

e-Bulletin



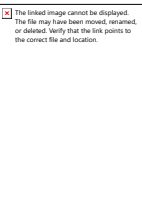
Global Alliance Against Traffic in Women

Issue 1/2013

In This Issue

- [THEME: VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN, ESPECIALLY WOMEN MIGRANT WORKERS](#)
- [FEATURED MEMBERS OF THE FORTNIGHT - WOREC \(Nepal\) AND ASOCIATIA PRO REFUGIU \(Romania\)](#)
- [RESOURCES](#)

Anti-Trafficking Review



Visit the Anti-Trafficking Review website

Like us on Facebook 

Dear Members and Friends,

Greetings from GAATW International Secretariat and welcome to our revamped and streamlined monthly e-bulletin. We have spent the last several weeks reviewing our communication strategies and making new plans to reach out to our diverse audience.

The plan is to use the E-Bulletin, Website, Members Mailing Lists, Facebook and our peer reviewed journal Anti-Trafficking Review optimally while adding other tools such as a regular blog and a twitter account.

The revamped e-bulletin will go out on the last day of every month as before but it will be shorter and each issue will have a thematic focus. For example, the focus for this issue is Violence against Women, especially women migrant workers. Each issue will have interviews or interview based pieces with two GAATW Members. The featured members in this issue are WOREC, Nepal and Asociatia Pro Refugiu, Romania. The resources cited link to the thematic focus of the bulletin.

The open group facebook account of the Global Alliance Against Traffic in Women will post articles, pictures, news and video clips relevant to human trafficking, migration, labour and human rights. Join our facebook group to share your thoughts, ideas and resources with colleagues.

All our regional and sub-regional members' mailing lists have been reactivated now. So if you are member, do check the list to have an on-going communication with fellow members and the IS.

The website is being updated regularly, as before. Do look up the Anti-Trafficking Review webpage and find out about

the upcoming issues of the journal. We hope to add more video clips to the GAATW YouTube channel this year. And watch out for our upcoming blog posts and twitter

If you would like to contribute to our next e-bulletin, please send a short write up (not more than 250 words) and weblink of the full information/event to info@gaatw.org on or before 20 March 2013.

Warm Regards,

GAATW International Secretariat

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Recent news headlines have been dominated by cases of atrocious acts of violence against women, often occurring in public places with little reprimand from government officials. These acts of violence are nothing new for women and women migrants. They are far from isolated and more often than not remain unreported. Despite recent demonstrations of positive participation of men in supporting cries from around the world to end gender violence, it is often women themselves who are left to bear the responsibility of preserving their safety, minimising risk and maintaining their 'honour' once the energy behind reactive social movements fades away.

Oftentimes women migrants who face isolation, lack of mobility and discrimination are at great risk of violence and abuse. It is these women who run the risk of being left behind, both in the processes and outcomes of large scale efforts to challenge weak systems of protection and put a stop to the violence once and for all.

The [*One Billion Rising*](#) campaign, organised by V-day and held on February 14th, in which many members and colleagues of GAATW participated, was an example of coordinated protest across national and other borders. The campaign has been a huge success in providing a platform for women to engage with the issues relevant to their lives and take action by 'rising' against oppression, injustices, discrimination, abuse and violence. We must continue the call for just measures and practices that respect and advance the rights of women at home, abroad and on the way.

FEATURED MEMBERS OF THE FORTNIGHT

- WOREC (Nepal)
- Association Pro Refugiu (Romania)

WOREC

As part of the 2013 member's online interview we spoke to Dr Renu Rajbhandari, a women's rights activist in Nepal, who is one of the founders of WOREC and the current chair person of NAWHRD. Renu speaks about how violence manifests itself in women migrant's experiences and how WOREC adopts a three-pronged approach to challenge it with the tireless work of women's human rights defenders. She also shares WOREC's visions for improved government structures to tackle VAW in Nepal and their understanding that in

order to achieve safe migration in an era of violence against women we must continue the fight for women's rights.



During the recent GAATW Strategy Meeting Member Organisation WOREC in particular advocated for a need to rethink issues of trafficking and migration within the broader structural context of continued violence against women (VAW). We asked Renu (Chairperson National Alliance of Women Human Right Defenders) to share her insights about negotiating safe migration within an environment of violence among returnee migrant women in Nepal.

What is the situation of violence for women living in Nepal and how does WOREC's work for survivors and Women Human Rights Defenders aim to challenge this situation?

Violence against women is a pervasive issue for women in Nepal, regardless of their migration status. For example in just one year, between July 2011 and June 2012, WOREC registered 1581 cases of different forms of violence, including a recent case of rape of a returnee migrant woman worker by a police officer and as well as the looting of her money by immigration officers. WOREC has a three-pronged approach to challenge VAW which includes; raising awareness and strengthening solidarity against VAW; creating support mechanisms for survivors such as the seven safe houses it runs; and finally through its advocacy work. WOREC's advocacy work itself is broad as they engage with the government and provide training to civil servants, work directly with the UN Special Rapporteur on VAW and organise campaigns in collaboration with (WHRDs) networks. WOREC's work with the National Alliance of Women Human Rights Defenders operates extensively throughout Nepal to support survivors and is itself a highly successful system of organisation.

How do you understand the specific issues of trafficking and migration within a context of violence against women? How does this understanding help frame the types of anti-trafficking and safe migration responses you would like to see?

In my opinion trafficking is a form of violence against migrant women so I personally feel the response against trafficking has to be in terms of direct action in the fight for rights for women overall. Only when women's rights to work and to migrate safely, including access to information, are secured then we can expect to see a decline in women's experiences of violence in this process all the way from origin to destination. [READ THE FULL INTERVIEW>](#)

Asociatia Pro Refugiu

In our second Member's Interview we speak to *Silvia Berbec* from *Asociatia Pro Refugiu*, a new GAATW member. We hear about their legal work to support trafficking survivors and about their successful, tailored campaign within schools to raise awareness about trafficking among young people who can serve as agents of change.



Asociatia Pro Refugiu, (Pro Refuge Association) work both to offer legal support through a network of 10 lawyers and

psychosocial support to members of their target groups; trafficked persons, asylum seekers and refugees throughout Romania. They recently ran a successful campaign in schools with young people to offer training in how to use their National Online Platform which helps young people identify the risks of trafficking in terms which are accessible to them which equips them to avoid the dangers and share these lessons with friends.

Can you tell us about the human trafficking situation in Romania and its impact on peoples' lives?

Romania is considered to be a country of origin, transit and destination for victims of human trafficking where statistics show that almost 1000 victims are identified annually, however of course the real number of victims is much higher. According to statistics provided by the Romanian National Agency Against Trafficking in Persons in 2011 around 743 victims (from a total number of 1048 identified victims) were subjected to human trafficking outside the country where the majority were trafficked to Spain, Italy, Greece and Germany, although there is internal trafficking as well. Around 30% of victims in Romania are children. Data from 2011 and 2012 reveal the most common forms of exploitation experienced by trafficked persons were sexual exploitation, labor exploitation and forced begging. As is the case for many victims of human trafficking the recovery is very slow and there is a need for a long period of specialized support such as psychological, social, legal counseling and assistance during the rehabilitation process.

How does Asociatia Pro Refugiu work with trafficked persons, asylum seekers, refugees or other groups or individuals to identify their needs and make sure these needs are met?

In order to identify the needs of trafficked persons, asylum seekers and refugees our organization works closely with the Romanian General Inspectorate for Immigration, National Agency Against Trafficking in Persons and other NGOs. We are privileged that through our close partnerships with the Romanian authorities we are allowed access to the special centres where refugees and other target groups we work stay. From there our staff can offer services and we can also offer the services one of the 10 lawyers in our network. These lawyers provide legal counsel to explain the national legislation processes and offer legal representation if it is desired. The refugee or other target group member will then have the same lawyer that initially offered them counsel to represent them and so we provide a comprehensive support system. [READ THE FULL INTERVIEW>](#)

RESOURCES

PUBLICATIONS/MANUAL/REPORTS

[Working to Prevent and Address Violence Against Women Migrant Workers](#)

This publication presents the approach IOM takes toward the protection and empowerment of women migrant workers. By displaying key IOM activities in that area, the report seeks to better inform policy makers, practitioners and the public of the vulnerability of these women and of good practices for the protection of their human rights throughout the labour migration cycle.

This publication promotes legal and safe migration and policies that regulate recruitment and deployment of women migrant workers. It also highlights the promotion and protection

of women's rights and counter trafficking activities that may assist victims.

Strategies to End Double Violence Against Undocumented Women: Protecting Rights and Ensuring Justice

To promote an end to violence against women, this report provides a practical overview of methods that protect rights and ensure justice for survivors regardless of their immigration status. Across Europe, undocumented women are turned away from women's shelters, denied psychological support, and risk arrest or deportation if they contact the police. This "institutional" or "administrative" violence is not only discriminatory, but it is fostering a culture of impunity across the region.

UN Resolution on Violence Against Women Migrant Workers (Dec 2011)

The resolution encourages states to incorporate a human rights approach in legislation, policies and programmes on international migration and on labour employment, consistent with their human rights and obligations and commitments under human rights instruments to address violence and mistreatment of women migrant workers. The resolution also highlights the need for States to adopt and strengthen measures to protect the human rights of women migrant workers, regardless of their immigration status. [Read the full document](#)

Victories over Violence: Ensuring Safety for Women and Girls

Victories over Violence: Ensuring Safety for Women and Girls is a practitioners' manual, comprised of 16 sessions which unfold in a progression—moving from violence at home or in the private sphere, to the community or public space, to the transnational and international arenas. Case studies in each session are drawn from actual events and feature stories set in societies as diverse as Haiti, Malaysia, Nepal, and the United States. This enables the facilitator and participants to explore the linkages between violence in these three realms—the private, public and global—while underscoring the point that gender-based human rights violations are ubiquitous and defy cultural, economic, ethnic, political, religious and other divisions.

EVENTS

Commission on the Status of Women (CSW57)

The fifty-seventh session of the [Commission on the Status of Women](#) will take place at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 4 to 15 March 2013, where the priority theme is on the *Elimination and prevention of all forms of violence against women and girls*. For more information, go to: <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/csw/57sess.htm#org>

The Elimination of All Forms of Violence against CALD Women

The Australian Migrant & Refugee Women's Alliance (AMaRWA) is hosting the first national conference on the elimination of all forms of violence against culturally and linguistically diverse (CaLD) women, Stand Up!, which is being held in Canberra, Australia during April 2013. This national conference, will bring together for the first time experts from various fields to discuss, debate and make concrete recommendations as to how we can work together to eliminate all forms of violence against CALD women within Australia.

MULTI-MEDIA

[Hate on the Streets](#)

“They asked me first, ‘Where are you from?’ I said, ‘Somalia.’ When I answered they tried to take my daughter away.... They hit me on my head with a wooden stick.... I fell down bleeding. When I fell down and they saw I was bleeding they ran away. My daughter was crying. All the people [around at the time of the attack] they were watching but nobody helped me. I didn’t go to the hospital.... It didn’t matter if I was hurt. I just thought about the baby and my daughter.”

Mina Ahmad, a 20-year-old Somali woman, was attacked by a group of men near the Aghios Panteleimonas church in Athens in October 2011. She was with her infant daughter and was six-months pregnant at the time.

Source: Human Rights Watch, World Report 2013

<http://www.hrw.org/world-report/2013/photos-videos/gallery/hate-on-the-streets>

CAMPAIGNS

[The Guardian](http://www.guardian.co.uk/society/blog/2013/feb/14/one-billion-rising-live-coverage) gathered together the events for the *One Billion Rising* campaign on 14 February 2013. This news article highlights the action, dancing and protests against violence against women and girls in participating countries around the world.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/society/blog/2013/feb/14/one-billion-rising-live-coverage>

From the UN campaign to end violence against women comes their *‘With and End in Sight’* publication which helps seasoned or newly inspired activists and groups to challenge VAW by equipping with the tools to mobilize civil society, conduct research and foster positive changes. http://saynotoviolence.org/sites/default/files/130_intro.pdf

OPPORTUNITIES

Women’s Protection and Empowerment (GBV) Manager

The International Rescue Committee (IRC) is hiring for a Manager for its Women’s Protection and Empowerment Program. The Women’s Protection and Empowerment (WPE) Program Manager is responsible for ensuring smooth implementation of daily project activities in Adjourng refugee camp and to ensure that the goals and objectives of the program are met. S/He will provide supervision and direction to the WPE project team, with an emphasis on ensuring GBV survivors’ access to safe and appropriate health and psychosocial services, including clinical care for sexual assault survivors, safe and confidential GBV case referral, quality psychosocial initiatives, case management, one-on-one counseling, and group support activities in line with IRC’s GBV Emergency Program Model. Apply by 03 March 2013
More information here:

<http://ch.tbe.taleo.net/CH02/ats/careers/requisition.jsp?org=IRC&cws=1&rid=8884>

“Prevention of violence against women and girls is ultimately about building relationships, communities and organisations that are equal, non-violent and respectful of all individuals. It results in the creation of more peaceful, egalitarian and productive societies where women and girls live free from the discrimination, harassment, violence and fear of violence that can block them from reaching their full human potential.”

