GAATW AFRICA REGIONAL PROGRAMME OFFICER VISITS GPI NIGERIA

GAATW-IS paid a visit to Girls Power Initiative (GPI) Nigeria in March, 2010. GPI, a GAATW member, is a youth development NGO that provides extra-curricular education to teenage girls on sexual and reproductive rights, and life management skills. GPI’s 3-year Comprehensive Sexuality Education curriculum covers a number of issues including human trafficking and HIV/AIDS. The organisation employs this curriculum in schools, at its four centres in various Nigerian States and generally in communities through its community awareness program. Besides education, GPI provides library services as well as counselling and referral services. GPI works with other NGOs in Nigeria in creating awareness on trafficking as well as in providing direct assistance to trafficked persons. According to GPI, there is a need to sensitise Nigerian law enforcement agencies on how to deal with trafficking cases as there is currently a problem with officials dehumanising trafficked persons. Moreover, there is need for research to be undertaken particularly on the new recruitment strategies traffickers are employing, as well as on the effect of anti-trafficking policy implementation on trafficked persons.



The 32nd issue of the Alliance News which focuses on the theme **“The Changing Context of Trafficking and Migration in Asia”** is now available in the GAATW website. This issue is the last of the Regional Spotlight series which has featured Africa, Europe and Latin America. To download a soft copy of the newsletter, go to:

http://www.gaatw.org/publications/Alliance%20News/2009/Alliance_News_Dec09.pdf

RESOURCES

Reports

No Healing Here (Violence, Discrimination, Barriers to Health for Migrants in South Africa)

This report by Human Rights Watch describes how harassment, lack of documentation, and

the credible fear of deportation prevent many new comers from seeking medical treatment even though South African law and policy state that asylum seekers, refugees, and migrants have a right to care. Those who seek treatment are often mistreated and verbally abused by health care workers and denied care or charged unlawful fees. To download the report: go to <http://www.hrw.org/en/reports/2009/12/02/no-healing-here>

Manual for Working with Undocumented Migrants

On the 31st of March Praxis Community Projects held a conference and launched a 'manual for working with undocumented migrants'. This manual outlines the immigration position of different types of irregular migrants and their entitlements and rights in several areas such as housing, health, and social services as well as referencing the pieces of legislation that govern these areas of work. The manual also offers advice on the implications and practicalities of working with irregular migrants, including ethical and legal considerations.

<http://migrantsrights.org.uk/blog/index.php/2010/04/19/praxis-community-projects-launches-manual-for-working-with-undocumented-migrants/>

Inquiry Into The Meat And Poultry Processing Sectors

The UK Equality and HRs Commission issued a report about employment and recruitment in the UK meat and poultry processing industry. The report reveals evidence of the widespread mistreatment and exploitation of migrant and agency workers in the sector. An interesting element of the report is that it also looks at good practices and brings examples of why good management would benefit industries as well. More information at:

<http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/legislative-framework/formal-inquiries/inquiry-into-the-meat-and-poultry-processing-sectors/>

Slow Reform: Protection of Migrant Domestic Workers in Asia and the Middle East

Human Rights Watch released a report on the protection of migrant domestic workers in the Asian region, in time for the International Labor Day on 1st May. The 26-page report reviews conditions in eight countries with large numbers of migrant domestic workers: Lebanon, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Singapore, and Malaysia. The report surveys progress in extending protection to domestic workers under labor laws, reforming immigration "sponsorship" systems that contribute to abuse, ensuring effective response by police and courts to physical and sexual violence, and allowing civil society and trade unions to organize.

<http://www.hrw.org/en/news/2010/04/28/middle-eastasia-partial-reforms-fail-migrant-domestic-workers>

International Labour Migration: A rights-based approach

The new study by the International Labour Organisation (ILO) examines trends in international labour migration, its impacts on origin and destination countries, and conditions of work experienced by migrant workers. The study also explores how standards can be used in the formulation and implementation of migration policies and practices. The report also brings out the positive contributions made by migrant workers to both their countries of employment and origin. Still, it also highlights the decent work and protection deficits they still experience today, including low wages, non-payment of wages, unsafe working environments, a virtual absence of social protection, denial of freedom of association and workers' rights, discrimination and xenophobia.

To download the report: go to

http://www.ilo.org/global/What_we_do/Publications/ILOBookstore/Forthcomingpublications/lang--en/docName--WCMS_125361/index.htm

Call for paper and Events

Following the success of the First interdisciplinary Conference on Human trafficking in October 2009, the University of Nebraska will host the **Second Interdisciplinary Conference on Human Trafficking** with the theme : *Global Knowledge: What we Know and What We Need*

to Know on September 30-October 2, 2010 at Embassy Suites Hotel, Lincoln, NE. Visit <http://humantrafficking.unl.edu> for more information.

The organizing team at the University of Nebraska - Lincoln has extended the deadline for the call for papers for the Second Annual Interdisciplinary on Human Trafficking. The deadline for 300-word abstracts is now May 28, 2010. Those who have already submitted abstracts will be notified by May 25 of acceptance or rejection; those submitting later will be notified by the end of June.

Announcement

The OHCHR is requesting input from civil society on a thematic report, pursuant to Human Rights Council (HRC) resolution 12/17 adopted in October 2009, on discrimination against women in law and in practice, and how the issue is addressed throughout the United Nations human rights system, including CEDAW. Any relevant information for this study is welcome. Your input would greatly enhance the quality of this report and ensure that it considers issues that may not have been adequately addressed, such as the situation of indigenous women, SOGI issues, etc.

This report will be submitted to the Human Rights Council at the September 2010 session.

Please send your responses (maximum 3000 words) to **Cecilia Moller, Acting Coordinator of the Women's Rights and Gender Section** at cmoller@ohchr.org. Deadline is on 15 May 2010.

In the Salvador Declaration, Member States underlined the need to respect and protect human rights in preventing crime and administering criminal justice. "As human beings, as well as members of the community of civilized nations, we have a shared responsibility to place human rights at the heart of the justice system", said UNODC Executive Director Antonio Maria Costa.

The Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice
Salvador, Brazil - April 12-19, 2010

<http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/frontpage/2010/April/crime-congress-wraps-up-with-salvador-declaration.html>

The GAATW e-bulletin is sent out to all member organisations of the Alliance as well as to many of its friends and sister NGOs worldwide.

- The e-bulletin is published every last week of the month. A Spanish version goes out three days after the English version. Sometimes additional follow up information and/or reminders are also sent via email to member organisations.
- Primarily a tool for communication between the International Secretariat and the Alliance members, the e-bulletin aims to cover a broad range of topics although trafficking related issues remain its special focus. We also use this e-bulletin to inform members about upcoming events and provide regular updates about the Secretariat.
- We strongly encourage members and friends to send us their input to the e-bulletin at info@gaatw.org
- If you do not want to receive this e-bulletin please send us a message at info@gaatw.org and we will delete your address from the list.

Please note that we have not inserted the advertisements that may appear on this message. GAATW International Secretariat is not associated in any of these ads over which we have no control.

e-Bulletin



Global Alliance Against Traffic in Women

JULY/2010

HUMAN RIGHTS

*At home
abroad
and on the way*

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Dear Members and Friends,

We would like to thank all members, friends and allies for your input, presence and support during GAATW's International Members Congress and Conference (IMCC): Beyond Borders: Trafficking in the Context of Migrants, Labour and Women's Rights, 4-7 July 2010. This year's theme, Beyond Borders, was informed by the Linkages work undertaken by GAATW over the past three years, to explore the links between trafficking and migration, labour, gender and globalisation and security, specifically from a human rights based perspective. This work culminated in a series of Working Papers and 12 Feminist Participatory Action Researches (in collaboration with member organisations and allies) which was showcased at the IMCC. These working papers and research reports are now available online and through the post. We welcome further discussions on these issues, please share your thoughts with us! More information on these new publications is available at the bottom of this e-bulletin.

The IMCC generated many exciting ideas and suggestions for future work, marking the first of many more rich discussions as GAATW International Secretariat (IS) prepares the strategic direction and programme priorities for 2011-2013 which will be shared with all member organisations by mid-September this year. The Congress and Conference was a great opportunity to reconnect with old colleagues and friends and to meet many new members and allies. We feel extremely grateful for spending four stimulating days with highly energetic and dedicated human rights advocates working in a broad range of fields, relating to trafficking, women's rights, migration, and labour issues. We would also like to thank Ms. Joy Ngozi Ezeilo, the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Trafficking in Persons, especially women and children, and Mr. Vitit Muntabhorn, the United Nations Special Rapporteur on human rights in North Korea for their presence and contributions at the Conference.

To our colleagues and members who could not make it to the event, your presence has been greatly missed, however, below we share with you some of the highlights from both the members' congress and the international conference.

Warmly,

The GAATW International Secretariat

International Members' Congress, 4-5 July 2010



The GAATW International Members' Congress (IMC) held at the Imperial Queen's Park Hotel, Bangkok, began with an open and interactive conversation, facilitated by Jan Bootinand (former GAATW IS staff member) and Dr. Nita Prasad (from member organisation Ban Ying) which invited both old and new members to reflect on GAATW's history and significant contributions since its birth. This was followed by a formal welcome from Bandana Pattanaik (GAATW International Coordinator) who provided an overview of GAATW's work and achievements over the previous three years, highlighting challenges going forward. Space for participants to network and learn more about others' work followed.

Member organisations led Africa, Europe, Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean regional sessions which presented an overview of the membership in the regions, the diversity of work on human trafficking, labour migration and related issues, programmes and challenges, advocacy work and strategies, and recommendations for GAATW.

