

GAATW INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

6-7 July 2010
Bangkok, Thailand

BEYOND BORDERS: TRAFFICKING IN THE CONTEXT OF MIGRANT, LABOUR AND WOMEN'S RIGHTS

Draft Agenda

Tuesday, July 6

09.00 - 09.30 **Registration**

09.30 - 10.00 **Opening Performance by Kolkata Sanved (India) and Gabfai (Thailand): *Woman Power***

Kolkata Sanved (based in India) uses dance movement as an alternative approach to recovery, healing and for the psychosocial rehabilitation of victims of violence and trafficking, domestic workers, mental health patients, people suffering from HIV/AIDS and mainstream school children. Gabfai (based in Thailand) uses a two-pronged strategy of community outreach and mobile theatre to educate and empower villagers in northern Thailand about the issues related to trafficking, HIV/AIDS, domestic violence and other human rights issues.

10.00 - 12.00 **Understanding Trafficking and Human Rights in the Context of Migration, Labour, Gender and Globalisation [plenary]**

- Jyoti Sanghera, Member, GAATW International Board
- Annalee Lepp, Department Chair, Women's Studies, University of Victoria
- Ratna Kapur, Director, Centre for Feminist Legal Research, New Delhi

12.00 - 01.30 **Lunch**

01.30 - 04.30 **Concurrent Sessions: Linkages in Our Work and Implications for Our Practice, Research and Advocacy**

These interactive sessions will address the issue of linkages, centre the voices and agency of migrating people or women and explore implications for our work and practice. Most of the sessions will feature findings from GAATW's 2009-2010 feminist participatory action research projects, GAATW Working Papers, and case sharing from participants. Discussions from these sessions will feed into the Strategic Direction session on July 7th.

(1) Negotiating Rights at the Workplace

Many trafficked people say that labour violations in the trafficking process are what they are most upset about. Members have been particularly concerned about the intersections between exploitation and trafficking. This session will look at the challenges in defining exploitation, informal labour, forced labour, slavery and how these concepts affect members' anti-trafficking work.

(2) 'The Victim Label'

Trafficked persons are often called 'victims'. This is necessary in legal processes, but is it necessary in prevention campaigns, public awareness messages, direct assistance, fundraising or reintegration programmes? The victim label doesn't capture a person's strength or complexities and can be disempowering or stigmatising for the person who is labeled. This session will explore what members are doing in practice about the labels imposed on people, how labels affect women's recovery and reintegration, and whether there is value in using 'the victim label'.

(3) What's Next? What do Linkages Mean for Our Work?

Following GAATW's previous three year cycle of research activities including, Feminist Participatory Action Research project, Working Papers, discussions at Regional Consultations and Roundtables, as well as our heightened engagement in increasingly varied advocacy fora, we now need to look at what we do next. How do we, as GAATW, locate ourselves within the broader discourses and movements we are now engaging with? Does the Linkages thinking mean building new coalitions or networks? How does our Linkages work to date impact on our understanding of the nexus between anti-trafficking and other movements? Importantly, how does it impact upon our advocacy and research for the next three years? The IS will share some of the main ideas from work over the last three years followed by input from those who have brought linkages to life in their work and participants will discuss 'what's next?' with a view to ensuring GAATW's work remains relevant, informed and effective.

(4) Trade Policies and Impacts on Migrating Women

This session will include a learning workshop on how trade policies work and how they impact on migrating women in different parts of the world. Participants will share the impacts from international trade they have seen in their countries and on the women they work with, the jobs available to them, and the migration systems that emerge around new trade policies and practices. The session will also include discussion about GAATW's role in larger social movements on globalisation and trade issues.

(all sessions include a half-hour coffee break)

04.30 - 06.00 **Café Alliance: Open Space for Member Presentations and Meetings**

Members are welcome and encouraged to present their own sessions, workshops, discussions and/or meetings with other members during this time.

If you would like to schedule your own presentation, session, and/or meeting during this time, please contact Yuko Kobayashi at info@gaatw.org.

06.00 - 07.30 **Cocktails**

Wednesday, July 7

09.00 - 10.30 **Concurrent Sessions: Organising for Change**

(1) Discussion with Domestic Worker Groups

Over the last few years domestic workers' issues have become more visible and there are welcome policy developments in many parts of the world. 2010 represents an important year for domestic worker organising efforts due to global discussions on an ILO Convention for Domestic Workers. By July, the International Labour Conference will have concluded and GAATW members working with or as domestic workers will be able to share their work, successes and challenges as well as future plans in light of recent international discussions.

(2) Discussion with Sex Worker Groups

As we talk about linkage and nexus, the one link that comes up repeatedly is the link between anti-trafficking and sex work. GAATW supports the rights of sex workers and *Collateral Damage* (2007) made a clear recommendation that anti-trafficking initiatives should not violate the human rights of sex workers. This session will explore sex workers rights groups' organising strategies, successes and challenges; how they address trafficking issues; and how they engage in anti-trafficking discourses.

10.30 - 11.00 **Coffee Break**

11.00 - 12.30 **Café Alliance: Open Space for Member Presentations and Meetings**

Members are welcome and encouraged to present their own sessions, workshops, discussions and/or meetings with other members during this time.

If you would like to schedule your own presentation, session, and/or meeting during this time, please contact Yuko Kobayashi at info@gaatw.org.

12.30 - 01.30 **Lunch**

01.30 - 3.00 **United Nations Advocacy Strategies**

The last few years have opened up more space for anti-trafficking advocacy at the UN. There have been thematic debates at the General Assembly, the UN GIFT process, the discussions around a Review Mechanism to the Palermo Protocol and most recently sessions at the Human Rights Council.

However such discussions are often critiqued, sometimes with justification, for simply being talking shops with little practical action as a result. How can we ensure that our engagement as a network and as individuals is productive and meaningful to those we work with on the ground?

This session will focus specifically on individual complaints to UN mechanisms, exploring the merits and limitations of two particular mechanisms: The UN core human rights treaty bodies and the UN Special Procedures.

03.00 - 03.30 **Coffee Break**

03.30 - 04.30 **Presentation of GAATW's Strategic Direction**
GAATW International Board

04.30 - 05.30 **Closing Ceremony**

Note: Details of panellists and moderators for various sessions will come in soon. For more information, please contact the GAATW International Secretariat at info@gaatw.org