- Report of the Expert Group Meeting on Prevention of Violence

Human Rights at home, abroad and on the way

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 once a month. A Spanish version goes out to the GAATW REDLAC mailing list 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 gaatw@gaatw.org. If you do not want to receive this e-bulletin please send us a message at gaatw@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

ISSUE 2/2013

In This Issue

In Focus: VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

FEATURED MEMBERS OF THE FORTNIGHT - ESPACIOS DE MUJER (Colombia) and RIGHTS JESSORE (Bangladesh)

ADVOCACY UPDATE

RESOURCES

Anti-Trafficking Review, Issue 3

Call for Papers, Special Issue

Following the Money: Spending on Anti-Trafficking
Deadline:

15 December 2013

www.antitraffickingreview.org

Subscribe Now

Join Our Mailing List!

Like us on Facebook 

Dear Members and Friends,

Welcome to the second issue of our e-Bulletin for 2013. For us March the International Women's Month when along with our sisters and brothers around the world we raise our voice in protest against violence and atrocities that still affect a huge number of women and in celebration of womanhood.

March 2013 was a much awaited month for many of us as the theme at this year's UN Commission on the Status of Women was elimination and prevention of all forms of Violence Against Women and girls. After hard negotiations that went on until the very end of the session the 57th session of the CSW did adopt a set of conclusions. For highlights of the conclusion and some comments from colleagues which has already been shared with members via the mailing lists please visit the [GAATW Facebook Page](#). The [Quarterly Newsletter](#) of our member organisation, La Strada International, also has a section on UNCSW 2013.

Our fortnightly members' interviews this month we spoke to Rights Jessore from Bangladesh and Corporación Espacios de Mujer from Columbia. The Advocacy Update section includes information on upcoming UN events such as the Commission on Population and Development in New York and the 55th session of CEDAW in Geneva as well as recently concluded events such as South Asia Regional Consultation on Safe Mobility of Women Migrants and the High Level Panel on Post 2015 Development Agenda in Colombo.

The Resources section has some useful reading materials, toolkits and inspiring photographs of women along with a short video clip, 'Still Rising!', taken on International Women's Day in Bangkok.

We are also pleased to share with you a new publication entitled, 'AU PAIR: Challenges to safe migration and decent work.' This working paper seeks to build on the earlier work by developing a practical understanding of safe migration, with specific reference to a case study on au pair migration.

For those who wish to volunteer to translate our monthly e-bulletin in other languages, please contact us at gaatw@gaatw.org.

Warm Regards,

GAATW International Secretariat

IN FOCUS: INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

Recent reports on cases of violence against women have made it to national and international headlines. And many countries indicate that violence against women is on the rise. Worrying still is the backlash of violence against women leaders, women journalists and other women's human rights defenders which is also on the rise. Even though women's rights movements have made tremendous progress in raising awareness and challenging VAW the reality remains that violence is a feature in the lives of many women and young girls across the globe.

Women continue to face structural disadvantages and barriers to realise their rights. It is not surprising then that more women workers enter sectors which are not protected by labour laws and along with workers' rights violations they also face gender discrimination and oppression. From our work with members we have heard women returnee migrants or trafficking survivors speak about their experiences of abuse in the household, often a factor in women's decisions to look for work outside of their community/country. While we don't aim to prevent women migrating for labour, or any other purpose, we feel that women's rights work must address the complexities and intersecting motives for migration for women in order to best support their decisions. It is clear that women's rights work, anti-trafficking work and migrant workers' rights work needs to be seen as integrally linked. Efforts need to center at the very foundations of society where gendered discrimination occurs in order to inspire and help bring about change.

As more communities are becoming gender sensitised through different methods, many of which are driven internally by women's rights leaders and allies, more women and men need to be provided with rights education regardless of their migration and 'vulnerability to violence' status. Stakeholders must see this as long term work and must go beyond campaigns and time-specific projectised work plans.

FEATURED MEMBERS OF THE FORTNIGHT

- ESPACIOS DE MUJER (Colombia)
- RIGHTS JESSORE (Bangladesh)

ESPACIOS DE MUJER

The Corporación Espacios de Mujer is an NGO which provides assistance to sex workers in the city of

Medellin and the Aburra Valley, Colombia. Espacios de Mujer implements processes for support and empowerment of women from a gender perspective.

The aim of the organisation is to provide support to those women who want to change their difficult living conditions and to prevent and fight against exploitation in the sex industry. Its activities include the creation and development of programmes and projects from a human rights based approach.

- **What is the human trafficking situation for women in Colombia?**

Colombia is one of the source countries of women and girls subjected to sexual exploitation in various places in the world: Latin America, the Caribbean, Western Europe, Asia, the Middle East and North America, including the United States. It is also a transit and destination country for men, women and minors subjected to forced labour. In 2012, 7 (seven) Colombian women, who were victims of trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation, were identified in Indonesia. In Colombia, men and minors are under forced labour conditions in the mining and agricultural sectors, and trafficking of women and minors continues to be a significant issue. Women and minors are mostly victims of trafficking for domestic bondage. According to international organisations, 10% of domestic workers in Cali have experienced high levels of forced domestic labour in their first employment. NGOs in Colombia have also stated that 'begging' is an issue in urban areas. Groups facing a greater risk of becoming victims of internal trafficking are displaced persons, women with scarce resources in rural areas, indigenous communities and the relatives of members of criminal organisations. [Read the full interview >](#)

RIGHTS JESSORE

Rights Jessore is an organisation working in south western Bangladesh to promote and protect human rights along with the 500 NGOs within their network. They focus primarily on repatriating women who have survived sex trafficking to India and offer services to support women's reintegration process. They also work with law enforcement to assist in the prosecution of traffickers. Their anti-trafficking work has been internationally recognized and they have received awards from the Arab Gulf Programme for United Nations Development Organization (AGFUND).

- **Rights Jessore have many creative activities to help prevent human trafficking. How do you decide how to engage with different target groups to ensure successful prevention is achieved?**

We select the type of activities we do by observing trends and patterns of trafficking within communities and using this empirical knowledge to identify the target groups for our work and to analyse their roles and potential influence in their communities. We then sit with them and other stakeholders, such as police persons and elected bodies to work together to find solutions and develop a set of practices to work on together. We remain very flexible in terms of exploring and adopting new methodologies and strategies when working with different target groups so that efficacy of the prevention activities can be ensured to the highest degree. These include adapting our communication tools to suit the needs of the target groups, such as by showing films and engaging in trainings for peer-mentors, volunteers and community outreach teams. By working within communities to facilitate the training of peer-educators we are able to help spread information about human trafficking and offer methods and tools for prevention.

- **Rights Jessore is very successful at reuniting human trafficking survivors with their families. How do you achieve such high levels of success in this area? Do you ever encounter trafficked persons who do not want to be reunited with their families? How do you support these individuals?**

When working with trafficked persons to assess their desire to be reunited with their families we will

work with both them and their families and communities to first assess the suitability for this return and to help prepare for it. As our organization is highly regarded and trusted families are often interested in learning the practical suggestions we have to assist them to support their returnee loved one. This can include by engaging in trainings and workshops with other families who have experienced trafficking of their daughter or sister, as it tends to be, in order to shed the stigma sometimes held for women who have endured trafficking. By working with families who have had similar experiences we are able to generate a wider support system to prepare families for the repatriation process. We never turn a family or a trafficking survivor away and we continue to support them if reunification is achieved by continuing to respond to their calls regarding any problems they face during the integration process.. In cases where it is not suitable to return a trafficked woman to her family we will try again to engage families in supporting the survivor and offer counselling to women whose family members were involved in their trafficking experience. We recommend women report their traffickers to the police, even when they are relatives and we support the survivor's path towards a new start, either within or outside the community.

In cases where the survivors do not wish to return home we try to support them with a job placement outside of their original communities considering their skills and education or send them for business training if they do not yet have a skill. The job placement is followed by vocational/ life skills/capacity building trainings, and again, we always maintain communication with the survivor to ensure she is doing well. In essence we become her new family. [Read the full interview >](#)

ADVOCACY UPDATE

Opportunity to comment: Draft Basic Principles on the right to an effective remedy

The Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, in her [2011 report](#) addressed the right to an effective remedy for trafficked persons . The Special Rapporteur is now inviting comments on the *Draft Basic Principles on the right to an effective remedy*. The draft Basic Principles provides guidance to implement the right to an effective remedy. They clarify the concept of the right to an effective remedy and enumerate specific factors to take into account in the realization of this right. See the draft Basic Principles in [English](#) and [Spanish](#). A summary of comments will be provided to the Human Rights Council at its 26th session, in June 2014. However, input is needed a year in advance of that - deadline is 15 May 2013. Send your comments to srtrafficking@ohchr.org.

Advocacy Opportunity: [The Commission on Population and Development](#)

GAATW-IS will be attending the CPD in New York in April. The CPD is an annual UN Commission comprised of 47 Member States elected on the basis of geographic distribution for a period of four years. The CPD is tasked with assessing progress on implementing the Programme of Action from the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD, Cairo, Egypt, 1994) at the national, regional and international levels. The theme of this 46th session is "New trends in migration: demographic aspects", which feeds into the UN *High-Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development* later in the year. We look forward to networking with groups who will also be working the HLD. If any GAATW members or allies are going to be there please get in touch, it would be great to meet up.

Advocacy Opportunity: CEDAW

The 55th CEDAW Session will be held in Geneva from the 8th - 19th of July, 2013. This is an opportunity for activists in Afghanistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cape Verde, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominican Republic, Serbia and the UK to submit shadow reports.

For further information on reporting to CEDAW see [GAATW's Toolkit for Reporting to CEDAW on Trafficking in Women and Exploitation of Migrant Women Workers](#).

And there are a lot more resources on CEDAW available from our friends at

IWRAW: <http://www.iwraw-ap.org/>

Standard Setting: International Labour Organization to consider new instrument on forced labour

In February, GAATW-IS participated in the ILO expert meeting on forced labour. This meeting had been mandated by the 101st session of the International Labour Conference in 2012, which called on the ILO to conduct an analysis to identify any gaps in existing coverage of ILO standards and whether there is a need for standard setting to: complement the ILO's forced labour Conventions to address prevention and victim protection, including compensation; and address human trafficking for labour exploitation.

The report for the expert meeting is now available in [English](#), [French](#), and [Spanish](#).

The outcome of the expert meeting was a set of recommendations to the ILO Governing Body, which met in March. At that meeting it was decided to move ahead with discussions on a new instrument supplementing the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29), to address implementation gaps to advance prevention, protection and compensation measures, to effectively achieve the elimination of forced labour. The second objective of the expert meeting - explicitly on labour trafficking - is not included in the decision of the ILO Governing Body. This standard setting discussion will be part of the agenda at the 103rd Session (2014) of the International Labour Conference. [Read more](#)

South Asia Regional Consultation on Safe Mobility of Women Migrants

The South Asia Core Group on Gender Responsive Labour Migration Management organised a two-day consultation on safe migration for women, in Colombo, Sri Lanka. Outcomes of the meeting included recommendations for better documentation and data on the contributions of women migrant workers; improved pre-departure support services; better working conditions for women migrant workers, and an integrated response to cases of violence against women migrant workers across all stages of their migration. GAATW Member Organisations PNCC, Nepal and BOMSA, Bangladesh participated in the consultation.