Working Groups on *Membership* and *Decision-Making Processes* presented on the work they have been doing since the last IMC. Some decisions about membership and decision making processes were made in these sessions, however, in some cases it was felt that further discussions with members was needed. The final session of the Congress was dedicated to discussing possibilities for GAATW's future strategic direction. Participants had the opportunity to share their opinions, feedback and information on what is important and relevant for GAATW's future work. Many recommendations were made with regard to research, network building and reframing issues through policy positions and advocacy objectives.

One highlight of the IMCC were two art exhibitions, *Stories of Trafficked and Returnee Migrant Women: A PHOTO ESSAY* which accompanies SEPOM's Feminist Participatory Action Research (FPAR) report titled *Trafficked' identities as a barrier to community reintegration: Five stories of women re-building lives and resisting categorisation*, and *Rights!Art!Action!* which showcased some of the entries from GAATW's recently concluded arts-based contest calling for more rights-based representations of women in anti-trafficking campaigns.

The first two days of the members' congress ended with *Café Alliance* sessions, an informal space for the members of the Alliance to share their work, activities and to discuss emerging issues with one another.

GAATW International Conference, 6-7 July 2010



BEYOND BORDERS: Trafficking in the Context of Migrants, Labour and Women's Rights

The International Congress was opened by *Woman Power*, a powerful performance led by two community-based organisations who use dance to help empower and assist the recovery of trafficked persons - Kolkota Sanved (India) and Gabfai (Thailand). This was followed by the session *Understanding Trafficking and Human Rights in the Context of Migration, Labour, Gender and Globalisation* led by Dr. Jyoti Sanghera (GAATW Board Member) Dr. Ratna Kapur (from a member organisation, Center for Feminist Legal Research) and Dr. Annalee Lepp (from a member organisation, GAATW Canada).

Next, ran 4 concurrent sessions on *Negotiating Rights at the Workplace*, *The Victim Label*, *What's Next? What do Linkages Mean for our Work?*, and *Trade Policies and Impacts on Migrating Women*. These sessions linked specifically to the Working Paper series and Feminist Participatory Action Research projects to further explore issues such as: the implications of linking trafficking with migration, labour, and gender issues on our conceptual understanding of trafficking issues and our practical anti-trafficking work; the strategies and politics of linking and de-linking trafficking with other thematic areas such as those listed above; and integrating the voices and experiences of migrant women into global discussions on anti-trafficking.

The second day of the conference started with two concurrent sessions around the theme *Organising for Change*, to explore issues relating to the domestic workers and sex workers rights movement, respectively. Panellists in the domestic workers group presented on the proposed International Labour Organisation's Convention for Domestic Workers' Rights as well as rights enhancing actions at the regional and national levels. The sex workers session looked at organising strategies, opportunities for future collaboration with anti-trafficking groups, and sex workers' engagement in the anti-trafficking discourse.

These sessions were followed by a consultation with the UN Special Rapporteur on Trafficking in Persons, Ms Joy Ngozi Ezeilo for her upcoming report to the UN General Assembly in October on the theme *Prevention of Human Trafficking*. She emphasised the importance of consulting with civil society and her desire to have their voices reflected in her report. The session provoked much debate and rich discussions specifically around: addressing root causes of trafficking, awareness raising activities, promoting safe migration, victim participation and public-private partnership. If you wish to make a

contribution to this report or any future reports, you can email Ms Ezeilo directly at: SRtrafficking@ohchr.org.

With Ms. Joy Ngozi Ezeilo (the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Trafficking in Persons, especially women and children) and Mr. Vitit Muntabhorn (the United Nations Special Rapporteur on human rights in North Korea), Hannah Wu (Office for the High Commissioner for Human Rights South East Asia Regional Office), and Dr. Nita Prasad (member organisation, Bang Ying), the *United Nations Advocacy Strategies* session explored the merits and limitations of two United Nations mechanisms to raise individual complaints of human rights abuses: The UN core human rights treaty bodies and the UN Special Procedures. The session drew on cases of human rights violations participants had come across in their work.

The final *Strategic Directions* session was a moment to recap on the key issues raised throughout the four day event and to thank all the members and friends for inputs and excellent suggestions on how to move forward. The document will be shared by the International Secretariat to all members by 1st of October 2010.

The closing ceremony led by Jacqueline Leite (GAATW Board member, Brazil) reflected the energy and optimism from participants as everyone acted out their experiences of the IMCC.

Just Released! New GAATW PUBLICATIONS:

A WOMAN'S LIFE IS RICHER THAN HER TRAFFICKING EXPERIENCE: Feminist Participatory Action Research (FPAR) Series CD



In 2009, GAATW initiated a feminist participatory action research project to better understand women's agency and the complexities in their migration, labour and trafficking experiences. These reports from member organisations and allies from Asia, Latin America, Europe, Africa and North America give account of women's complex realities. They narrate the experiences of women when they migrate, work, care for their families, and explore how local attitudes and global contexts influence their lives. Research projects explored the

migration and labour struggles and strengths of Middle Eastern immigrant women in Vancouver, Canada (SWAN Vancouver), migrant women in the informal sector in Nairobi, Kenya (FIDA Kenya), rural returnee migrant women workers in Moldova (La Strada Moldova), Filipino migrant worker activists in Europe (RESPECT), African asylum-seekers in Ireland (AkiDwA), rural returnee migrant women in Indonesia (ATKI and LRC-KJHAM), sex workers in the Dominican Republic (MODEMU) and migrant women in Brazil (Sodireitos). These reports show that a woman's life is about more than just her trafficking experience. They tell about the hardship, the challenges, but moreover they show the resilience, strength, and autonomy that women have.

Beyond Borders: Exploring Trafficking's Links to Gender, Migration, Labour, Globalisation and Security

GAATW Working Papers Series 2010

This series of Working Papers explores links between trafficking and gender; trafficking, globalisation, and security; trafficking and labour; and trafficking and migration. These four Working papers all cover (1) basic concepts in the field; (2) examples of the links between trafficking and other issues in the work of civil society actors, governments, and

other stakeholders; (3) the beneficial and harmful effects of these simultaneous factors on working migrant women; (4) the importance of using a human rights-based approach; (5) how groups from different sectors can work together in new ways; and (6) policy recommendations.

Each of these Working Papers depicts numerous examples of migrant women exercising agency. People who are interested in the interface between theory and practice, and between conceptual and pragmatic work, will enjoy reading these Working Papers.

For more information about GAATW's latest publications, please email info@gaatw.org

To download the working papers, go to: www.gaatw.org

GAATW Asia Regional Consultation (ARC) Report

31 August-4 September 2009, Kathmandu, Nepal

This five-day regional consultation with member organisations and allies in Asia discussed the various socio-political situation in a number of countries in Asia and its impact on women's human rights; interactive discussions on the rights of domestic workers and another session on the impact of anti-trafficking legislation on the rights of sex workers as well as thematic workshops on advocacy, psycho-social care, and the links between migration, labour, gender and trafficking. The results and recommendations from the consultation is now available on the GAATW website www.gaatw.org

To download the report, go to:

http://www.gaatw.org/publications/2009_GAATW_Asia_Regional_Consultation_Report.pdf

e-Bulletin



Global Alliance Against Traffic in Women

GAATW e-Bulletin
August 2010

Dear Members and Friends,

Greetings from GAATW International Secretariat.

We are pleased to share with you the August issue of the e-Bulletin. This month has been dedicated to finalising GAATW's strategic document to be shared with members in September and meeting GAATW members in Cambodia and Indonesia. We have also been preparing for September's Human Rights Council in Geneva and October's UN Convention on Transnational Organised Crime 5th Conference of Parties to be held in Vienna.

We take this opportunity to say thank you and best wishes to Nkirote Laiboni, Africa Regional Programme Officer and Liyana Pavon Lugo, the Americas Regional Programme Officer, who both completed their GAATW-IS tenure in July. We thank them for their hard work, dedication and invaluable contributions to GAATW.

Also, we warmly welcome Caitlin Grover to the GAATW-IS family! Caitlin, from Australian Volunteers International (AVI), will be part of the Communications Unit starting August 31, 2010.

Global highlights this issue include:

- news of the recently concluded OSCE conference on Human Trafficking for Labour Exploitation
- an article on how diplomatic immunity is violating human rights of migrant domestic workers
- a call to provide measures to address the issues of Tamil asylum seekers in Canada
- a look at India's plan to ratify the UN Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime.

In members updates, La Strada International shares their project report on the European Action for Compensation for Trafficked Persons and FIRST holds presentations at the Desiree Alliance Conference in Vancouver on *the victimization in the off-street sex industry in Vancouver* and *Research with sex workers*.

Action For Reach Out (AFRO), a sex workers' rights group based in Hong Kong, will also hold talks and open forums with sex workers and activists to improve public understanding of the industry and the community by discussing issues relating to sex work.

The IS update features the Construction, Forestry, Mining and Energy Union's (CFMEU, Australia) use of labour rights strategies to fight trafficking cases and a call for case studies to be showcased in the upcoming international events in September-October.

There are also a number of interesting and useful materials in the resource section.

We always welcome your suggestions and feedback.

Warmly,

The GAATW International Secretariat

GLOBAL HIGHLIGHTS

[OSCE Conference in Turkmenistan](#)

The OSCE Centre, in coordination with the General Prosecutor's Office of Turkmenistan, held a conference on combating human trafficking for labour exploitation. More than 45 representatives from state institutions, civil society, international organizations and embassies attended the conference which focused on the challenges of combating human trafficking for labour exploitation. The event also highlighted the importance of ensuring that measures to protect and assist trafficked persons are in place and fully functional.