The High Level Panel on the Post 2015 Development agenda

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon announced the 27 members of a High-level Panel to advise on the global development framework beyond 2015, when the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) are due to expire. There have been a series of meetings and online consultations towards this post-2015 development agenda. March saw the latest meeting of the [High-Level Panel](#), in Bali, Indonesia, 25 to 27 March. For more information see: <http://www.post2015hlp.org/outreach/>

There seems to be little organised action from migrants' rights groups in the Post 2015 process and the final communiqué from the Bali HLP identifies migration only as a tool to support the Post 2015 development agenda: <http://post2015.org/2013/03/27/final-communique-from-the-bali-hlp/>

The Civil Society Communique refers to migrants working in the informal sector and calls for "guarantees of women's decent work and a living wage, including the right to social protection, and transformative and progressive women's leadership and decision-making at all levels": <http://www.balipost2015.org/?wpdmact=process&did=MTEuaG90bGluaw==>

Not everyone was impressed with the level of discussion at the HLP - *Guatemalan activist brands post-2015 Bali talks hopeless and shallow*: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/global-development/poverty-matters/2013/mar/26/guatemalan-activist-post-2015-talks-hopeless>, and there were barriers to civil society participation - *Reality gets the better of rhetoric in Bali as NGOs left out in the heat*: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/global-development/poverty-matters/2013/mar/27/reality-rhetoric-bali-ngos-left-out>

RESOURCES

GAATW PUBLICATIONS

[Au Pairs: Challenges to Safe Migration and Decent Work, 2013](#)

In GAATW's 2010 Working Paper Series *Beyond Borders*, links between trafficking and migration, labour, gender and security are explored and developed conceptually. This working paper seeks to build on the earlier work by developing a practical understanding of safe migration, with specific reference to a case study on au pair migration.

The scope for this research focus on Filipina au pairs in three European countries: Denmark, Norway and the Netherlands, which are the top receivers of au pair migrants from the Philippines. This working paper provides an overview of the existing policies on au pair migration in these three countries and also includes a case study of the situations and experiences of Filipina au pairs in one country of destination: Denmark.

This paper includes three separate sections of analysis which are summed up in a chapter on recommendations at the end. The first section gives an introduction to safe migration, in particular, to its challenges, and considers how concepts related to safe migration can be linked to au pair migration. The second section presents existing policies and regulations of the country of origin (the Philippines) and the destination countries (Denmark, Norway and the Netherlands). The third section presents the findings of a case study of Filipina au pairs in Denmark. The final section of the report seeks to address the challenges identified in the analysis by setting out a range of recommendations to be considered by policy makers. [Download the report](#)

[Beyond Borders: Linkages Between Trafficking and Gender, 2010](#)

Regional contexts also differ with respect to what forms of violence are recognised and what forms are not. In North America, the VAW movement has opened up private spaces to public accountability (or politicised the personal), particularly on violence within interpersonal relationships and families. However, there has been less focus on gender-based violence as a result of government policies (e.g. violence against Aboriginal women as a result of colonial policies), violence experienced in workplaces (e.g. employer's abuse of domestic workers or migrant workers) and violence against transgendered women. Countries also differ in their recognition of violence against women in other non-relationship contexts, such as violence against women due to their sexual orientation, police brutality against sex workers, and violence against women human rights defenders, to name a few examples. [Click here](#) to read the Working Paper Series.

TOOLKIT

GENDER TOOLKIT FOR INTERNATIONAL FINANCE-WATCHERS

The toolkit is a product of Gender Action's 'Gender Capacity Building Project for International Finance Watchers' sponsored by Oxfam Novib. While conducting gender audits of project partners, Gender Action noted the urgent need for concrete, easy-to-use, gender analysis tools, sex-disaggregated data and background information on key gender and development topics. This toolkit aims to fill that need for our IF-watcher partners and other organizations seeking to integrate a gender perspective into their activities.

http://www.genderaction.org/publications/IFI-Watcher_Toolkit.pdf

IWD EVENTS

This month the international One Billion Rising campaign which was started by Eve Ensler, as part of her Vday project to end violence towards women and girls in its multiple forms, took Bangkok by storm. On 8th March, International Women's Day, only hours after the UN Asia-Pacific Commemoration of IWD launched new research by [Partners 4 Prevention \(P4P\)](#) which mapped men's use of violence against women in the region, over 150 Thai and foreign women and men joined forces to do something positive to challenge the negative! They took Bangkok's major commuter train station by surprise as they danced and sang to the original song 'Break the Chains' and showed the world they were taking a stand to say enough is enough! From an initiative that started with just 12 women performing Eve Ensler's Δ Memory Δ Monologue Δ Rant and Δ Prayer theatre piece, to raise funds for

APSW, a shelter for women and girls in Bangkok who have experienced violence on, February 14th - valentine's day or Vday as it has been claimed by activists around the world who take this day to demand change in gendered violence, has grown a movement! The activities of the group have not ended there and as interest has been sparked to do more in Bangkok to creatively challenge the problems women and girls face locally new plans for community art projects, more public demonstrations and awareness raising campaigns are in the making. By standing united and challenging the fear and subsequent withdrawal from public and political life that women can sometimes experience as a result of violence, or from the threat of it, the [Bangkok Still Rising](#) group remain committed to the message of OBR: 'One billion women violated is an atrocity. One billion women dancing is a revolution!' (Eve Ensler).

AkidWa, a GAATW member, marked the celebration of IWD by launching a collection of inspirational stories of young migrant women. These are the results of their survey on the integration challenges of young migrant women living in Ireland. For more information, write to AkiDwa at info@akidwa.ie.

OPPORTUNITIES

Project Inspire 2013 Grant for Empowerment of Women

Project Inspire: 5 Minutes to Change the World is a joint initiative by the Singapore Committee for UN Women and MasterCard to provide grants for creating a better world of opportunities for women and girls in Asia Pacific, the Middle East and Africa.

Launched in 2011 in celebration of the 100th anniversary of International Women's Day and the 25th anniversary of MasterCard in Asia/Pacific, Middle East and Africa, Project Inspire presents 18-35 year olds with a 5-minute platform to pitch their inspired idea to the world and win a US\$25,000 grant. Project Inspire presents 18-35 year olds across the world with a platform to pitch their inspired idea to the world and win a US\$25,000 grant. The grant must show creativity and sustainable impact in the lives of women and girls across Asia, Pacific, the Middle East or Africa through access to business and livelihood skills.

Deadline for submissions is on 30 June 2013. For more details, go to:

<http://www.fundsforngos.org/latest-funds-for-ngos/project-inspire-2013-grant-empowerment-women/>

'Due to the multiplicity of forms of violence against women, and the fact that this violence often occurs in an intersectional manner, States must adopt more holistic, multi-pronged approaches to effectively implementing their due diligence obligations. State interventions must also be designed at the different levels at which violence occurs, namely at the individual, community, State and transnational levels.'

- 2013 Annual Report of the Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women,
its Causes and Consequences

Human Rights at home, abroad and on the way

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 once a month. A Spanish version goes out to the GAATW REDLAC mailing list 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 gaatw@gaatw.org. If you do not want to receive this e-bulletin please send us a message at gaatw@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.

[Forward email](#)



Try it FREE today.

This email was sent to alfie@gaatw.org by gaatw@gaatw.org |
[Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).
GAATW | P.O. Box 36 | Bangkok Noi Post Office | Bangkok | 10600 | Thailand

In This Issue

- ADVOCACY UPDATE
- FEATURED MEMBERS OF THE FORTNIGHT - Institut Perempuan (Indonesia) and Pravashi Nepali Coordination Committee (Nepal)
- RESOURCES

Anti-Trafficking Review, Issue 3

The linked image cannot be displayed. The file may have been moved, renamed, or deleted. Verify that the link points to the correct file and location.

Call for Papers,
Special Issue
*Following the Money:
Spending on
Anti-Trafficking*
Deadline: 15
December 2013

www.antitraffickingreview.org

Like us on Facebook 

Dear Members and Friends,

Greetings from GAATW International Secretariat.

April has been a difficult month for us during which we have tried to keep our hopes for a better future alive while dealing with anger, frustration and helplessness. Even as the memory of the horrific gang rape in New Delhi was fresh in everyone's mind and news of similar atrocities against women were reaching us from virtually all parts of the world, when details of the recent rape of a 5 year old girl in Delhi emerged we were completely at a loss. Close on its heels came the news of the collapse of an eight story building in Bangladesh that has killed hundreds of garment factory workers and left thousands injured. As news of the protests, the grief of families and friends and the rescue work of so many civilians from Dhaka keep reaching us we are confronted by many uncomfortable questions. What accountability do the international clothing companies have? What is the government doing to protect the rights of its own citizens? And what responsibility do we as consumers and the international civil society have? There are no quick and simple answers to these questions. But as the very first steps we join the thousands of people on the streets of Dhaka and demand that the government of Bangladesh strengthen the monitoring of factory owners' adherence to the national labour Act. We demand that the government stop harassing workers' organisations and trade unions. We demand that international companies adhere to ethical standards and as consumers we commit ourselves to find out more about the conditions under which the workers produce what we wear and boycott clothes that are 'not clean'.

This issue looks at the situation of women migrant workers in the informal sector and analyzes barriers to the realisation of their rights. In the two interviews this month our colleagues from Institut Perempuan, Indonesia and Pravashi Nepali Coordination Committee, Nepal talk about problems faced by women in general and women migrant workers in particular. They explain violence faced by women in everyday life and as migrants and how that can be addressed.

The Bangladesh tragedy underscored the need for better protection of labor rights and showed us yet again that rights of all workers, everywhere, regardless of their gender, citizenship and nature of work, must be protected. More often than not the discrimination of migrant workers also reflects people's attitude towards certain kinds of work. For example, a domestic worker regardless of her status as a migrant or a citizen, is looked upon as someone doing 'unskilled work' that does not deserve decent pay. It is an extension of the attitude towards household work. While the citizen theoretically has more bargaining power, it is also true that the demands of some citizens are routinely ignored by policy makers. Let this May Day bring more power to workers all over the world.

Warm Regards,

GAATW International Secretariat

ADVOCACY UPDATE

GAATW's International Advocacy Officer was in New York for the Commission on Population and Development, which was discussing new trends in migration. Though States were able to agree language recognising the human rights of migrants, they were divided on migrants' access to services, even though it is nonsensical to recognise rights without the services that implement those rights. States were unable to agree on the outcome document and the session was finally resolved late on Friday evening with a Chair's text. What was clear was that States are not keen on discussing migration - an issue we will face later in the year with the High-Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development. In spite of this, we had some useful discussions with NGO contacts about plans for the UN High Level Dialogue on Migration and Development in October.

Information about and papers from the CPD are available at <http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/commission/previous-sessions/2013/index.shtml>

Announcement:

Please find below requests for information by the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children:

Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children

Forthcoming country visit to Morocco

The Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children will conduct an official country visit to Morocco between 17 and 21 June 2013. The Special Rapporteur will aim to examine and assess the phenomenon of trafficking in persons, especially women and children, in Morocco by meeting relevant government, legislative and judicial authorities and officials; national institutions, civil society organizations, academics, individuals involved in the combat against trafficking in persons, as well as victims of trafficking and/or their representatives.

With regard to the visit, information relating to recent reports/studies, key challenges, concrete cases must be submitted by **9 May 2013** to srtrafficking@ohchr.org.

Forthcoming country visit to Italy

The Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, is planning to conduct an official visit to Italy in 2013. The tentative date of the visit would be September 2013. The Special Rapporteur will aim to examine and assess the phenomenon of trafficking in persons, especially women and children, in Italy by meeting relevant government, legislative and judicial authorities and officials; national institutions, civil society organizations, academics, individuals involved in the combat against trafficking in persons, as well as victims of trafficking and/or their representatives. Please send the information to srtrafficking@ohchr.org

FEATURED MEMBERS OF THE MONTH

- Institut Perempuan (Indonesia)
- Pravashi Nepali Coordination Committee (Nepal)

INSTITUTE PEREMPUAN

Interview with Valentina (Rotua Valentina Sagala), Founder of Institut Perempuan

Institut Perempuan (IP) or Women's Institute is a feminist NGO in Indonesia focused on women's rights advocacy and women's economic empowerment. IP has participated in the International Members Congress in 2007 and 2010, the Asia Regional Members Consultation in 2009 and along with all other members of Indonesia they were also part of a Dance Movement Therapy (DMT) workshop organized by GAATW-IS in May, 2011.

- **What is IP's focus for this year?**

Currently the Government of Indonesia (Gol) and parliament are discussing the Gender Equality Bill which is planned to be finalized by the end of this year. The Bill is still far from the hope of feminist organizations, as it only regulates more technical "gender mainstreaming" in government institutions, rather than a comprehensive law that guarantees women's rights, equality and justice for women. The Bill on Gender Equality should become an "umbrella" law which comprehensively guarantees women's rights and equality, developed with feminist perspective. I endorse the Gol and parliament to draft and to enact the Bill as Law on Equality and Justice for Women, as a reference regulation on eliminating discrimination and violence against women, and be able to guarantee the protection of women's rights. And at the same time to evaluate all regulations, strategies, programs, policy, and practices in the name of "gender mainstreaming" and "poverty reduction with a gender perspective" to truly ensure women's experiences are reflected and that women could really enjoy the benefit of this development.