[Diplomatic Immunity Versus Human Rights?](#)

The abuse that migrant domestic workers suffer at the hands of their employers in Britain has received a great deal of publicity recently, and with good reason. The pain, shame and poor conditions that many such workers endure are often handled in secrecy, behind the closed doors of private residences around the country. However, the spotlight has yet to shine on the issues facing domestic workers employed by representatives of states.

Diplomats and consular officials also employ migrant domestic workers in the UK and examples sadly exist of these staff being abused. The author emphasised that the Government needs to carefully consider the application of diplomatic immunity in cases where there has been a potential breach of human rights.

[Tamil Refugees Need Further Protection](#)

As public debate regarding the plight of the 492 Tamil refugee claimants intensifies, B'nai Brith Canada has warned against allowing racism to creep into public discourse on the issue and recommended three proactive solutions.

David Matas, senior legal counsel for B'nai Brith Canada, highlighted several additional measures Canada should consider to address the underlying issues, including:

- adding Sri Lanka to the source country class so that Sri Lankans could seek the protection of Canada while overseas
- pressing the government of Sri Lanka to end human rights violations against its minority population
- urging the government of Thailand, from where some of the boat people come, to sign and ratify the UN Refugee Convention.

He concluded by saying, "Safeguards come not from shutting the door on human suffering, but from addressing the real issues head-on."

[India to Ratify UN Convention](#)

Eight years after signing the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime, India is ready to ratify it and bring its laws in line with international standards. Ratification will allow the government to sign mutual legal assistance agreements with 154 member countries. The move will also put pressure on nations to assist in efforts to combat human trafficking.

REGIONAL/MEMBER UPDATES

[Europe](#)

COM.ACT - European Action for Compensation for Trafficked Persons

This is a three-year European project initiated by **La Strada International**, **Anti-Slavery International** and their partners to improve access to justice and guarantee compensation for trafficked people. The project argues that compensation must become one of the key elements of assistance and service programmes for trafficked people in Europe.

[Click here](#) to support the coalition or download resources. For more information on COM.ACT contact [La Strada International](#).

LSI granted UN Consultative status

GAATW-IS would like to congratulate **La Strada International** for being granted *Special Consultative Status* with the *Economic and Social Council of the United Nations*.

The Americas

Members from **FIRST**, a sex workers' rights group in Vancouver, Canada and a GAATW member organisation, presented at the *Desiree Alliance Conference* last month.

The theme of this year's conference (Las Vegas) was "Working Sex: Power, Practice and Politics" and featured five streams:

- Academic and Policy
- Activism
- Art, Entertainment and the Media
- Business and Development
- Harm Reduction and Outreach

Tamara O'Doherty gave two presentations: *Victimisation in the off-street sex industry in Vancouver, BC* and *Research with sex workers*. And Scarlett Lake presented a film featuring her work *A Safer Sex Trade*, with a Q&A panel.

FIRST co-founder Joyce Arthur summarised the event.

The 5-day event attracted over 275 participants and featured 7 keynote speakers, 110 presenters, 125 presentations and workshops, and poolside temperatures of 43 degrees Celsius. Heating up the interior venue were folks from a variety of gender niches, including sex workers and performers, researchers and Ph.D academics, activists and allies, authors and educators, lawyers, and a few former politicians.

All that diversity and depth of information created a wonderful conference buzz, with the electric and empowering atmosphere seeming to infect everyone. As a first-time conference attendee, I came away inspired after meeting so many smart, strong, sassy, sexy people.

Go to the [conference website](#) to find out more or view [keynote speeches](#) and visit the [FIRST website](#) for more information on their activities.

Asia

Should Sex Work be Criminalised?

Action for Reach Out (AFRO), a GAATW member organisation based in Hong Kong, will hold a series of seminars throughout September to present a realistic and comprehensive representation of sex work to the public. In breaking down myths about sex work by covering cultural, historical, theological, feminist and legal perspectives, AFRO hopes to explore the possibility of decriminalising sex work. Target participants are people aged 18 and over.

Estimated dates: 8/9, 15/9, 29/9, 6/10, 13/10, 20/10 (Wednesday)

Time: 7:30 - 9:20pm

Venue: The City University of Hong Kong

Number of participants: 40

Fee: HK\$500, \$400 (full-time student)

For reservations or enquiries, please send your name, contact number and email address to contact@afro.org.hk.

UPDATES FROM THE SECRETARIAT

Australian Labour Union Joins Fight Against Trafficking

Representatives of the Construction, Forestry, Mining and Energy Union (CFMEU, Australia) attended GAATW's International Members Congress and Conference in July as part of GAATW's cross-border alliances project. Keryn McWhinney and Leah Charlson also met with the Committee



for Asian Women (CAW), the International Labour Organisation (ILO), Foundation for Women and the Try Arm factory during their time in Bangkok, sponsored by the Australia-Thailand Institute of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

The CFMEU has successfully identified and handled trafficking cases for 'non-traditional' victims using a labour rights framework, representing minority Australians or non-residents

who have been subjected to exploitation in the workplace. Keryn and Leah explained the CFMEU doesn't distinguish between documented and undocumented workers in representing workers from countries such as India, Serbia, Korea and China. An ongoing challenge, they said, was alleviating fears and misperceptions about unions. In order to communicate with ethnically diverse workers, they have a team of 10 migrant support workers (speaking a total of 15 languages) and provide labour rights materials in a wide variety of languages.

Over AU\$9.5 million has been recouped in unpaid monies and entitlements for migrant works in the past six months alone.

Because [some companies] are getting undocumented workers, lowering legal wage rates, a lot of the legal companies can't compete so they're leaving that sector - driving wages in the construction sector down. We don't care about the distinction between documented and undocumented, but we don't want to see wages drop so that's one reason why we make employers pay.

The CFMEU's work accessing justice and financial compensation for a male trafficking victim from the Cook Islands was featured in the 'Australia' chapter of our multi-country research report: *Collateral Damage: The Impact of Anti-Trafficking Measures on Human Rights Around the World*. They have subsequently handled several trafficking cases from other countries, including eight Indian stonemasons who were locked in a construction site for four years. The CFMEU instigated an investigation and legal action, working with mainstream media to cover the story, and organised protests and pickets.

During their visit, Keryn and Leah discussed and compared legal frameworks in Australia and Thailand, discussed strategies for handling migrant labour cases and stressed the need to inform migrants of their entitlements in destination countries.

The CFMEU's participation in the congress and conference importantly highlighted how 'non-traditional allies' such as labour unions can assist trafficking victims.

For more information, please email [Julie Ham](#) or visit [the CFMEU's UNITY magazine](#). The [August issue](#) features their visit to Bangkok.

Call for Case Studies

GAATW-IS is collecting case studies highlighting the huge value partnerships between government and civil society bring to anti-trafficking responses, across the three 'P's of anti-trafficking work: Prosecution, Prevention and Protection.

Case studies will be showcased at upcoming international events to reinforce that civil society, crucial to UNTOC's implementation, is equally crucial to the review process and, therefore, must be incorporated into a monitoring mechanism.

How do you work with governments on anti-trafficking responses? Please [email us](#) your story to help argue for civil society's inclusion in a monitoring mechanism of UNTOC.

Upcoming Events

In September, GAATW members and IS will attend the **XV Session of the Human Rights Council (13 September - 1 October)** in Geneva, Switzerland. In partnership with the Thai Government, GAATW and member organisation the Self-Empowerment Programme for Migrant Women (SEPOM) will launch the photo essay *Stories of trafficked and returnee migrant women*. The exhibition tells the stories of four women trafficked from Thailand to Japan, and highlights the challenges they faced, both abroad and on return to Thailand.

The launch will emphasise the importance of placing trafficked persons at the centre of anti-trafficking responses and the need to consult with trafficked persons in policy and programme design, implementation and review.

GAATW-IS, in partnership with member organisation Ban-Ying Germany and allies Franciscans International and Anti-Slavery International, will also host a **side-event on Domestic Work**, with a particular focus on the protection gap for domestic workers employed by diplomats, due to diplomatic immunity. A written statement on the same issue has also been submitted to the Human Rights Council. This event is to coincide with the release of the [Report on Domestic Servitude](#) by the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, its causes and consequences, Ms Gulnara Shahinian.

The GAATW-IS advocacy team will also be speaking with government delegates about the upcoming [review mechanism](#) to the Human Trafficking Protocol discussions taking place in October in Vienna. Please call your government and find out the name and contact details of the person who will be attending from your country. Send this information to fleur@gatw.org.

In October, the GAATW-IS advocacy team, and members and friends from the Netherlands, Nigeria, Kenya, Austria, UK and Moldova will attend the **UN Convention on Transnational Organised Crime 5th Conference of Parties (18-22 October)**, to participate in discussions on a possible review mechanism to the Human Trafficking Protocol and to lobby states to support an inclusive and transparent review mechanism. A number of events are planned including:

- a side event on the importance of accountability in anti-trafficking work, and the role of monitoring and evaluation in holding anti-trafficking actors to account
- informal regional meetings with different regional groupings on the need for a review mechanism
- an expert consultation on reviewing trafficking
- and a reception to launch a film: *Bought and Sold: Voices of human trafficking*, produced by GAATW member organisation *BLinN*, to highlight the importance of victim-centered anti-trafficking responses.

Both in the lead up to and during this event GAATW-IS and joining members and friends will be arranging meetings with government delegates in Vienna. Please call your government and find out the name and contact details of the person who will be attending from your country. Send this information to fleur@gatw.org.

This event is the culmination of a two-year campaign led by GAATW for the implementation of an inclusive and transparent review mechanism to the Human Trafficking Protocol.

For more information on this campaign and for details on how you can help visit www.victimcenteredmechanism.com. We urgently need your support!

RESOURCES

Reports

[Securing Human Mobility in the Age of Risk: New challenges for travel, migration, and borders](#)

This new book makes the case that the nation's post-9/11 approach to immigration and border

security is off-kilter and not keeping pace with the scope and complexity of people's movement around the world, nor with expectations regarding freedom of movement.

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) recently released [Working with the United Nations Human Rights Programme: A Handbook for Civil Society](#). The handbook includes best practice examples of civil society collaboration with OHCHR in the field and civil society contributions to the work of United Nations human rights bodies and mechanisms.

The Ministry of Justice of Sweden, in cooperation with the IOM, has released the project report on [Towards Global EU-Action Against Trafficking in Human Beings](#). The project aimed to improve EU action against people trafficking vis-à-vis third countries through input to an Action Oriented Paper on the external dimension of EU Justice and Home Affairs policies on trafficking in persons. These were adopted on 30 November/1 December 2009 under the Swedish EU presidency.

[Needs Assessment Toolkit on Criminal Justice Response to Trafficking](#)

UNODC, in the framework of the Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking (UN.GIFT), has developed a Needs Assessment Toolkit on the Criminal Justice Response to Human Trafficking. The main objective of the toolkit is to guide the assessors in gathering and analysing information regarding a country's criminal justice response to human trafficking.

[Off the Streets: Arbitrary Detention and Other Abuses against Sex Workers in Cambodia](#)

Human Rights Watch has released *Off the Streets*, a report documenting abuse of sex workers in Cambodia based on interviews with more than 50 sex workers and group discussions with dozens more. Crimes committed by officials against sex workers are almost never prosecuted. The report also analyses the impact of a 2008 law on trafficking and sexual exploitation. While the new law has some useful provisions on trafficking, it criminalises "solicitation" by sex workers in ways that open the door to ongoing police abuse.

[On the Globe & Mail's Optimistic Report about Migrant Rights in the Gulf](#)

The *Globe and Mail* published a report today about migrant rights in the Gulf region. The report briefly recounts the abuse many workers suffer in the Gulf such as contract alteration, passport confiscation, non-payment of wages and abuse, but at the same time accepts the narrative that the changes in the region's labor laws are a genuine shift in attitude.

[Hellish Work: Exploitation of Migrant Tobacco Workers in Kazakstan](#)

This report by Human Rights Watch documents how some employers confiscated migrant workers' passports, failed to provide them with written contracts, did not pay regular wages, cheated them of earnings, and required them to work excessively long hours. Frequent use of child labour is documented, with children as young as 10 working even though tobacco farming is especially hazardous for children.

[GFMD ATHENS 2009: Report of the Proceedings](#)

The Report of the Proceedings of the Third Meeting of the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD), held in Athens on 3-6 November 2009, is now available on the [GFMD web portal](#). This report explains the preparatory process of the Athens GFMD, and presents the highlights of the roundtable discussions and recommendations that came out of the four-day meeting.

[Photo Essay](#)

[The Magnificent Migrants: Extraordinary photos of ordinary Mexicans by Dulce Pinzón](#)

The photo essay presents the experiences of Latino workers in New York.

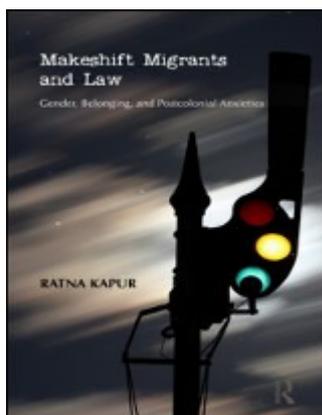
[Unseen Lives: Migrant Domestic Workers in Lebanon by Matthew Cassel](#)

These photographs document the lives and culture of many foreign women working in Lebanon to show their strength in overcoming the many hardships they're forced to contend with.

[Book Release](#)

Routledge recently released [Makeshift Migrants and Law: Gender, Belonging, and Postcolonial](#)

[Anxieties](#), by Ratna Kapur.



This book unmasks the cultural and gender stereotypes that inform legal regulations on migrants. It critiques the postcolonial perspective on how belonging and non-belonging are determined by the sexual, cultural, and familial norms on which law is based as well as the historical backdrop of the colonial encounter, which differentiated overtly between the legitimate and illegitimate subject. The author foregrounds the perspective of the subaltern migrant subject, exposing the deeper issues implicated in the debates over migration and the rights claims of migrants, primarily in the context of women and religious minorities in India.

[International Law of Human Trafficking \(Release: End October 2010\)](#)

This book presents the first-ever comprehensive and in-depth analysis of the international law of human trafficking. Anne I Gallagher calls on her experience working within the UN to chart the development of new international laws on this issue. This timely and groundbreaking work presents a resource for policymakers, advocates, practitioners, and scholars working in this controversial field.

[Human Trafficking: A Global perspective](#)

Louise Shelley's *Human Trafficking: A Global perspective* seeks to illustrate the global nature of human trafficking and how it varies in different regions of the world. The book uses a comparative and historical perspective, drawing on a huge body of case studies, field work, interviews and prosecuted cases the author has gathered over the past 16 years. Shelley argues that coordinated effort from civil society, the business community, multilateral organisations and the media are needed to curb trafficking.

[Sex Trafficking Myths Reconsidered](#)

This year marks the tenth anniversary of the United States' Trafficking Victims Protection Act and Open Society Fellow Noy Thrupkaew offers an assessment of the successes and failures of U.S. trafficking policy over that period. She draws on her recent trip to Cambodia, a case study offering both cautionary tales and the possibility of innovative engagement and partnerships between government, civil society actors, and human rights activists. Thrupkaew's fellowship project looks at the unintended consequences of the conflation of prostitution and trafficking and the overreliance on the law-enforcement practice of "raid and rescue."

[Events](#)

[Women's Worlds 2011: Ottawa-Gatineau, Canada](#)

The theme of Women's Worlds 2011 is **Inclusions, exclusions, and seclusions: Living in a globalised world**. Globalisation has contributed to the destabilisation and marginalisation of women and communities. Yet certain consequences have yielded positive results for women. Globalisation has meant enhanced communications and organising, trans-national connectivity that must be deepened as women's organisations and networks struggle to sustain themselves and maintain resilience in the face of forces that oppose women's equality.

Women's Worlds 2011 will be a place for the exploration of these complex matters through reflection, learning, and sharing a variety of ideas and experiences, especially those of women most deeply affected.

To be considered as a presenter at WW 2011, please [complete the submission form](#) online by September 15, 2010.

[Call for Support](#)

The Bangladeshi Government's crackdown on labour rights advocates is taking place amidst massive public demonstrations by apparel workers who have been demanding increases in the country's 11 cents/hour minimum wage. **Maquila Solidarity Network** urges your support to take action to stop the intimidation and harassment of the Bangladesh Center for Worker Solidarity

(BCWS).

[Visit their website](#) to take action.

“To fight transnational organized crime, we, too, must organize. We must work together. We must act with even greater determination than our adversaries.”

Ban Ki-Moon, Secretary-General of the United Nations

The Secretary-General calling for the development of a review mechanism at the upcoming October Conference of Parties in Vienna.

<http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2010/ga10949.doc.htm>

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e-Bulletin



Global Alliance Against Traffic in Women

GAATW e-Bulletin

September 2010

Dear Members and Friends,

Welcome to September's e-bulletin, where we cover a busy month of calling for the recognition and protection of the rights of migrant workers and trafficked persons.

Read the joint statement issued by GAATW, Franciscans International and Anti-Slavery International during the 15th Session of the Human Rights Council and a brief article on the preparatory meeting for the Global Forum on Migration and Development 2010.

Also included this month is information about legislative updates in anti-trafficking. On the positive side, a landmark bill has been passed in New York improving labour protection for domestic workers. And in a setback, the Malaysian Government passed amendments to its anti-trafficking law which Human Rights Watch argues will reduce protections for undocumented migrants.

Best wishes go to our colleagues at La Strada International (LSI) and the Intervention Centre for Victims of Trafficking in Women (LEFOE-IBF), who both celebrated anniversaries in September.

Watch the Sex Worker Video Project created by FIRST Vancouver and read updates from colleagues who attended the Second Latin American Congress about Trafficking and Smuggling.

We also welcome Ms Sandra Claasen to the GAATW International Board. Ms Claasen, from Bonded Labour in the Netherlands (BLinN), was nominated by European members to be their representative.

And in more news from Europe, the advocacy team has been busy hosting side events and interventions at the XV Session of the Human Rights Council in Geneva.

Do you have news, events or multimedia you'd like to share? The e-bulletin is a great way to show how your organisation is standing up for trafficked persons and women migrant workers. Send your information to info@gaatw.org.

Thank you.

Warmly,
The GAATW International Secretariat

GLOBAL HIGHLIGHTS

[Asia-Pacific region at UN forum calls for better protection of migrants](#)

The Asia-Pacific Regional Preparatory [Meeting](#) for the Global Forum on Migration and Development 2010, held in Bangkok, has called for better legal protection of migrants, especially for undocumented migrants and trafficked persons.

The meeting, organised by the **UN Asia-Pacific Regional Thematic Working Group on International Migration including Human Trafficking**, was co-chaired by the **UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)** and the **International Organization for Migration (IOM)**, with participation from other UN agencies and UN-affiliated organisations.

The meeting recommended that national laws be reviewed to ensure all migrants, including domestic workers, women and children have access to legal protection, birth registration, and health and education services in both countries of origin and destination.