Second, as migrant workers and domestic workers are vulnerable to be violated, including being trafficked, I think it is important to demand the Gol to recognize and protect domestic workers and migrant workers through enacting Law on Protection of Migrant Workers and its Families and also the

Law on Protection of Domestic Workers, which in accordance with the principles and provisions of CEDAW, Convention on Protection of All Rights of Migrant Workers and Its Families (1990) and ILO Convention 189 on Decent Work for Domestic Workers, and progressively with the input from feminist activists/organizations.

Third, the rise of fundamentalism, neoliberalism, especially in the context of decentralizations, and the lack of “intermediate” regulations has caused violation on women’s rights at the grass-roots level. I do think that this should be urgently being realized by feminist activists/organizations so they can work more inclusively and develop a more strategic alliance at the national level and international level.

[Read the full interview>](#)

PRAVASHI NEPALI COORDINATION COMMITTEE

Interview with Mahendra Pandey, Founding Chairperson of Pravashi Nepali Coordination Committee (PNCC)

According to the data of Department of Foreign employment, half a million Nepali citizens migrated for work during January - December 2012, most of them heading towards Qatar, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Malaysia. Female migrants, largely in the informal sectors formed a significant part of this labour force. Additionally, a significant number of undocumented migrants are leaving the country through unofficial channels, mostly through India. We spoke to Pravashi Nepali Coordination Committee (PNCC) Nepal that has established itself as one of the organizations representing migrant workers, within and outside Nepal - assisting migrant workers, advocating for their rights and trying to ensure that policies reflect the demands of Nepali migrants.

- **What are the biggest problems faced by Nepalese women migrants?**

Nepalese women migrants, as I have already mentioned, are at risk of exploitation in all forms, especially those working in Arab countries. Furthermore, the social costs of their migration are creating negative impacts in the lives of family members who are left behind. Migration of Nepalese women workers have always created vulnerability to those migrating to GCC countries. They are, as I have mentioned earlier, in notch of all forms of exploitation. Many Nepalese WMWs have returned Nepal with pain of being sexually tortured or raped. To this regard, I strongly condemn government policy of making money out of its female citizens on name of foreign employment. Thus, I ask government to stop women migrating to Gulf and exercise to find better options. Nepal government should work on creating opportunities in home country or search better and safer destinations for female migrant.

- **Can you tell us the situation of migrant workers you witnessed in your recent mission in the middle-east with the GAATW?**

Lebanon has been overlooked by the government of Nepal. Nepalese women migrant workers in Lebanon face series of challenges. The Arabic country confined by its religious boundaries, implicit same social and religious constraints on Nepalese women migrant workers. On our visit, most of the respondents urged not bringing any Nepali women in the country. The situation they have been facing in terms of work and individual life is a misery. Some of the women reported their colleagues not allowed coming out of the walls of their employers' house. They are not paid as per the standard, working hours are unlimited, weekly day offs are fantasies. Many women in Nepal have been trafficked or brought to Lebanon using irregular channels. Trafficking among Nepalese women migrant workers is high. The same condition follows in other Gulf or Arab states as well.

[Read the full interview>](#)

RESOURCES

GAATW PUBLICATION

Beyond Borders: Exploring Links between Trafficking and Labour 2010

This paper discusses the linkages between trafficking and labour. Its aims are to clarify broader labour and migration system complexities, and explore alliances with a wider set of social movement actors, while holding on to the human rights gains that have been made by anti-trafficking groups. Section one defines trafficking and labour concepts. Section two looks at how people put labour and trafficking together in practice, and what effects that can have on workers and those who are trafficked. Section three looks at anti-trafficking organisations and other actors in the labour arena to examine their strengths and shortcomings as regards anti-trafficking work, as well as options for and tensions surrounding possible cooperation. After some concluding remarks, the paper finishes with policy recommendations and advocacy messages for each of the discussed actors.

[Click here to download](#)

REPORTS/PUBLICATIONS ON TRAFFICKING, LABOUR AND MIGRATION

Report for discussion at the Tripartite Meeting of Experts concerning the possible adoption of an ILO instrument to supplement the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No.29) - Geneva, 11–15 February 2013

The conclusions adopted by the International Labour Conference (ILC) at its 101st Session (2012) concerning the recurrent discussion on fundamental principles and rights at work called on the International Labour Office (ILO) to “conduct a detailed analysis, including through the possible convening of meetings of experts to identify gaps in existing coverage of ILO standards with a view to determining whether there is a need for standard setting to: (i) complement the ILO’s forced labour Conventions to address prevention and victim protection, including compensation; and (ii) address human trafficking for labour exploitation”.

At its 316th Session in November 2012, the ILO Governing Body decided to convene a tripartite meeting of experts in February 2013 with the objective of providing recommendations to its 317th Session (March 2013) with respect to a possible standards related item that could be placed on the agenda for the 103rd Session of the ILC in June 2014.

This report presents an overview of law and practice in three areas identified in the 2012 ILC conclusions: prevention of forced labour; victim protection, including compensation; and trafficking for labour exploitation. The report covers examples of existing law and practice in member States from different regions and with different legal systems, traditions and circumstances, and it analyses the measures adopted and the corresponding gaps in the three thematic areas.

Full article:

http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_norm/---normes/documents/meetingdocument/wcms_207312.pdf

***Welcome to Turkey* by Human Rights and Development Foundation, 2012**

Turkey has become a destination country for people who leave their countries due to political and social unrest, poverty, unequal income distribution, gender inequality, etc. in the hope for a better life.

In 2012, Human Rights and Development Foundation (HRDF), a GAATW member, released a report about Human Trafficking in Turkey. The first chapter of the book features the life stories of victims and reflects on the victimization process. The report also introduces the human trafficking phenomenon in the country and highlights the impacts on victims and conditions that facilitate trafficking. HRDF presents issues that could arise during victim identification and support thus shares recommendations for stakeholders.

You can download the full report at http://www.ikgv.org/pdf/Human_Trafficking_in_Turkey.pdf

Comparative Guides to Labor and Employment Laws in North America: Migrant Workers Rights in North America 2010

Published by the Secretariat of Commission of Labor Cooperation, this report presents a descriptive analysis of the laws, procedures and practices needed to understand the relevant legal systems of the three NAALC member countries with respect to the rights of migrant workers who are “documented” as well as “undocumented”. It is not, however, an analysis of trends and administrative strategies related to the implementation and enforcement of such rights; these topics are addressed under article 14(1)(b) rather than 14(1)(a) of the NAALC.

To download, go to <http://www.naalc.org/userfiles/file/CLC-Migrant%20Workers%20-%20English.pdf>

Database of Conditions of Work and Employment Law Working Time - Minimum Wages - Maternity Protection

The TRAVAIL Database of Conditions of Work and Employment Laws provides a picture of the regulatory environment of working time, minimum wages and maternity protection in more than 100 countries around the world. It contains comprehensive legal information, which allows you to conduct customized research on a specific country, to compare the legislation of several countries or regions on a particular subject or to perform searches by text. For selected issues, a historical comparison is possible. Read more: <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/travail/travmain.home>

CALL FOR PARTICIPATION

The English Collective of Prostitutes (ECP) is launching an important petition, ‘**Invest in a caring society - a living wage for mothers and other carers**’ to be held on **1st May 2013, 7-9pm** at the Grand Committee Room, House of Commons in London.

On 1st May we will get together with women and men in different occupations, to demand that the basic survival work of caring for children should be recognised and paid for. This is our best defence against being forced into prostitution by desperate poverty. It is the best protection for our children, whose health and well-being suffer when their mothers are poor.

Whatever our reasons for going into prostitution, the criminalisation we face drives us underground and into danger. As the cuts bite we have to work longer and harder and take more risks.

This petition is a tool to reclaim and rebuild society by demanding that the work of caring for others which is the foundation and lifeblood of every society, be recognised and paid for. This would enable mothers and other carers to make real choices.

OPPORTUNITIES

Women’s Protection and Empowerment (GBV) Program Manager

The International Rescue Committee (IRC). Bentiu, Unity State, South Sudan.

The Women’s Protection and Empowerment (WPE) Manager is responsible for the initiation and implementation of daily project activities and ensuring that the goals and objectives of the program are met. And that the program adheres to international best practice standards and the guiding principles around survivors: ensuring their physical safety, guaranteeing confidentiality, respecting their wishes, rights, and dignity, and practicing non-discrimination.

S/He will provide supervision and direction to the WPE project team, with an emphasis on coaching and mentoring national staff to build their capacity. Bentiu is a new WPE program site and the manager will be responsible for the start-up of the project, including assessment, partnership creation, teambuilding, and beginning activities.

For more details, go to:

<http://ch.tbe.taleo.net/CH02/ats/careers/requisition.jsp?org=IRC&cws=1&rid=9091>

Source:

<http://awid.org/Get-Involved/Jobs-Around-the-World/Women-s-Protection-and-Empowerment-GBV-Program-Manager>

'However good our new laws may be on paper, they must be implemented and enforced before they bring benefits to workers and others. However good the policies of the government are, nothing will come of them without the active participation of each and every one of us.'
Nelson Mandela, May Day Speech in Kimberley, South Africa, 1998

Human Rights at home, abroad and on the way

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 once a month. A Spanish version goes out to the GAATW REDLAC mailing list 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 gaatw@gaatw.org. If you do not want to receive this e-bulletin please send us a message at gaatw@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.

In This Issue

- UPDATE FROM THE SECRETARIAT
- FEATURED MEMBERS OF THE FORTNIGHT - Human Resource Development Foundation (Turkey) and Jainaseni (India)
- RESOURCES

Anti-Trafficking Review, Issue 3

The linked image cannot be displayed. The file may have been moved, renamed, or deleted. Verify that the link points to the correct file and location.

Call for Papers,
Special Issue
Following the Money: Spending on Anti-Trafficking
Deadline: 15
December 2013
www.antitraffickingreview.org

Like us on Facebook 

Dear Members and Friends,

Greetings from GAATW International Secretariat.

Following the garment factory tragedy in Bangladesh, many colleagues had demanded accountability from international garment industries that rely on sub-contractors for their products. Led by Clean Clothes Campaign, an organisation focused on improving the working conditions of garment workers worldwide, renowned brands such as H&M, Tesco, Marks & Spencer, Benetton, Esprit, among others, have signed up the Accord on Fire and Building Safety in Bangladesh. This legally binding Accord places the rights and safety of the factory workers and unions at the centre. Signatories to this Agreement commit to establishing a fire and building safety program in Bangladesh for a period of five years. The Accord also grants workers the right to refuse dangerous work in line with ILO Convention 155.

While urging other governments in the region to take the similar steps we also call on them to encourage workers to organise and give greater autonomy to existing self-organised groups. Collective formation and unionising among workers will address the power imbalance and give the workers their bargaining rights.

Meanwhile, a promising piece of news from Bangladesh: Saudi Arabia has announced new laws which will offer Bangladeshi migrant domestic workers the option to change their employers without having to worry about visa termination. Tying visa status with their employer has been one of the causes for prevalence of abuse and violations faced by migrant workers in the Middle East.

Closer home in Thailand, the government expects an influx of foreign workers after the launch of the Asean Economic Community in 2015. The government is considering a separate Social Security Office for foreign workers. While the proposal has some positive points such as health and disability allowance as well as a lump sum pension, there is no paid maternity leave provision.

For this issue our two featured members are HRDF, Turkey and Jajnaseni Network, India. Even as we send this bulletin out, news of police atrocities against peaceful protesters in Turkey is reaching us. What started out as a protest against demolition of a park, is indeed the voice of a large number of Istanbulites against a government that has equated economic prosperity with numerical increase in GDP while ignoring social injustice, income inequality, precarious employment and labor fatalities. We recognise this as part of a worldwide movement against the current paradigm of development and governance and stand in solidarity with friends in Istanbul.

These are some of the pressing stories that we have been following this month. If you have any reflections or reactions about timely events and policy developments on trafficking, labour and migration, write to us at gaatw@gaatw.org.

Warm Regards,

GAATW International Secretariat

UPDATE FROM THE SECRETARIAT

ADVOCACY UPDATE

Preparatory Events for the UN High Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development

At the end of the month, GAATW-IS joined with some of our members and other civil society and union activists at the Asia-Pacific regional preparatory events for October's UN High Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development (HLD). Starting with a civil society consultation organised by MFA and BWI, we worked hard over two days to agree a set of recommendations that we could take to the regional UN meeting and to the wider civil society day that will take place in New York in July. A smaller team then went to the [regional UN forum \(ESCAP\) for the official intergovernmental preparatory meeting](#). It was good that the States negotiated an outcome document for the meeting - at time of writing, it is still unclear if the HLD in October will have a negotiated outcome, States are divided on the issue. However, States made a number of substantive and procedural challenges in relation to the draft text and the final outcome was disappointingly weak. Issues of women's rights and the right to health met with particular challenge.