[Legislative Update](#)

[Historic victory for domestic workers](#)

Domestic Workers United (DWU) celebrated the passage of the *New York State Domestic Workers Bill of Rights* on August 31.

DWU, a non-profit organisation that spearheaded the efforts to approve this legislation, explained that this is the first legislation in the US to give basic rights and protections to domestic workers.

The new law, which covers New York state's 200,000 domestic workers including nannies, elderly caregivers and housekeepers, who are mostly migrant workers, requires:

- overtime pay for domestic workers at time-and-a-half after a 40-hour week or after 44 hours for sleep-in workers
- one day off a week
- three days paid leave annually after one year
- inclusion in disability benefits laws.

[Revised law threatens anti-trafficking efforts](#)

Changes to Malaysia's anti-trafficking law will undermine efforts to combat human trafficking and reduce protections for undocumented migrants, **Human Rights Watch** stated in a letter to Prime Minister Najib Razak.

The amendments will harm trafficking victims by making it more likely that they will be treated as undocumented migrants and subjected to immediate deportation, undermining government efforts to counter trafficking, Human Rights Watch said.

The revised law also narrows the legal definition of "human trafficking," undercutting protections for children and adults who are tricked, rather than forced, into being trafficked.

REGIONAL/MEMBER UPDATES

[The Americas](#)

A number of GAATW's member organisations in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) participated in the [Second Latin American Congress about Trafficking and Smuggling](#), held in Mexico September 21-24. The LAC members who participated were:

CHS Alternativo-Peru presented within the Area: Experiences and Proposals from the

Civil Society;

AMUMRA-Argentina presented on trafficking for labour exploitation (Area of Gender violence and Migration);

Espaço sem Fronteiras-Brazil and **IBISS - Brazil** represented the GAATW-REDLAC network.

Another GAATW Self-Organised Group (SOG) member from Europe, **Grupo de Mujeres Inmigrantes de Sant Cugat-Spain** presented about their experiences using Feminist Participatory Action Research (FPAR) with migrant and trafficked women.

The first **FIRST Sex Worker Video Project** by FIRST Vancouver, a GAATW member organisation, has been completed. The video project, titled '*Celebrating the strength and diversity of sex workers*', can be viewed at <http://firstcoalition.blip.tv/>.

Europe

[La Strada celebrates 15 years](#)

We are delighted to congratulate LSI for its 15th anniversary on September 15 and wish them all the best for another year of accomplishments and growth.

In commemoration, LSI has planned a celebration year, with various activities by the member organisations and LSI. These include special events, publications and overall prevention, lobby and advocacy activities. More information will soon be posted on the [LSI website](#).

Congratulations and best wishes also go to member organisation the **Intervention Centre for Victims of Trafficking in Women (LEFOE-IBF)** on its 25th anniversary. They are hosting a party on October 1 to celebrate this milestone. See attached flyer.

FROM THE SECRETARIAT

New European Representative to the GAATW International Board

European members have elected **Ms Sandra Claasen**, from **Bonded Labour in the Netherlands (BLinN)** as their representative on the board. Ms Claassen is well qualified for the role, having worked in anti-trafficking since 1997. She worked with **Fundacion Esperanza** in Colombia, an organisation working on prevention and support for returning trafficked persons, for three years and joined BLinN, a member organisation since 2005, in 2000.

As a member of the International Board, Ms Claasen would like to support the European Regional Programme Officer and contribute to general discussions on membership, decision-making and participation at the international level.

GAATW-IS and Members Advocate at the Human Rights Council

This month, GAATW-IS and members attended the XV Session of the Human Rights Council (September 13 - October 1) in Geneva, Switzerland, with two side events. GAATW-IS partnered with member organisation **Ban-Ying Germany** and allies **Franciscans International** and **Anti-Slavery International**, in the joint hosting of an event to raise awareness of issues related to domestic work.

The group submitted a joint statement to the HRC on the promotion and protection of all human rights, calling for the council to make space for discussions on protecting, respecting and upholding the human rights of all domestic workers.

The statement also welcomed recognition by the **Special Rapporteur on Contemporary Forms of Slavery (SR-CFS)** that the immunity enjoyed by diplomatic personnel creates a

protection gap for domestic workers.

It further supported recommendations by the SR-CFS that states abolish regulations tying visas of domestic workers to diplomatic employers and investigate allegations of abuse by diplomatic personnel with due diligence.

The second event was a photo essay exhibition, *Stories of trafficked and returnee migrant women*, launched by GAATW-IS, member organisation the **Self-Empowerment Programme for Migrant Women (SEPOM)** and the Thai Government.

The exhibition tells the stories of four women trafficked from Thailand to Japan, highlighting the challenges they faced both abroad and on return to Thailand.

The exhibition launch emphasised the importance of placing trafficked persons at the centre of anti-trafficking responses and the need to involve trafficked persons in all steps of these responses.

Ms Jiraporn Saetang, of SEPOM, also discussed SEPOM's work at the launch, and the importance of self-organised groups in providing information, empowering assistance and empowerment in addressing trafficking and its consequences.

RESOURCES

Reports

[Without Protection: How the Lebanese Justice System Fails Migrant Domestic Workers](#)

This report reviews 114 Lebanese judicial decisions affecting migrant domestic workers. It finds that lack of accessible complaint mechanisms, lengthy judicial procedures, and restrictive visa policies dissuade many workers from filing or pursuing complaints against their employers.

[Precarious Protection: How Unsettled Policy and Current Laws Harm Women and Girls Fleeing Persecution](#)

This report by the Tahirih Justice Center focuses on the experiences of Tahirih's clients and important findings from numerous studies by advocacy organisations and governmental agencies. The report exposes the continuing injustices facing women and girls seeking asylum in the United States, and offers recommendations for systemic change.

Books

[The Atlas of Human Migration: Global Patterns of People on the Move](#)

By Russell King, Richard Black, Michael Collyer, Anthony Fielding and Ronald Skeldon

This new atlas maps contemporary migration against its crucial economic, social, cultural and demographic contexts. Drawing on data from one of the largest concentrations of migration research, the atlas traces the story of migration from its historical roots through the economic and conflict imperatives of the last 50 years to the causes and effects of flight today. It covers:

- refugees and asylum seekers
- diasporas
- remittances
- the "brain drain"
- trafficking
- student, retirement and return migration

Events

[OAS Trains Law Enforcement Officials, Judges, and Prosecutors in Barbados to Identify and Combat Trafficking in Persons](#)

The Department of Public Security (DPS) of the Organization of American States (OAS), with funding from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), is implementing a program on *Strengthening the Capacity of Law Enforcement Officials, Judges, and Prosecutors in the Caribbean to Identify and Combat Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children*.

This will train law enforcement personnel on victim identification, assistance and protection, understanding gender perspective as part of the human rights framework, and conceptual understanding on human trafficking.

The **Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES)** Thailand Office, the **ILO** and **HomeNet Thailand** are jointly organising a seminar on 'Progress on Labour Rights of Domestic Workers - From National to International' on Monday October 11 at the Siam City Hotel, Bangkok. For more details, please contact chanapa@fes-thailand.org

The **International Slavery Museum** in Liverpool and **Anti-Slavery International** are hosting a new exhibition highlighting the exploitation and abuse of domestic workers, in the UK and globally, in support of **Anti-Slavery International's Home Alone campaign**.

The campaign is calling on the **ILO** to adopt a new convention on domestic work in 2011 and the exhibition is at the **International Slavery Museum** Albert Dock, Liverpool, and entry is free.

Violations of the human rights of domestic workers employed by diplomatic personnel occur in the framework of extreme imbalance of power between private parties creating conditions which are ripe for modern day slavery.

The "Protection Gap": diplomatic immunity and domestic workers

A joint written statement submitted by Franciscans International, the Global Alliance against Traffic in Women, (GAATW) and Anti-Slavery International on the Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development at the 15th Session of the Human Rights Council in Geneva

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GAATW e-Bulletin

October 2010

Dear Members and Friends,

This month's e-Bulletin focuses on key anti-trafficking messages to commemorate EU's Anti-trafficking Day and the tenth anniversary of the Palermo Protocol. We also feature a GAATW joint statement with civil society groups calling for a victim-centered review mechanism at the fifth COPS in Vienna.

GAATW members in all regions have been busy this month. In Asia, ATKI-HK (Hong Kong, SAR) calling for protection of migrant workers against exorbitant agency fees. In Africa, GPI (Nigeria) participated in a feminist conference to advance the rights of women in the region. In Europe, LSI (The Netherlands) shares its EU Anti-Trafficking Day statement and Proyecto Esperanza (Spain) has a new website and social networking tools as part of project HOPE. And in LAC, CHAME (Brazil) launches a DVD to help raise awareness about human rights violations during the migration process.

This issue also includes GAATW-IS brief reports of our recent participation at the Human Trafficking Conference at The Hague, the EU Anti-Trafficking Day in Brussels and the World Social Forum on Migration in Ecuador. IS staff also presented papers at a conference organised by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences at the National University of Singapore. Also, read two new GAATW publications now available online.

We hope that you will find this month's issue enriching and we always look forward to your ideas and comments.

Warmly,

The GAATW International Secretariat

GLOBAL HIGHLIGHTS

[NGO Joint Statement calls for a Victim-Centered Review Mechanism](#)

The Global Alliance Against Traffic in Women and other civil society groups called on States Parties to the UN Convention against Transnational Organised Crime and the Protocols thereto (UNTOC) to establish a victim-centered review mechanism at the fifth Conference of Parties in Vienna this month. The statement was released to mark the tenth anniversary of the landmark Convention. The group highlighted concerns over its implementation and proposed that in order to achieve UNTOC's aims there is an urgent need to assess the successes and limitations in its implementation through a review mechanism. To read the full statement, visit www.gaatw.org

[EU Anti-Trafficking Day reflects on better protection for trafficked persons](#)

A report published by the European Commission on EU Anti-trafficking Day shows only a small number of residence permits are issued by member states to victims of trafficking.

The European Commission's proposal for a new EU Directive, presented in March 2010, ensures better protection of and assistance to victims and strengthens the prevention of crime. The Directive also includes the principle of non-punishment of the victims for crimes they have been compelled to commit as a direct consequence of being subject to trafficking.

[UN agencies advocate for change on anti-trafficking policies in the European Union](#)

At a conference in preparation for the development of the future EU strategy against trafficking in human beings, six UN agencies - UNODC, OHCHR, UNHCR, UNICEF, ILO, UNIFEM/UN Women - urged EU member states and institutions to ensure that the rights of victims of trafficking are effectively addressed. In a public letter, the agencies highlighted the importance of providing free and quality legal assistance to victims, of not pursuing prosecution of victims and respect for the principle of non-refoulement and the right not to be forcibly returned to their countries of origin. The joint submission also calls for an approach to trafficking that is gender-sensitive, has a broad definition of particularly vulnerable persons and focuses on child victims of trafficking.

Legislative Update

[Analysis of the Counter Trafficking in Persons Bill in the Light of Morality, Legality And Culture](#)

This article highlights Kenya's pending Counter-Trafficking in Persons Bill and how it will help curb exploitation related to human trafficking and allow for stiffer penalties against traffickers. It states how the Bill will help curb various forms of exploitation related to human trafficking and provide stiffer penalties against traffickers. The article also highlights the challenges in giving assistance and protection for trafficked persons as well as the importance of reintegration programs targeting the needs of victims.

Ontario Court Strikes Down Prostitution Laws

Sex workers across Canada are celebrating the Ontario Superior Court's decision in late September 2010, which struck down Canada's prostitution laws. The Court held that the bawdy house law, the communication law and the law that prohibits living on the avails are unconstitutional because they violate sex workers' rights to safety, life, liberty and freedom of expression.

The plaintiffs - Amy Lebovitch, Terri-Jean Bedford, and Valerie Scott, of **Sex Professionals of Canada (SPOC)** - argued their case in front of the Superior Court of Ontario in October 2009, with Alan Young as counsel. For more information:

Full decision from Ontario Superior Court will be posted at: [http://www.ontariocourts.on.ca/scj/en/Out_of_the_Shadows: Why Canada Must Decriminalize Consensual, Adult Sex Work Opening the Doors Swedish Model a Failure](http://www.ontariocourts.on.ca/scj/en/Out_of_the_Shadows:_Why_Canada_Must_Decriminalize_Consensual,_Adult_Sex_Work_Opening_the_Doors_Swedish_Model_a_Failure)

REGIONAL/MEMBER UPDATES

Asia

Protect migrant workers, not recruitment agencies

The **Association of Indonesian Migrant Workers in Hong Kong (ATKI)**, a GAATW member, released a press statement condemning the Indonesian Consulate in Hong Kong, SAR for lack of victim assistance and protection from exorbitant fees for Indonesian migrant workers (IMWs). Eni Lestari from **ATKI** and **Coordinator of United Indonesians Against Overcharging** or **PILAR**, said *'they (Indonesian Consulate) have openly refused to assist victims cases of high agency fees and have continued to allow recruitment agencies to harass Indonesian migrants, their employers and families back home.'* She added that the demand of IMWs is to allow for direct employment in order to free IMWs from high agency fees. For more information, contact ATKIHK at atkihk_2000@yahoo.com

Africa

Coordinators and graduates of member organisation **Girls Power Initiative Nigeria (GPI)** attended the

third African Feminist Forum (AFF) on October 21-24 2010 in Dakar, Senegal. The AFF is a biennial conference bringing together African feminist activists to discuss key issues affecting women and was developed to support the advancement of the rights of women on the continent. This year's event highlighted an increased use of technologies to share information and spread the feminist word across Africa.

Go to the [forum website](#) to learn more and contribute to the discussion or visit the [facebook page](#).

Europe

We are pleased to share a **La Strada International** Statement on the occasion of the fourth EU Anti-Trafficking Day that calls for better provisions for compensation for trafficked persons.

Proyecto Esperanza has a new website

Spanish member organisation **Proyecto Esperanza** has designed participative and dynamic social networking tools for maintaining communication with all stakeholders.

These tools help increase visibility and engagement with the audience and incorporate the latest in communications technology. Check out Proyecto Esperanza on the web and social networks and get engaged!

<http://www.proyectoesperanza.org>
<http://www.youtube.com/proyectoesperanza1>
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/proyectoesperanza>
<http://www.slideshare.net/ProyectoEsperanza>

The Americas

CHAME, a GAATW member in Brazil, and **APRAMP** (Spain) launched a DVD featuring their joint project on mechanisms of communication and cooperation to create a Protocol for direct assistance and prevention between Spain and Brazil as part of the national anti-trafficking plans. The DVD, *Europe, the never told tale*, was launched in Salvador, October 18, aims to raise awareness on the human rights violations as part of the migration process and to exchange experiences about prevention of trafficking and assistance to trafficked women.

The launch was followed by a roundtable with CHAME and APRAMP representatives. For more information, contact CHAME at ongchame@yahoo.com.br

FROM THE SECRETARIAT

This month was busy for GAATW-IS staff. Nerea Bilbatua, our Europe-based Programme Officer, attended a conference at The Hague by the Dutch National Rapporteur on Trafficking in Human Beings and the EU Anti-Trafficking Day in Brussels.

October 14-15, The Hague

Exhibition Journey

On October 14, Dutch National Rapporteur Helen Bramber, who heads a foundation dedicated to survivors of torture and trafficking, and actress Emma Thompson opened the *Journey* exhibition in The Hague. Ms. Thompson gave a compassionate address about the origin of the exhibition, the experience of one girl trafficked from Moldova to the UK. Click [here](#) for more information.

On October 15, the Committee for Justice of the House of Representatives and the National Monitor Human Trafficking organised an international conference on human trafficking at the Dutch House of Representatives.

In the first plenary, Rebecca Surtees of NEXUS Institute, Thailand, gave a remarkable presentation on

challenges to reintegration of trafficked persons, with an emphasis on labelling people as victims despite their multiple identities.

The second plenary addressed prosecution and international cooperation, with Lou de Baca, Ambassador-at-large, the US Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, discussed the US TIP report as a monitoring mechanism and the need for a victim-centred approach to anti-trafficking. View his statement [here](#).

Steve Harvey, Acting Head of Europol's Operations Department, Organised Crime Networks in South-East Europe, discussed a successful investigation into and dismantling of a network of traffickers of Roma children. Corinne Dettmeijer-Vermeulen, the National Rapporteur on Trafficking in Human Beings for the Netherlands, also delivered her tenth report to the government.

EU Anti-Trafficking Day in Brussels, October 18-19

The agenda for the EU Anti-Trafficking Day was designed by the Belgian EU presidency and member organisation Center for European and International Policy and Action (CEIPA). Speakers from the EU looked at prosecution, cooperation and the financial aspect of fighting trafficking, as well as the role of the private sector in prevention.

Julie Ham, IS Programme Coordinator and Rebecca Napier-Moore, IS Research & Training Officer, presented two papers at ***Forcing Issues: Rethinking and Rescaling Human Trafficking in the Asia-Pacific Region***, a conference organised by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences at the National University of Singapore. The conference aimed to explore researchers' and NGOs' critical contributions to advancing understanding about human trafficking and the anti-human trafficking framework.

Ms. Napier-Moore presented a paper on ***Ethical Concerns in Feminist Participatory Research with Geographically and Socially Isolated Groups*** as part of the panel on *Methodologies and Ethics in Human Trafficking Research*. Ms. Ham presented a paper on ***Shifting Public Anti-Trafficking Discourses in the Media as part of the panel on Media, Advocacy and the Popularisation of Human Trafficking***. Other panels focused on neglected forms of human trafficking, alternative approaches to 'sex' trafficking, victims outside the purview of anti-trafficking, the impact of anti-trafficking on non-trafficked migrants, and the anti-trafficking industry. Click [here](#) for more information on the conference or for a copy of GAATW papers presented, please contact [Julie Ham](#).

As mentioned in last month's e-Bulletin, on October 19 2010 *the Permanent Mission of Thailand in Vienna, Austria* sponsored the launch of a photo exhibition on help for women victims of human trafficking with GAATW member organisation SEPOM. Click [here](#) to view photos of the launch on the Thai Embassy Austria website.

World Social Forum on Migration, Ecuador

Bandana Pattanaik, GAATW IS International Coordinator, attended the *IV World Social Forum on Migrations on 8th-12th October 2010 in Quito, Ecuador*. The forum, with the slogan **"People on the move, towards universal citizenship. Tearing down the model, building social actors,"** hopes to create a democratic space of for debate amongst actors who are struggling to promote more humane migration policies.

The program featured 50 cultural activities for the national and international public, including photo exhibitions, theatre and dance performances, projections, the Festival Todos Somos Migrantes and the first simultaneous film festival *Cine de Fronteras* between Quito and Barcelona. The organising committee of the WSFM invited Ms Pattanaik to speak at the plenary session entitled "New Forms of Slavery, Servitude and Human Exploitation". To download her presentation, visit the [WSFM website](#).