However, we take strength from some of the more positive interventions made during the meeting and from the great team of activists we worked with at both the UN and the civil society meetings. We will keep working on this in New York in July and at the HLD in October. Hope to see some of you there!

Click below to read the CSO comment on the outcome of the UN regional prep meeting and the full CSO statement that was delivered on the first day of the meeting, with all the signatories.

- [Civil Society statement by APWLD, ARROW, CARAM-Asia, GAATW, MFA, MMN and Seven Sisters* on the Asia-Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting for the General Assembly High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development 2013](#)
- [CSO Statement: Asia-Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting for the General Assembly High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development 2013, Bangkok, 29-31 May 2013](#)

Statement by the Global Alliance Against Traffic in Women (GAATW) to the High-Level Meeting of the United Nations General Assembly on the Appraisal of the Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons (13-14 May 2013)

Delivered by Avaloy Lanning, of Safe Horizon, a GAATW Member Organisation

We welcome the opportunity to address the *UN General Assembly High-Level Meeting on Trafficking in Persons*.

As we come together to appraise the *Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons*, in the year that will also mark the 10 year anniversary of the *UN Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children* entering into force, we can look back and see numerous, and often competing, initiatives to end human trafficking. We spend hundreds of millions of dollars in the name of ending human trafficking. Governments, UN and other intergovernmental agencies, non-governmental organisations, local activist groups, church groups, as well as celebrities, journalists and major media operations are involved in the efforts to end this human rights violation. But we do not spend enough time or money on one of the important questions - which of these efforts are effective for the people who have been trafficked? [READ ON](#)

The need for a critical approach to ‘demand’ discourses in work to end human trafficking

GAATW Statement in response to the Special Rapporteur on Trafficking’s [reports on demand, supply chains leading to trafficking](#) presented at the 23rd Session of the Human Rights Council.

We thank the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons for her report looking into the integration of a human rights-based approach in measures to discourage the demand that fosters all forms of exploitation of persons and which leads to human trafficking. Based on research for our report, *Moving Beyond ‘Supply and Demand’ Catchphrases: Assessing the uses and limitations of demand-based approaches in anti-trafficking*, we recognise the challenge in discussing ‘demand’, which is still an oft-mentioned but under-theorised concept in anti-trafficking.

It is good to see the growing focus on the demand for exploitative labour practices, particularly in globalised supply chains. This is a complex, multi-faceted issue and demands a sophisticated and

precise analysis in order to effectively counter exploitative labour practices. We welcome the Special Rapporteur illuminating some of these complexities and feel this presents a more promising direction on 'demand' than the traditional debates around ending the demand for sex work that have typically been central to anti-trafficking debates. **READ ON**

There will be a series of official regional preparatory meetings for the High Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development (HLD):

- o Economic Commission for Latin America, Santiago (10-12 July 2013)
- o Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, Cairo (4-5 June 2013)
- o Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok (29-31 May 2013)
- o Economic Commission for Africa, Rabat (tbc)

Access to and participation in these events is likely to be quite limited for civil society organisations:

<http://www.un.org/esa/population/meetings/HLD2013/mainhld2013.html?preparatory>

Details of the civil society regional consultations for Africa, Asia-Pacific, Central America & Mexico, Europe, South America, USA-Canada and West Asia can be found at

<http://hld.gcmigration.org/category/regional/> Do please let us know if you will be attending any of these preparatory meetings. GAATW-IS and some Asian member organisations will be attending the CSO and UN preparatory meetings in Bangkok at the end of May.

More information about the HLD can be found at

<http://www.un.org/esa/population/meetings/HLD2013/mainhld2013.html>

EVENTS

AMaRWA Conference Champions - Survivors of All Forms of Violence

Julie Ham, a GAATW Associate, was one of the International Panelists at the **AMaRWA Conference Champions - Survivors of All Forms of Violence**. The conference by the Australian Migrant and Refugee Women's Alliance (AMaRWA) focused on eliminating violence against culturally and linguistically diverse women. There was much emphasis on how being different makes you vulnerable, and less discussion about how diversity can be a resource in addressing violence against women. Julie gave a presentation on "*Moving from 'vulnerable' people to 'vulnerabilising' contexts: Supporting CaLD sex workers in Vancouver, Canada.*" [INSERT PHOTO WITH the Princess of Tonga]

<http://amarwaconference.org/conference.html>

Deadlines for NGO submissions for the 18th and 19th Sessions of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) are as follows:

18th session of the UPR Working Group (to be held Jan/Feb. 2014)

- 17 June 2013: New Zealand, Afghanistan, Chile, Viet Nam, Uruguay, Yemen, Vanuatu.
- 24 June 2013: The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Comoros, Slovakia, Eritrea, Cyprus, Dominican Republic, Cambodia

19th session of the UPR Working Group (to be held May/June 2014)

- 1 September 2013: Norway, Albania, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Portugal. Bhutan. Dominica. Democratic People's Republic of Korea. Brunei Darussalam. Costa

Rica, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Qatar, Nicaragua.

Stakeholders' submissions should be sent by the deadlines above through the online UPR submissions system: <http://uprdoc.ohchr.org>

FEATURED MEMBERS OF THE MONTH

- Human Resource Development Foundation (Turkey)
- Jajnaseni Network (India)

HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

Due to its geographical position Turkey has long been a transit destination for migration and trafficking. It's economic and political stability and the ongoing unstable situation in some of its bordering countries is increasingly making Turkey an attractive destination both for migration as well as trafficking. We spoke to our member Human Resource Development Foundation which was established in 1988 about the situation of trafficking and their anti-trafficking programme.

One of your focus areas has also been addressing migration. Turkey has emerged as a destination country for migration and trafficking over the years. Can you give us an overview scenario of migration in Turkey?

Given the geographical position at the cross roads of Asia, Europe and Africa, Turkey faces migration flows as both a destination country and transit country.

Since the early 1990s, Turkey is a transit country for irregular migrants from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Iraq, Iran, and Pakistan. Turkey has also long been a country of destination for migrants, who are either economic migrants or refugees/asylum seekers. It has recently emerged as a destination for migrants from Africa, Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

Turkey is a country with a big population of asylum seekers. The country maintains a geographical limitation to its obligations under the 1951 Geneva Convention on the Status of Refugees in which it grants refugee status only to European asylum seekers. Migration issues in Turkey are shaped by its efforts to become a member of the European Union (EU), which are creating pressures for an overhaul of its immigration and asylum policies.

The number of persons of concern registered by UNHCR as of March 21, 2013 is 34,972 and the figures are expected to increase due to social and political developments in the region. Although Turkey is an important destination and transit country for migration and asylum, the infrastructure and legislation for providing support and protection for asylum seekers and refugees in Turkey is very limited. Due to the geographical limitation of Turkey to the international agreements, refugee status is not provided to asylum seekers coming from non-European countries and the applicants for asylum are expected to reside in cities which are called satellite cities. Due to the limited numbers for resettlement, asylum applicants constitute the majority of people in Turkey waiting for long years without reasonable protection and support mechanisms which are defined in the international human rights documents. The legislation for asylum and refugee protection is also rudimentary in Turkey; besides the social and health services the level of enjoyment of basic human rights for asylum seekers and refugees in Turkey is also very limited. On the other hand the health transition process of Turkey resulted in more exclusion of vulnerable groups including foreigners from health services.

[Read the full interview>](#)

JAJNASENI

It's been ten years since the network of six organisations in the state of Odisha in north-East India

came together to address movement of women out of state in various forms. Jajnaseni network was born in 2002 to address trafficking of women in other states of India and to promote safe migration. Bishakha Bhanja and Sneha Mishra shared with us the journey of Jajnaseni and the challenges and accomplishments.

What is the most important contribution of Jajnaseni network to anti-trafficking work at the state and national level?

Bishakha: Jajnaseni from its inception has been promoting for a human rights perspective in addressing trafficking as a human development issue and not a crime control mechanism. We advocated for registration of marriage to tackle trafficking in forms of marriage and lobbied for land for trafficking survivors. The government has agreed, in principle, on a land scheme for groups that are vulnerable to trafficking, as poverty is one of the causes.

Sneha: Jajnaseni's advocacy with the administration and awareness raising activities has definitely brought some changes. But unless and until continuing situation of poverty is not dealt with, the problem will continue. Some of the women that returned were found to have opted for the same situation again as they were at least given food and cloth at end of the day. We have been advocating with the government to identify the vulnerable families and also to support the returnees with land which can be an asset to them.

To address trafficking in forms of marriages, we requested villagers to seek identity proof of prospective grooms. We supported Self Help Groups, provided them with registers and asked the leaders to register the marriage in the village at the time when Compulsory Marriage Registration Act was not enacted. Now there is a Compulsory Marriage Registration Act and definitely a lot of Jajnaseni advocacy has gone into this.

Getting the government to recognise the existence and prevalence of the phenomenon of trafficking in women in various forms was an achievement. Way back in nineties when we spoke out about trafficking of women we were ridiculed by the same government! Now we are lobbying to get the vulnerable groups, including returnee women to get access to land.

[Read the full interview>](#)

RESOURCES

REPORTS/PUBLICATIONS ON TRAFFICKING, LABOUR AND MIGRATION

In the Shadow of the Wall: Family Separation, Immigration Enforcement and Security

A report by the University of Arizona's Department for Latin American Studies looks at the conditions faced by undocumented migrant women in the USA and the highly dangerous border-crossings they undertake in spite of the high risk of becoming victims of violence, including rape, beatings and kidnapping, only to also face a high risk of exploitation in the labour market, once they find employment, enduring routine sexual violence and harassment which they often do not report out of fear of being deported. 'In the Shadow of the Wall': report on the conditions faced by undocumented migrant women.

http://las.arizona.edu/sites/las.arizona.edu/files/UA_Immigration_Report2013web.pdf

Fundamental principles and rights at work: From commitment to action

International Labour Conference, 2012

This Global Report analyses the use of fundamental principles and rights (including elimination of forced labour) in trade agreements, the impact of ILO's standard-related work as well as promotional

activities, the challenge of enforcement and gaps in the realization of fundamental rights at work.

The Report points it out that the trend towards more comprehensive legal coverage of forced labour and trafficking offences continues, with countries amending criminal codes or adopting special anti-trafficking or forced labour laws. The new Directive 2011/36/EU, criminalizing all forms of exploitation and establishing enhanced standards for the protection of victims, is a valid example of this trend.

Victim Translation Assistance Tool - Life support messages for victims of human trafficking (2011)

To aid those helping the victims, UN.GIFT/UNODC, the Austrian Criminal Intelligence Service and the Austrian NGO LEFOE-IBF worked together to create VITA (Victim Translation Assistance).

VITA is a unique new tool using audio messages, that allows law enforcement officials to provide a level of basic assistance to victims of human trafficking. Human trafficking survivors contributed to the development of these messages, which were also supported by experts in human trafficking focused on victims' needs.

This audio tool, consisting of key encounter messages, was developed to facilitate the identification of a trafficked person and the launch of a criminal investigation. Thirty-five basic questions and messages have been recorded and translated into 40 languages, taking into account special questions for children.

Read more about the Vita Tool and download it [here](#).

In search of decent work. Migrant workers' rights: A manual for trade unionists (2010)

The purpose of this manual is to guide the trade union movement's ability to participate in the shaping of migration policies by promoting sound labour migration practices and reaching out to migrant workers. Its aim is to ensure that the benefits of migration are maximized for the countries of origin as well as destination countries, and for both migrant and non-migrant workers.

http://www.ilo.org/global/publications/books/WCMS_120113/lang--en/index.htm

Decent Work for Migrant Workers: Rights and Justice in a Globalised World Order: Crisis, Migration & Precarious Work

By Patrick Taran, Global Migration Policy Associates, 2012

[Excerpt] No country today can form or train the entire range and number of ever-evolving skills and competencies needed to perform the ever more complex, inter-related work that needs to be done on its territory to function in a globalized economic context. The result is demand for specialized skills not available locally. Some of these demands cannot be met locally: skills needs evolve more quickly than training systems, displaced and older workers cannot always be retrained for new technologies and skills sets. Even if disposition exists, the technological basis, the facilities, and available specializations may not be adequate. In some countries, the allocation of resources, the technological basis, and/or the disposition of training policy and institutions is not available.

This context drives today a constantly increasing and now globalized international mobility of skills, competences and labour at all skill levels. Migration -international labour and skills mobility-- has become the key factor to sustaining and renovating essential processes of development: production of goods, services and knowledge, distribution, including notably construction of facilities for and provision of housing, education, healthcare and transportation.