News Releases

[2010 International Members Congress and Conference Report](#)

Beyond Borders: Trafficking in the Context of Migrant, Labour and Women's Rights

4-7 July 2010, Bangkok, Thailand

GAATW-IS has released its report on the 2010 International Members Congress and Conference. The four-day event focused on the practical and conceptual linkages between trafficking and migration, gender, labour and globalisation and on GAATW's future strategic directions. A series of working papers on these linkages and how they intersect with global security was also showcased, together with the findings of Feminist Participatory Action Research (FPAR) conducted in collaboration with GAATW member and ally organisations from all regions.

[Feeling good about feeling bad](#)

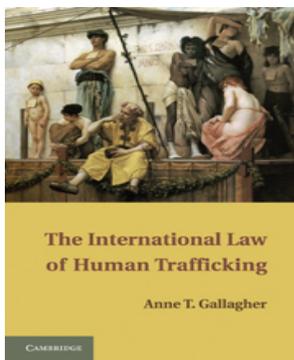
A Global Review of Evaluation in Anti-Trafficking Initiatives

This research explores the evaluation of anti-trafficking policies and programmes worldwide, including three international, two regional and nine national anti-trafficking initiatives. It highlights common themes and emerging patterns between a range of approaches to evaluation in this sector and finds overwhelmingly that anti-trafficking initiatives are not being sufficiently evaluated, impeding their effectiveness and limiting progress in combating trafficking. Click [here](#) to download the report.

RESOURCES

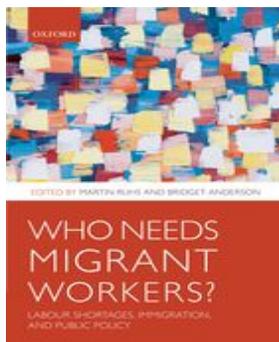
Books

[The International Law of Human Trafficking](#)



This book presents a comprehensive analysis of the international law on human trafficking. Author Ann Gallagher charts the development of new international laws on this issue. She links these rules to the international law of state responsibility as well as key norms of international human rights law, transnational criminal law, refugee law, and international law, in the process identifying and explaining the major obligations of states with respect to preventing trafficking, protecting and supporting victims, and prosecuting perpetrators.

[Who needs Migrant Workers? Labour Shortages, Immigration and Public Policy](#)



This book by [Martin Ruhs](#) and [Bridget Anderson](#) provides a comprehensive framework for analysing the demand for migrant workers in high-income countries. It demonstrates how a wide range of government policies contribute to creating a growing demand for migrant labour. The book includes quantitative and qualitative analyses of the changing role of migrants in the UK economy.

[Trafficking and Exploitation in the Entertainment and Sex Industries in Nepal: A Handbook For Decision-Makers](#)

This Terre des hommes publication calls for immediate bold action to end commercial sexual exploitation and abuse of children under the guise of ‘entertainment’ in Nepal. The handbook also highlights how internal trafficking within Nepal is as problematic as trafficking of women and children to India.

Reports

[No Return No Release No Reason](#)

This report demonstrates that indefinite detention of migrants who cannot be deported is ineffective, inefficient and enormously damaging and how prolonged detention with no prospect of deportation has been found to be unlawful.

[Women’s Labour Migration in the Context of Globalisation](#) offers an introduction to important contemporary political analysis on the influence of globalisation on women’s work, mobility and empowerment. Authors Anja K Franck and Andrea Spehar highlight how globalisation shapes women’s labour migration.

[Human Trafficking, HIV/AIDS and the Sex Sector](#)

The Center for Gender Health and Equity (CHANGE) along with American University Washington College of Law, Center for Human Rights and Humanitarian Law have released a report focusing on key issues with US funding and policy in Cambodia, India, Mali and Brazil.

Call for Papers

The [ESRC Centre on Migration, Policy and Society \(COMPAS\)](#) at the University of Oxford and the [Centre for International Research on Care Labour and Equalities \(CIRCLE\)](#) at the University of Leeds invite proposals for papers for the conference *Making Connections: Migration, Gender and Care Labour in Transnational Context*, April 14-15 at the University of Oxford.

The conference seeks to develop connections between different aspects of the study of migrant care labour in transnational contexts, including gendered and racialised divisions that shape the migration and labour markets and the relationship between sending and receiving countries. Submission deadline is November 19. [Email Ida Persson](#) for more information.

Call for Nominations

[UN Working Group on Discrimination against Women in Law and in Practice](#)

The UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) has called for nominations to a Working Group on the issue of discrimination against women in law and practice, established by UN Human Rights Council resolution 15/23 last month.

Nominations for candidates should be sent by **December 3**. Click [here](#) for more information.

The call for more focus on the right to compensation is not only a call for justice for trafficked persons or a call for material redress, but a call for a paradigm shift. Instead of treating trafficked persons as passive victims in need of rescue, they need to be acknowledged as active claimants of their rights.

Recognise rights: Compensation for trafficked persons
La Strada International Statement on Anti-Trafficking Day 2010

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e-Bulletin



Global Alliance Against Traffic in Women

NOVEMBER/2010

HUMAN RIGHTS

*At home
abroad
and on the way*

In This Issue

Regional/Member Updates

Updates from the Secretariat

Resources

"Increased demand for cheap labour worldwide makes some economic sectors prone to the systematic use of trafficking for labour exploitation - something traffickers take advantage of. This results in the placement of workers - in the OSCE area, mainly migrant workers - in exploitative, indeed slavery-like conditions, by organized criminal groups."

Maria Grazia Giammarinaro
OSCE Special Representative

Dear Members and Friends,

Greetings from the GAATW International Secretariat in the month of Loy Krathong, Thailand's beautiful festival in which people float their krathong on a river, canal or lake to pay respect to the spirit of the waters and enjoy fireworks.

As you know, we are almost at the end of the GAATW 2008-10 programme cycle, with the IS team busy fine-tuning plans for the 2011-13 cycle. The plans are based on discussions at the International Members Congress and Conference held in July, regional consultations, GAATW activities, and the strategic direction document that was discussed with members a few months ago.

Also this month, read more about the 5th Conference of States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organised Crime (UNTOC) and its Protocols that took place in Vienna, Austria, October 18-22. GAATW-IS was joined by member organisations from Austria, Netherlands, Kenya and Cambodia in lobbying states to establish a victim centred monitoring mechanism to UNTOC.

GAATW members have also been busy across all regions launching websites, workshops, hosting open days and ATKI is appealing for donations to assist Indonesian victims of a series of devastating natural disasters.

On the creative front, GAATW-IS and Finger Lakes Environmental Film Festival have teamed up to launch a digital art competition for the exhibition Trafficked Identities in conjunction with the festival's theme of

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"checkpoints".

Have you joined the [GAATW facebook page](#) yet? Sign up to join the discussion on issues relating to trafficking, migration and labour - we want to know your thoughts and analysis on events and developments in the field. It's also a great way to stay up to date on the latest from the GAATW-IS. In response to feedback, global highlights will now be posted to the [facebook page](#), where you can also read articles and reports from around the world.

We hope you find this month's issue enriching and we always look forward to your ideas and comments.

Warmly,

The GAATW International Secretariat

REGIONAL/MEMBER UPDATES

Asia

[A single flame can light a thousand candles](#)

Gabfai, our dynamic community theatre member organisation in Chiang Mai, Thailand, has launched its website highlighting how it employs community art, contemporary art, alternative media and creative activities to empower and enhance capacity. Another key focus for **Gabfai** is to create space for alternative voices for individuals, communities, organisations and alliances to exchange knowledge. Click [here](#) to find out more about how this grassroots community theatre organisation empowers and energises communities.

Please Give Generously to those devastated by Indonesia's natural disasters

GAATW member the **Association of Indonesian Migrant Workers in Hong Kong (ATKI)** and the **Indonesia Bangkit** are appealing for donations for victims of last month's natural disasters. Flash flooding, a significant earthquake and tsunami, as well as volcano eruptions at Mount Merapi have caused many deaths, resulted in large numbers of refugees and ruined homes and livelihoods of thousands.

For more information on how to help those in need, email lestarihk@yahoo.co.uk, Indonesia.bkt@gmail.com or visit indobangkit.blogspot.com

Africa

Girls' Power Initiative Nigeria (GPI) held a campaign rally in Benin City, Nigeria, on November 26 to highlight the trafficking of girls and to mark the *International Day of Action on Violence Against the Girl Child*. The following day, the 2010 GPI Youth Talent Festival was held, featuring young people from 52 schools competing in over 15 events. For more information on GPI, visit their [facebook page](#) or [webpage](#).

The Americas

Member organisation **The Supporting Women's Alternatives Network (SWAN)** hosted its first open house on October 30, in Vancouver, Canada.

The event provided an opportunity for the public to learn more about SWAN's work with indoor sex workers in Greater Vancouver, its outreach activities and accomplishments since 2002. Jenny Kwan, Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) for Vancouver/Mount Pleasant, made a special presentation on how outreach services may prevent violence by promoting the rights of sex workers.

Visitors met and spoke with SWAN's outreach volunteers and friends, including other social organisations and partners united in preventing violence against women.

US member organisation the **Center for Women Policy Studies** convened the 2010 **GlobalPOWER (Partnership of Women Elected/Appointed Representatives)** meeting of leaders from parliaments in Barbados, Canada, Georgia, Greece, Kenya, New Zealand, Switzerland, Uganda, and the United Kingdom. The event, in Washington DC, declared the international trafficking of women and girls and the "root causes" a global women's human rights crisis that requires national leadership. In the 10th anniversary year of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 (SCR 1325), the GlobalPOWER® sisters produced a powerful statement to "remind heads of state, parliamentarians and the United Nations of the primacy of the SCR 1325 regarding women, peace and security." [Click here](#) to read the statement and add your signature.

Check out the Espacios de Mujer new website

To mark the *Violence Against Women Day* on November 25, Columbian member organisation **Espacios de Mujer** unveiled their new website www.espaciosdemujer.org. The new website contains updated information that is expected to increase visibility and enrich knowledge about Espacios de Mujer's activities. Follow them on [facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) via @espaciosdemjue.

UPDATES FROM THE SECRETARIAT

The 5th Conference of States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organised Crime (UNTOC) and its Protocols took place in Vienna, Austria, October 18-22. GAATW-IS joined member organisations [LEFÖ IBF](#) from Austria, [Bonded Labour in the Netherlands](#) (BlinN), Samen Sterk (a Dutch based self-organised group of women who have been trafficked), the [Federation of Women Lawyers' Kenya](#)(FIDA Kenya)and the Cambodian organisation [Legal Support for Children and Women](#) (LSCW) in lobbying states to establish a victim centred monitoring mechanism to UNTOC. GAATW urged States to take active steps in monitoring and evaluating anti-trafficking work at the local, national and international levels and stressed the importance of victim centred approaches in the design, implementation and review of all anti-trafficking responses.

As a result of the 5th Conference of Parties, a working group was created which will now draw up the terms of reference for this important mechanism. This decision represents a historic moment for anti-trafficking work, providing an opportunity for GAATW members to influence the development of an international instrument that will determine how anti-trafficking efforts are designed and implemented as well as the role of civil society in shaping future anti-trafficking responses.

While the Conference was a busy and productive week, for GAATW the advocacy continues! For more information on how your organisation can contribute to this campaign, please contact Caroline at caroline@gaatw.org and stay tuned for updates on the [GAATW facebook page](#).

[Trafficked Identities: A Digital Art Competition on Checkpoints](#)

GAATW-IS has partnered with **Finger Lakes Environmental Film Festival (FLEFF)** in the 2011 digital art online exhibition *Trafficked Identities*, with the theme of checkpoints. Submissions of new media art, database documentaries, locative and tactical media with a distributed network component, digital video designed for online exhibition platforms, experimental coding, data-visualisation applications, experimental archiving, and other web-based media that engage the theme of "checkpoints"are sought.

FLEFF and GAATW are interested in discovering ways in which digital art could explore, visualise, engage, intervene in, map the complexities of, and/or allow viewers to embody and experience migration, human trafficking and labour in issues

where people's identities and experiences can be fragmented, dissected and pigeon-holed by authorities and policy makers.

The winning entry is expected to be used for GAATW's campaign purposes and the artist will receive USD\$250. Click [here](#) for more info.

Please send links to submissions with a brief bio in an email to curators Dale Hudson (UAE/USA) and Sharon Lin Tay (UK/Singapore) at digifleff.gaatw@gmail.com no later than 15 March 2011.

Meanwhile, GAATW-IS International Coordinator Bandana Pattanaik and Europe Programme Officer Nerea Bilbatua presented the GAATW Working Papers *Beyond Borders: Exploring trafficking's links to gender, migration, labour, globalisation and security*, at a seminar in Cairo, Egypt on October 27. The seminar, organised by the Center for Migration and Refugee Studies at the American University, Cairo, provided the opportunity to discuss the Working Papers with a wide audience. Download the Working Papers from the [GAATW website](#) to learn more.

RESOURCES

[Reports](#)

Labour Trafficking

Research and public policy series no. 108

Fiona David, of the **Australian Institute of Criminology**, examines what is known about labour trafficking based on incidences of reported crimes, but also drawing on information about unreported crimes. It also provides an assessment about the known or likely incidence of trafficking in persons. Click [here](#) to download the full report

The **Asia Monitor Resource Centre** has released a report on gender awareness training of rural migrant women workers in the Pearl River Delta in China. The training stemmed from an evaluation that indicated labour NGOs and service centres struggle to mobilise women and that these organisations don't specifically address gender in their programs. Click [here](#) to download the report.

The **Migreurop**, a network of associations, activists and researchers seeking to learn about, raise awareness and denounce the European mechanisms for the exclusion of migrants and asylum seekers has released its annual report, *European borders, control, detentions and deportations*. Click

[here](#) to download the report in English, French and Spanish.

Papers

Migration and people trafficking in south-east Asia

Trends & issues in crime and criminal justice no. 401

This paper by Jacqueline Joudo Larsen of the **Australian Institute of Criminology** examines the characteristics of migration in southeast Asia, the ways in which people trafficking occurs within this process and the implications for Australia's anti-trafficking response nationally and regionally. It is based on a literature review, along with information from interviews conducted with prosecutors, law enforcement officers, policy officers and representatives of non-government and international organisations in Thailand, Indonesia, Singapore and Malaysia.

From Judgment to Justice: Implementing International and Regional Human Rights Decisions

This report by the Open Society Justice Initiative reviews the implementation of judgments across the world's four human rights systems. Working from empirical data as well as interviews conducted with court personnel, human rights advocates, and academics, authors David C. Baluarte and Christian M. De Vos provide a comprehensive review of the dynamics involved in putting international commitments into practice.

X:talk's Report's on Human Trafficking, Sex Work and the Challenge of Trafficking

A human rights impact assessment of anti-trafficking laws in the UK was produced by the **x:talk project** and is the first study of anti-trafficking policies that reflects the experiences and views of people working in the sex industry in London. The report examines the anti-trafficking agenda in the UK and finds that it has been manipulated by abolitionists who have used anti-trafficking law and policies as a justification for increasing the surveillance and criminalisation of the legal indoor sex industry on an unprecedented scale. The existing focus in anti-trafficking policy on irregular migration, law enforcement and on the sex industry does not address the needs, choices and agency of trafficked people, whether they work in the sex industry or elsewhere, and prevents migrants and non-migrant people working in the sex industry from asserting fundamental rights.

INVISIBLE CHAINS: Canada's Underground World of Human Trafficking

Based on three-years of research with police officers, social workers and others on the front-lines, **Benjamin Perrin's** book seeks to expose the problem, inform Canadians and dramatically improve Canada's response to the national tragedy of human trafficking.

The award-winning law professor exposes the tactics of ruthless traffickers, shares compassionate stories of survivors, and makes recommendations for government, law enforcement, companies, parents and average Canadians to end modern-day slavery in our country.

[New Websites](#)

[Rights Work Initiative](#), a collaborative platform to engage in evidence and rights-based research, policy analysis and debate in order to reframe anti-trafficking discourses, has launched its [website](#).

Rights Work is a joint project of the Program on Human Trafficking and Forced Labor at the American University Washington College of Law and the German NGO KOK.

The [website](#) will be devoted to fostering and promoting an open dialogue among experts for the purpose of bringing forth for new insights, approaches and discourses that challenge harmful or problematic anti-trafficking discourses and offer innovative reality- and rights-based approaches.

A new website by University of Oxford showcases the study of international migration, both voluntary and forced. To learn more, visit the [website](#).

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Global Alliance Against Traffic in Women

DECEMBER/2010

HUMAN RIGHTS

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abroad
and on the way*

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Dear members and friends,

As the year quickly ended, we are happy to report that many of the programs/activities planned for 2008-2010 programme have been accomplished. We wish you all the very best for the Holidays. We sincerely hope that the coming year will be of great productivity as well as mutual solidarity among women everywhere.

December 18th marks the 20th anniversary of the adoption of the International Convention on the Protection of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (ICRMW). Sadly ratification remains low, and as of today only 44 states are parties to the Convention worldwide. The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) held a Celebration for this year's 20th Anniversary of the Convention in Bangkok, Thailand. Mr. Abdelhamid El Jamri, Chair of the UN Committee on Migrant Workers, emphasized at the Celebration that the Migrant Workers Convention is a cooperation tool. While other conventions are to be applied nationally, this one sets a framework for sending, transit and receiving countries' cooperation. H.E. Mr. Felipe Frydman, Ambassador of Argentina to Thailand, called on us to demand that states apply existing laws, especially labour laws, while we wait for them to ratify the Migrant Workers Convention. Some activists point specifically to using the ILO Migration for Employment Convention No. 97 or the ILO Migrant Workers (Supplementary Provisions) Convention No 143. Our work remains cut out for us, as we look at broader ways to support the rights of trafficked persons and all migrants.

Also of note this month is the publication of the Commentary to the Recommended Principles and Guidelines on Human Rights and Human Trafficking. This is a long-awaited publication that provides detailed comment (in 255 pages) to the original 2002 Principles and Guidelines.

The commentary should be useful for people in all areas of anti-trafficking work - those providing legal or social assistance, law enforcement, other state actors, and advocates for rights such as

freedom of movement, non-conditional assistance and non-refoulement.

For updates:

The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) held a Celebration for this year's 20th Anniversary of the International Convention on the Protection of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (ICRMW) on December 13th in Bangkok. Rebecca Napier-Moore from the GAATW-IS attended the event. Have a look at the ICRMW and see also the link to check on your countries' ratification status.

The long-awaited Commentary to the Recommended Principles and Guidelines on Human Rights and Human Trafficking has been published.

The Commentary was launched in Bangkok on 16 December at the Royal Thai Police Headquarters. Launches in other parts of the world will follow next year in Belarus, Cameroon and Qatar. In the forward, High Commissioner for Human Rights Navi Pillay comments that a human rights approach to anti-trafficking means "rejecting responses that compromise rights and freedoms. This is the only way to retain focus on the trafficked persons - to ensure that trafficking is not simply reduced to a problem of migration, a problem of public order or a problem of organized crime." Anne Gallagher was the primary consultant involved in developing the comprehensive Commentary, which we hope to use widely in our work at GAATW.

Warmly,

The GAATW International Secretariat

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