<http://www.mrci.ie/wp-content/uploads/2012/10/Decent-Work-for-Migrant-Workers.-Rights-and-Justice-in-a-Globalized-World-Order.-MRCI-2012.pdf>

Labour Standards and Productivity in Garments Export Sector: A survey of managers and workers (2012)

This report describes labour practices in the Lao garments export sector as seen by both management and labour. It is based on an analysis of primary data collected through a representative survey of firm managers; focus group discussions among current and former garment workers; and, key informant interviews. To date there has been only limited documentation of these issues in Lao PDR and this research seeks to begin filling this gap.

The Lao garments industry is comprised of approximately 100 firms, employing just over 20,000 workers. Annual exports are around US\$ 200 million, most of which go to the European Union. The industry is modest by most international standards, but is the largest formal sector of manufacturing employment in a country which is trying to manage the effects of a natural resources boom on the rest of the economy.

[https://www.jobsknowledge.org/ExperiencesFromTheField/ProjectDocuments/World%20Bank%20\(2012\)%20Lao%20PDR_Labour%20standards%20No70809-LA.pdf](https://www.jobsknowledge.org/ExperiencesFromTheField/ProjectDocuments/World%20Bank%20(2012)%20Lao%20PDR_Labour%20standards%20No70809-LA.pdf)

UPCOMING EVENT

“Stolen Lives, Stolen Money: The Price of Modern-Day Slavery”

The 13th High-level Alliance against Trafficking in Persons organised by the Office of the Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings will take place on 25-26 June 2013 in Vienna, Austria.

The aim of the conference is to highlight a range of financial, social and legal factors which are currently part of the debate on globalization, migration, inequality and trafficking. The conference will focus on key themes including: the nexus between trafficking in human beings and salient aspects of the current debate on globalization, the economic, social and political costs of modern-day slavery and how the approach of global justice can contribute to defining a comprehensive strategy to tackle trafficking in human beings.

The registration form and technical note for the conference are available at the event’s webpage:

<http://www.osce.org/event/alliance13> The conference will be webstreamed live.

OPPORTUNITIES

Call for papers, 5th International Symposium on Terrorism and Transnational Crime, Dec 2013, Turkey

Turkish National Police Academy’s International Center for Terrorism and Transnational Crime (UTSAM) will organize “The 5th International Symposium on Terrorism and Transnational Crime” (UTSAS 2013) on December 6-8 December 2013 in Antalya, Turkey.

The paramount purpose of this Symposium is to establish a platform in which current studies are presented and different views are discussed on the Symposium themes through scientific methods by bringing academicians and professionals together.

Organisers are inviting individual papers on topics related to the symposium themes. Paper abstracts up to 300 words should be submitted to utsas@egm.gov.tr by September 1st, 2013. You can access writing rules from our website at www.utsam.org

http://www.utsam.org/images/upload/attachment/Bildir%C3%87a%C4%9Fr%C4%B1s%C4%B1_2013_EN.pdf

The 11th Orientation Course on Forced Migration Studies to be held in Kolkata, India (8-14 December, 2013)

The Course, certified by the UNHCR and the Calcutta Research Group (CRG), will be preceded by a two and a half month long programme of distance education. It will consist of several workshops, lectures on selected themes and other interactive exercises. The workshops will be based on assignments sent to the selected participants two months prior to the programme for necessary preparation. The curriculum deals with training in methodology and capacity-building of the participants and grapples specifically with the theme of burgeoning, new public spaces but also related broader themes of nationalism, ethnicity, partition, and partition-refugees, national régimes and the international régime of protection, issues relating to regional patterns of forced migration in South Asia, internal displacement, the gendered nature of forced migration and protection framework, resource politics, climate change and environmental degradation, and several other themes related to the forced displacement of people. Selected candidates will have to complete assignments based on the workshop themes before they join the programme in Kolkata, India.

Applications addressed to the Course Coordinator, should be sent by e-mail to forcedmigrationdesk@mcrq.ac.in. All applications must be sent by the June 24, 2013.

'We need to learn from those with experience of our anti-trafficking efforts - people who have been trafficked. Furthermore, we need to consult and collaborate with migrant workers and informal sector workers, particularly sex workers, in identifying measures so that their knowledge and experience can fully inform policies and programmes to prevent abuses, including any unintended consequences of anti-trafficking initiatives.'

Statement by the Global Alliance Against Traffic in Women (GAATW) to the High-Level Meeting of the United Nations General Assembly on the Appraisal of the Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons (13-14 May 2013)

Human Rights at home, abroad and on the way

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 once a month. A Spanish version goes out to the GAATW REDLAC mailing list 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 gaatw@gaatw.org. If you do not want to receive this e-bulletin please send us a message at gaatw@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.

In This Issue

- UPDATE FROM THE SECRETARIAT
- FEATURED MEMBERS OF THE FORTNIGHT - Transient Workers Count Too (Singapore) and FairWork (The Netherlands)
- RESOURCES

Anti-Trafficking Review, Issue 3

The linked image cannot be displayed. The file may have been moved, renamed, or deleted. Verify that the link points to the correct file and location.

Call for Papers,
Special Issue
Following the Money: Spending on Anti-Trafficking
Deadline: 15
December 2013

www.antitraffickingreview.org

Like us on Facebook 

Dear Members and Friends,

Greetings from GAATW International Secretariat.

This month, we followed the protest of the Kamalaris (female bonded labours) in Nepal following the death of a 12-year old Kamalari and the police brutality against the protestors. This once again highlights disconnect between existing laws and its actual implementation. Nepal officially banned all forms of slavery since 2000 but poverty and lack of opportunity continue to make people vulnerable to such exploitations. The protest ended with the government finally being forced to come to an agreement with the protestors. The implementation of the agreement which has a timeline of a month will be watched by many. The 10-point agreement agreed to provide compensation to the victim's family and medical expenses of the injured Kamalaris during the protest, investigate the circumstances of the death of the 12-year old in her employer's house but also address past issues faced by Kamalaris and to declare all Kamalaris free as per the existing law among others.

In one of the rare actions, we watched as the workers in Dubai staged a strike demanding fair pay and working conditions as the government worked with the Company to suppress the strike and prepared to deport the "troublemaking" workers. Reportedly most migrant workers do not have high expectations about their working and living conditions when they leave their country to find job abroad. The only motivation for them is the expectation of better payment that will make the life for those back home slightly better. As such, the

expectation with which they leave for the foreign country is already low. For these workers to strike and demand fair pay and working conditions in the face of threat of facing deportation speaks volumes about their working conditions in Dubai. While this strike exposes the desperate condition of the workers it also shows that migrant workers can find ways to collectively act for their rights.

International domestic workers' day was observed in several countries on 16 June, to recognise the rights of domestic workers for decent work and pay. Colleagues in many countries called for ratification of the ILO Convention 189. In Lebanon, migrant domestic workers came together to demand the safety and security in their work from their own governments, the Lebanese government and the employers.

It was a fitting time for the Secretariat to discuss with some of our members and colleagues from South and South East Asia about the various issues migrant workers face that lead into them being into the situation of trafficking or into forced labour. The workshops discussed linkages between trafficking, migration and forced labour frameworks and the available mechanism for the protection of their rights .

For this issue, we spoke to two of our members, Transient Workers Count Too in Singapore and Fair Work in the Netherlands. We looked into the issues faced by migrant workers in each of these countries, including elements that force them to continue to be in exploitative working conditions.

Warm Regards,

GAATW International Secretariat

UPDATE FROM THE SECRETARIAT

MIGRATION, TRAFFICKING, FORCED LABOUR AND HUMAN RIGHTS: A PARTICIPATORY LEARNING WORKSHOP

From 26-29 June 2013, GAATW-IS held a Participatory Learning Workshop to enhance conceptual clarity on the nexus and specificity of anti-trafficking, forced labour and migrant workers' rights frameworks through a discussion of actual cases from the Asian region. This learning workshop brought together members and like-minded groups, mostly providing direct services, from Bangladesh ([OKUP](#)), Cambodia ([LSCW](#) and [CWCC](#)), India (Jeevika and [NDWM](#)), Indonesia (LRCKJHAM and [SP](#)), Nepal ([PNCC](#) and [WOREC](#)), South Korea ([SOMI](#)), Sri Lanka (MFI) and Thailand ([YMC A-Bangkok](#) and

AWARD). The workshop structure encouraged strong participation from organisations to share their work and learn from different country situations on rights protection during recruitment and upon return, prevention initiatives, assistance to victims and migrant workers, victim participation and reintegration. We also looked at case analysis exercises and included conceptual clarity sessions on the nexus of migration and trafficking, and on forced labour. On the last day, colleagues discussed what constitutes a rights based approach and the hurdles faced while trying to use it in everyday work. At the end of the workshop, participants identified 2 overarching themes that they would like to bring forward: Assistance to migrant workers and trafficked persons in countries of destination and Victim participation in accessing justice. GAATW-IS will prepare a detailed workshop report and YouTube video clippings on the workshop.

UNTYING AID FOR SEX WORKER RIGHTS AND AGAINST TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS

GAATW-IS welcomes the decision at the US Supreme Court on 20 June that the "anti-prostitution loyalty oath" mandated by USAID is unconstitutional. The Court [ruled](#) that the government policy requiring organisations to explicitly oppose prostitution as a condition of receiving funding from the US government's President's Emergency Plan for Aids Relief (PEPFAR) programme for HIV/AIDS programmes overseas violates the First Amendment of the US Constitution. The pledge effectively conflates all sex work with trafficking and severely limits the work that groups can do to assist people who are trafficked into the sex industry - and the many sex workers who are not trafficked, but are too often collateral damage of States' and NGOs' counter-trafficking efforts.

GAATW-IS thanks and congratulates [Open Society for pursuing the case](#) over many years. We were proud to join one of the amicus briefs for the [case](#).

However, this is only a [partial victory](#) and the decision only applies - so far - to US-based organisations. International groups who want to apply for USAID money are still covered by the pledge. The US government needs to extend the Supreme Court decision to all groups applying for USAID funds if it is to enable meaningful efforts [to support sex workers and combat HIV](#) and support efforts worldwide to end trafficking - as it advocates in its [annual Trafficking in Persons report](#), which was launched the day before the Supreme Court's decision. They have the opportunity to do this when PEPFAR comes up for re-authorization this year, let's hope they take it, because the real work - of ending human rights violations against sex workers and promoting human and labour rights to prevent trafficking in the sector - can only be done when we can support the work and protect the rights of sex workers and their organisations.

Relevant article: [USAID v. AOSI: A Victory for Sex Workers and Feminist Allies](#)

GETTING READY FOR THE UN HIGH-LEVEL DIALOGUE ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT (HLD)

In June, GAATW-IS participated in an expert meeting convened by the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights on Migration, Human Rights and Governance. This will form part of their contribution to the HLD in October. In July, we will join the [civil society preparatory meetings](#) in New York. Please let us know if you're going to be there - it would be great to meet up.

FEATURED MEMBERS OF THE MONTH

- Transient Workers Count Too (Singapore)
- Fairwork (The Netherlands)

[TRANSIENT WORKERS COUNT TOO \(TWC2\)](#)

Singapore, a country with population of 5.18millions, 1.27millions is foreigner workers mostly in construction, manufacturing and domestic services. The November strike by Chinese bus drivers last year generated both supportive and xenophobic remarks against migrant workers and highlighted the

less than satisfactory working conditions. It was in 2012, that the compulsory day off for domestic workers was also announced. We spoke to Transient Workers Count too (TWC2), our member in Singapore that is advocating for fair treatment of migrant workers about the situation faced by migrant workers and TWC2's activities in support for them.

Last June you had conducted a briefing to the media on ethics of reporting on trafficking. Have you seen changes in the media report following the workshop?

It is hard to pin down specific changes, though not long after the briefing, I noticed that reports on police raids in red light areas usually seemed to appear without the pictures of the women detained that they routinely used to feature before. This was one issue we had raised, though not the main one. I think that there's been a bit more awareness of the need for a victim-centred approach, though it is still not thoroughly understood. The big problem is still to get over the concentration on 'sex trafficking': to recognise labour trafficking and see trafficking into sexual exploitation as a part of that. The obstacle here is not so much journalists' own attitudes and understanding, but official problems in dealing with an issue that is seen to pose tremendous problems for Singapore's migrant labour model: there are so many abuses of migrant workers in the placement process (deception as to the nature of work, seizure of passports, attempts to control freedom of communication in the case of domestic workers...) that it is hard to draw a definite line between labour migration and labour trafficking. Our approach is to try to bring changes that open up more of a clear distinction between the two, and that is a longer term goal. We did not expect one briefing to resolve it.

What is the trafficking scenario in Singapore? What are the responses to all forms of trafficking including sex trafficking and labour trafficking?

Trafficking into sexual exploitation is fairly readily acknowledged. The public is against it, and so is the government. The pieces need putting into place to tackle it effectively, but I would say that this is gradually being done. There still needs to be a full commitment to a victim-centred approach, which is recognised verbally, but not fully embodied in practice as yet (More training for the police and a dedicated shelter for the women concerned are necessary, we think), but things are moving forward. Labour trafficking is more problematic: if government agencies had to deal with complaints from every migrant worker who had experienced one of the things described as trafficking indicators, nearly all the million migrant workers here could cite at least one of them. So labour trafficking is officially recognised, but it is hard to pin down what the government or its Trafficking in Persons Task Force regards as labour trafficking. There still needs to be a breakthrough on this, but it may come partly through establishing better labour standards, enforceable contracts, documentation trails for pay, opening channels for workers here to change jobs - these kind of measures that are not conceived of in the first place as part of an anti-trafficking programme, but that can establish a legal and social status for 'regular' labour migrants that makes it simpler to identify workers who do not share that status and for whom there may be a strong presumption of trafficking having occurred.

[Read the full interview>](#)

FAIRWORK

FairWork, a GAATW member, works to raise awareness against the modern day slavery and its prevalence in The Netherlands. Sandra Claassen talked to us about the recent focus of their work on trafficking for labour exploitation in addition to trafficking for sexual purpose that the organization has been working on since the last 13-years.

Tell us the how is it different to work on trafficking for labour exploitation as opposed to trafficking for sexual exploitation?

Working on labour exploitation outside prostitution provides new issues, for example a move from the criminal court to labour court. We work with trade unions to understand what they do and how they

work to protect rights of workers. These are new actors and stakeholders for us. It provides a different picture of human rights and probably not as stigmatized as sex trafficking. We know GAATW has always looked at things in a broader picture but Europe has always focused more on trafficking for the purpose of forced prostitution. It is important to state that although our focus is now more on labour exploitation, we would like to see an integrated approach against all forms of trafficking.

Where are the migrants in Netherlands from and in which sectors?

The group of labour migrants is very diverse: they come from the EU member states such as Poland and Hungary, and also from Bulgaria and Romania who can work in the Netherlands as independent workers. For some groups special working permits are provided, such as for Chinese restaurants or massage salons. These work permits are given to the employers, so it makes employees vulnerable to exploitation because of their dependence on their employer. Actually this policy of work permit is under revision. In all these groups we have seen cases of exploitation. There has also been a case of a group of men from the Philippines who were working on ships that transport goods to Europe. There are cases of asylum seekers whose applications were rejected after which they became undocumented in the Netherlands and got into exploitative labour situations. There are Egyptians exploited by Egyptians that have been here for long. There is still a lot we do not know: the problem of trafficking for labour exploitation in the Netherlands is still partly invisible and as FairWork we have not been able to reach out to all groups as we have only a limited number of cultural mediators.

[Read the full interview>](#)

RESOURCES

REPORTS/PUBLICATIONS ON TRAFFICKING, LABOUR AND MIGRATION

TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS AMOUNTING TO TORTURE AND OTHER FORMS OF ILL-TREATMENT, 2013

The OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, Maria Grazia Giammarinaro, on 25 June 2013 launched a ground-breaking [research paper](#) that connects human trafficking and torture and other forms of ill-treatment.

"This research shows the extent to which trafficking in human beings is associated with violence and human suffering, such that we can compare it to and even consider it to be a form of torture," Giammarinaro said during the 13th Alliance against Trafficking in Persons conference in Vienna. "It also suggests new criteria to enhance political will against both trafficking and torture, and new means to provide victims with additional protection such as reparation, which includes not only compensation but also rehabilitation."

DOMESTIC IMPLEMENTATION OF UN HUMAN RIGHTS RECOMMENDATIONS: A GUIDE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS AND ADVOCATES, 2013

The Human Rights Law Centre (Australia) and the International Service for Human Rights have issued this useful publication that guides you through what is often the forgotten or hardest part of working with the UN human rights mechanisms: getting the governments to implement the findings! This takes you through the cycle of engaging with the UN human rights mechanisms, domestic follow-up strategies and monitoring and reporting on implementation, through to the next round of international follow-up strategies.

FROM RIGHTS TO REMEDIES: STRUCTURES AND STRATEGIES FOR IMPLEMENTING INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS DECISIONS BY CHRISTIAN DE VOS, OPEN SOCIETY JUSTICE INITIATIVE, 2013

This report, *From Rights to Remedies*, explores these challenges by examining how international human rights decisions and recommendations are implemented at the national level. It analyzes the

strategies and structures—within the executive branch, legislatures, and domestic courts—that can either promote or thwart implementation. It also looks at the special role that national human rights institutions have to play in the execution process.

By combining analysis with recommendations, model laws, and case studies that span the European, Inter-American, and African systems, as well as the UN treaty bodies, *From Rights to Remedies* offers both a political and legal roadmap to more effective domestic implementation.

THE COUNTRY MIGRATION REPORT: THE PHILIPPINES 2013 (CMR)

The Country Migration Report: The Philippines 2013 (CMR), a comprehensive review of the country's international migration experience since the 1970s, was launched on 27 June 2013 in Makati City. Supported by the International Organization for Migration, the CMR was prepared by the Scalabrini Migration Center, with the cooperation of the Department of Labor and Employment, Commission on Filipinos Overseas and the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration as key partners.

The report is organized into five parts. Part A discusses the context of international migration over time and offers a retrospective summary of the development of the migration phenomenon since the 1970s. Part B presents an overview of migration trends on immigration to the Philippines, emigration from the Philippines and overseas employment. Part C surveys the evidence-based literature on the impact of international migration on the migrants and their welfare, on Filipino families and on the country. Part D focuses on the governance of international migration to and from the Philippines. The final section, Part E, revisits the major findings on migration trends, policy developments and impacts. It then concludes with recommendations for moving forward in the areas of migration governance, mainstreaming migration in development policies and programs, and improving migration statistics, institutional arrangements and technological infrastructure.

THE ROAD NORTH: THE ROLE OF GENDER, POVERTY AND VIOLENCE IN TRAFFICKING FROM MEXICO TO THE US, 2012

By Melissa Ditmore, Anna Maternick and Katherine Zapert

The Road North highlights the experiences of 37 individuals who were trafficked from Mexico to the United States, eventually arriving in the New York City area. Of the 36 women, including 2 transgender women, and 1 man in this report, all but one had experienced some form of sexual harassment or were trafficked into the sex industry. Many were also forced or coerced into other labor or economic activities, including theft. Data was collected from 37 signed affidavits and 6 interviews. The affidavits were written between 2005 and 2011. Interviews were conducted in January and February 2012. 25 affidavits were collected from the Sex Workers Project (SWP) at the Urban Justice Center and 12 were collected from the Anti-Trafficking Program at Safe Horizon, both based in New York City. The interviews were conducted with clients and former clients of SWP whose affidavits were also being used for this report.

EXPERIENCES OF FORCED LABOUR AMONG CHINESE MIGRANT WORKERS, 2011

By Joseph Rowntree Foundation, Carolyn Kagan, Sandy Lo, Lisa Mok, Rebecca Lawthom, Sylvia Sham, Mark Greenwood and Sue Baines

This report reveals the experiences of Chinese migrant workers in the UK. It looks at forced labour and exploitation, the role of family and social relationships, and how far migrants are able to exercise control over their lives.

UPCOMING EVENT

THIRD CONGRESS ON GLOBALISATION, TRAFFICKING AND ACCESS TO JUSTICE: JOINT REGIONAL DIALOGUE TO BE HELD IN BOGOTA FROM 16-18 JULY

The III Latin American Congress on Human Trafficking, under the title “*Globalization, human trafficking and Access to Justice: articulation of regional dialogues*” seeks to encourage the dialogue and interaction between organizations from the civil society, academia, States and international

organizations, among others, in order to (i) continue discussing problems already identified, as well as (ii) explore new approaches that prompt new investigations and dialogues. To achieve these goals, the congress aims at gaining deeper knowledge of human trafficking through a micro and macro analysis related to (i) trends and changes prompted by globalization; (ii) the comprehension of “access to justice” by the victim and the limits of existing legal responses; and (iii) the role of media -both social and technical- in the prevention and fight against this grave violation of human rights in Latin America, especially towards women and children.

These three themes -“Globalization and Human Trafficking”, “Rights and Justice” and “Media, Observatories and New Technologies”- will be the beacons of each day of the congress, each with a panel proposal that, for each theme, responds to the analysis in these three aspects: (i) **Context: facilitating factors of human trafficking**; (ii) **Actors and roles: construction and deconstruction of human trafficking**; and (iii) **Dynamics: changes and continuities in the interaction processes of human trafficking**.

To find out more, visit their website at <http://congresotrata2013.uniandes.edu.co/index.php/englishversion>

Bandana Pattanaik from the GAATW-IS will be joining some of the GAATW-REDLAC members at the Congress. More details in the next issue of the e-bulletin.

OPPORTUNITIES

CALL FOR COMMUNICATIONS: ALLEGATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS AFFECTING THE STATUS OF WOMEN

Individuals, non-governmental organizations, groups and networks are invited [to submit written communications](#) -including, but not limited to, complaints, appeals and petitions-to the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) with information on alleged injustices and human rights violations against women in any country. Examples of claims include arbitrary arrests of women, domestic violence, unfair employment practices and discrimination against women under immigration and nationality laws. The deadline to submit such communications is 1 August 2013.

CALLING GENDER EXPERTS: UN WOMEN ANNOUNCES NEW ROSTER OF GENDER EXPERTS AND TRAINERS

UN Women are setting up an [online database of experts](#) who are available to work for them, as a global pool of gender experts. The registration is open to specialists in the areas of gender equality, economic empowerment, political participation, peace and security, and HIV/AIDS. The database is expected to expand to provide more opportunities to register in other subject areas.

MIGRANTS’ RIGHTS NETWORK (MRN) is recruiting for a new London Project Manager. The person will be a key player within the MRN team. This is a full time post with responsibility for managing MRN projects and advocacy work with migrant support organisations in London.

You can find all the details about the post and how to apply in the attached job description. The closing date for applications is Monday 22 July (9am), with interviews scheduled for 25 July. [Click here](#) for more information.

‘Systems should be improved, Rights should be ensured!’

Statement by Nadia Afrin of Migrant Workers Development Program (OKUP), Bangladesh at the Migration, Trafficking, Forced Labour and Human Rights: A Participatory Learning Workshop in Thailand (26-29 June 2013)

Human Rights at home, abroad and on the way

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 once a month. A Spanish version goes out to the GAATW REDLAC mailing list 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 gaatw@gaatw.org. If you do not want to receive this e-bulletin please send us a message at gaatw@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.

In This Issue

- UPDATES FROM THE SECRETARIAT
- FEATURED MEMBERS OF THE FORTNIGHT - Supporting Women's Alternatives Network SWAN (Canada) and Proyecto Esperanza (Spain)
- RESOURCES

Anti-Trafficking Review, Issue 3

The linked image cannot be displayed. The file may have been moved, renamed, or deleted. Verify that the link points to the correct file and location.

Call for Papers,
Special Issue
Following the Money: Spending on Anti-Trafficking
Deadline: 15
December 2013

www.antitraffickingreview.org

Like us on Facebook 

Dear Members and Friends,

Greetings from GAATW International Secretariat.

Allow us to begin with a piece of good news; Shakti Samuha an organisation founded and run by survivors of human trafficking and a GAATW member since its inception, is one of the recipients of the Magsaysay award for 2014. The award, considered by many as the Asian Nobel Prize, recognises and honours individuals and organizations in Asia regardless of race, creed, sex, or nationality, who have achieved distinction in their respective fields and have helped others generously without anticipating public recognition. The awards have traditionally been given in five categories: government service; public service; community leadership; journalism, literature, and creative communication arts; and peace and international understanding. In honouring the collective, the Magsaysay Committee has honoured all trafficked women in the world and recognised their ability to stand up for themselves.

Our congratulations to those colleagues in Nepal who believed that women can not only rise above victimhood and become survivors but also become leaders and inspire others. It was that belief which founded the collective. We also congratulate those who kept faith in the power of collectives, supported Shakti Samuha in its infancy and helped it grow. We salute the sisters who are giving their best to Shakti Samuha and helping many others like them to regain their self esteem. We are sure that the collective will grow and continue to inspire women in Nepal and elsewhere.

In other news from Asia, we note the passing of a piece of

legislation in Bangladesh which if implemented, will go a long way in protecting the rights of workers in the garment sector. An important feature of this legislation is the worker's right to unionize without having to take prior permission from their employers. The law also requires that all structural changes in the factory buildings to be approved by the government.

The council of ministers in Saudi Arabia passed a law that aims to protect the rights of migrant domestic workers in the country. The law specifies the working hours, nine hours of free time daily and weekly day offs, paid vacation, timely payment of salary and penalties for both parties if the contract is violated. The law stipulates that workers would have no rights to reject the task asked by employers, they should obey employers, respect Islam teachings and "carry out the duties perfectly". The legislation appears like a double edged sword and time will tell its impacts on the lives of domestic workers.

This month we had the opportunity to meet up with some of our Latin American members Bogota, Colombia. More details are in the secretariat's update section. Our featured members for this month are SWAN from Vancouver who talked to us about their work for sex workers rights, and Proyecto Esperanza that shared with us the issues of trafficked women in Spain.

If there are any comments, information and contributions on relevant policy developments, please write to us at gaatw@gaatw.org.

Warm Regards,

GAATW International Secretariat

UPDATES FROM THE SECRETARIAT

EVENTS

THIRD LATIN AMERICAN CONGRESS ON GLOBALISATION, TRAFFICKING AND ACCESS TO JUSTICE (16-18 JULY 2013) AND GAATW MEMBERS' MEETING (19 JULY 2013)

Bandana Pattanaik of GAATW International Secretariat (GAATW-IS) was present at the III Latin American Congress on Human Trafficking entitled "Globalization, Human Trafficking and Access to Justice" which was held in Bogota, Colombia. The event was a gathering of individuals from civil society, academia, states and international organisations with the aim to have a deeper knowledge of the issue of human trafficking. Nine GAATW members were present at the Congress. Three members from Colombia (Sintrasedon, Espacio de Mujeres and Fundacion Renacer), Cecasem (Bolivia), Ibiss (Brazil), CHS (Peru) and Brigada Callejera (Mexico). And two GAATW members from Europe - Border

Woman - Sant Cugat Group (Spain) and Fairwork (Netherlands) were also there.

Bandana was invited to be one of the plenary speakers on Networking on the last day of the Congress. She spoke about how the work to actually implement a broad definition of trafficking is just starting and how there is a lot that we still do not understand. She advocated for the need to look at labour and migration regimes that are impacting on the human rights of people. She also spoke about the role of networks as spaces for discussion and debate as well as for practical case handling. She emphasized the need to understand things from the perspective of those who are migrating, those who have done well, those who have been abused and those who have been trafficked.

On 19th July, a GAATW members' meeting was held at the office of Fundacion Renacer to gather inputs and discuss about plans/activities of members who were present. It was also an opportunity for GAATW-IS to discuss and share the current programs of GAATW.

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON GENDER VIOLENCE: INTERSECTIONALITIES (10-12 JULY 2013)

GAATW Associate Julie Ham presented "**Justifying gender violence: Demand-based approaches in anti-trafficking**" at the [International Congress on Gender Violence: Intersectionalities](#) at the International Institute for the Sociology of Law in Oñati, Spain. She argued that intersectionality theory presented a valuable tool in revealing the limitations and risks that 'end demand for prostitution' approaches pose for anti-trafficking efforts. She also discussed how 'end demand for prostitution' approaches often increase the risk of violence against sex workers. Her presentation drew on GAATW's [BEYOND BORDERS: Exploring Trafficking's Links to Gender, Migration, Labour, Globalisation and Security, GAATW Working Paper Series 2010](#) and [Moving Beyond 'Supply and Demand' Catchphrases: Assessing the uses and limitations of demand-based approaches in Anti-Trafficking](#).

Click [here](#) to find more details about the conference.

NEW YOUTUBE VIDEO

Communication Workshop with Returnee Migrant Women in Bangladesh

On 21-13 May, 2012, GAATW International Secretariat in partnership with its member BOMSA held a communications workshop in Dhaka for women migrant workers who had returned home after working as domestic workers in various Middle Eastern countries. The workshop was held in response to one of the needs identified by the women during a series of group and one-on-one interactions between them and the GAATW team. Natasha Ahmad who was the country coordinator of the pilot project in Bangladesh and Shuktara Lal, a theater activist worked with the women during the workshop. Twenty-two women participated in the workshop in which theatre and performance was used for increasing confidence, participants' comfort levels with their bodies and communication skills. Most of the women had very traumatic migration and workplace experiences. Upon return most of them had not got any opportunity for sharing their experiences with anyone. The workshop gave them a forum to meet other migrant workers like themselves who had experienced similar difficulties to what they had experienced while working abroad. They were able to learn about the problems others had faced in similar circumstances.

This short video is a collage of the workshop, some interviews taken during it and some clips from the performance day. Click [here](#) to watch the video.

ADVOCACY UPDATE

Kate Sheill, the GAATW-IS Advocacy Officer was in New York in July to attend the *Informal Interactive Hearings on International Migration and Development*, an important step in the preparations for the *UN High-Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development* (HLD), which will take place on 3 and 4 October 2013.

The *Informal Interactive Hearings* were a one-day event organised by the President of the General Assembly at UN Head Quarters with representatives of NGOs, civil society and the private sector. The purpose of the hearings was to provide inputs for the HLD. The report of the hearings will be one of the background papers to the HLD in October. We estimate that approximately 300 civil society groups and 80 States attended the session. In preparation for the hearings, there were two days of preparatory meetings for civil society which were attended by approximately 200 civil society participants over the two days. There was a high degree of consensus in the messages from civil society to States for the HLD - a clear demand that the international human rights framework needs to be the primary framework for the intergovernmental governance of migration.

GAATW-IS submitted a [written statement](#) outlining some of our concerns and delivered an intervention from the floor on the international governance of migration.* All the written statements for the *Informal Interactive Hearings* are available [here](#).

Now we focus on preparations for the HLD itself. This is a two-day meeting at the UN in New York (more information available [here](#)). As New York will be hosting such a dynamic gathering of migrants' rights activists at this time, there will be a number of other events during the week of the HLD (30 September to 4 October), including a *People's Global Action* (PGA) on Migration and Development. We will share more details on that as soon as they are sent out, and more information for civil society about the HLD can be found [here](#). Do please get in touch if you are going to be in New York for these events so that we can plan joint events or meet up while we are there.

GAATW written statement for the Informal Interactive Hearings on International Migration and Development, UN New York

Human trafficking occurs in the context of labour migration. The majority of trafficked persons are migrant workers in the informal, unorganised and unprotected sectors.

The risk of exploitation or violence neither deters migrants nor should be used to prevent migration. Instead, States need to learn from migrants' experiences to improve provisions for safe migration that benefits the migrant worker, their families and communities, and the State, as remittances contribute to the GDP of countries of origin. As the UN Secretary-General has stated, for women migrants "[i]nternational migration can be an empowering experience for women: women may leave situations where they have limited options for ones where they exercise greater autonomy over their own lives, thereby benefiting themselves as well as their families and communities."

Instead, we often see States wrongly criminalising or otherwise clamping down on irregular migration, often in the name of preventing trafficking in persons. This is often at odds with a demand within their country for migrant labour that will, when combined with a lack of regular migration opportunities, push migrant workers into taking more dangerous routes, paying disproportionately high fees that may leave them in a situation of debt bondage, entering into work sites without good training, and will often leave them with nowhere to turn to if they face exploitation and abuse. *Read on...*

Statement on international governance delivered at the Informal Interactive Hearings on International Migration and Development

Action theme 4: Migration governance and partnerships

Intervention delivered by Kate Sheill, International Advocacy Officer, Global Alliance Against Traffic in Women, 15 July 2013

The international human rights framework needs to be the primary framework for the intergovernmental governance of migration. There is still resistance to and lack of knowledge that migrants, including irregular migrants, have (with just two exceptions) the same rights as citizens. It is through the human rights framework that we can address violations of migrants' rights and ensure access to justice.

Human rights-based labour standards, improved working conditions, and allowing workers to organise across all sectors, irrespective of their migrant status, will reduce opportunities for the exploitation of labour, including migrant labour. But these labour laws and protections must apply to *all* forms of work, including those often not covered, such as in the informal sector and sectors dominated by women workers.

Migration is a key factor in the development of countries of origin and destination - and development needs to be rights-based. The UN High Level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda (HLP) clearly places poverty eradication and development within the context of human rights.

Human rights are the common thread between all of the international cooperation frameworks we work with in our work on migration - including refugees, labour standards, trafficking in persons, women's rights, and child rights. *Read on...*

FEATURED MEMBERS OF THE MONTH

- Supporting Women's Alternatives Network-SWAN (Canada)
- Proyecto Esperanza (Spain)

SUPPORTING WOMEN'S ALTERNATIVES NETWORK (SWAN)

Although selling of sex is legal in Canada, virtually every relate activity is criminalized making it unsafe and jeopardizing health and safety of sex workers, not to mention the violation of their human rights. SWAN Vancouver Society has been working to provide culturally appropriate and language-specific support, education, research, advocacy, and outreach for immigrant, migrant, newcomer and trafficked indoor sex workers. Alison Clancey explained SWAN's works and experiences.

You have taken up the Coordinator's position since August last year but have been involved with SWAN for a long period. Can you tell us about the work of SWAN and how it has evolved over the year(s)?

In 2002, we began providing outreach to women working in massage parlors as part of a pilot project in a non-profit HIV/AIDS service organization that researched sex workers' access to healthcare and vulnerability to HIV/AIDS. During the project, we recognized that the issues the women were dealing with were much broader than HIV and sexual health. The concerns that were most important were immigration, criminal matters relating to prostitution laws and exiting sex work. At the end of the project, we recognized how important it was to continue outreach and SWAN was established.

Our outreach program over the years has provided newcomer, migrant, immigrant and trafficked women engaged in indoor sex work with safer sex supplies; information and referrals to health, social, employment and legal services; and individual and systemic advocacy. We publish SWANzine (SWAN's newsletter) three times a year to answer questions that arise during outreach, provide community information and resources and update changes to laws and policies that affect indoor sex work.

A key part of SWAN's work is bringing forward the opinions of racialized women who engage in indoor sex work into public policy. In the past year, SWAN has been involved in policy change at the municipal level by expanding understandings of sex work, and in doing so the dialogue has become more inclusive of the complexity and diversity of the women we support. To provide context to the

reforms to sex work policy and approaches currently being undertaken, the 1990s and early 2000s saw the serial murder of a number of street-based survival sex workers in Vancouver. Realizing this tragedy can never occur in our city again, a number of stakeholders including sex workers, sex work support organizations, provincial and municipal governments, law enforcement and community organizations among others have come together to develop and implement strategies that will make Vancouver a safer and healthier city for sex workers. While Canada's prostitution laws are legislated at the federal level (currently these laws are being challenged at Canada's highest court for being unconstitutional), there are a number of policy changes that can be made at the municipal level to provide safer work spaces and increased access to community information, resources and supports. SWAN is pleased to be part of this progressive change in the City of Vancouver. [Read the full interview>](#)

PROYECTO ESPERANZA

A recent research suggested that Spain is the second highest country to have the largest number of victims of human trafficking in Europe. The relative affluence of Spain in comparison to its neighbouring countries makes it an attractive destination for migrants, and a flourishing base for human trafficking. Proyecto Esperanza in Spain discusses its effort to provide assistance to victims of trafficking and their advocacy effort to strengthen the anti-trafficking mechanism that ensures protection of rights of the victims in Spain.

As a destination country for migrant workers from Latin America, Eastern Europe and African countries, how do you see the role of recruitment agencies in Spain? Have you handled cases of 'debt bondage'? If so, what actions were taken to help the victims?

Recruitment agencies do not have a big role in trafficking or migrating into Spain. Women usually rely on more informal channels to come to Spain.

There are many cases of debt bondage in Spain. You can see trafficking victims that can freely move around, they are not confined to any place, and there are no visible signs of control over them. However, they are controlled and enslaved by the large debt, such as 45,000€, that they are forced to pay back to their traffickers often times through their prostitution or other services. In many cases, trafficking victims normalize these debts, seeing them as the price to pay to migrate to Spain, the price to their freedom. They think they can pay it off and then they will be free. However, with debt bondage, these debts often fail to decrease - they keep mounting up or after a victim has paid the full amount, the traffickers increase the amount owed. This critical point, when women realise that the debt can never be paid off, drives them to escape as they no longer see the end of their exploitation.

We work with women to explain and inform them that these "debts" which puts them in a situation of debt bondage is crime and considered not only human trafficking but also slavery according to the United Nations Convention on the Abolition of Slavery. However, they must make the decision to stop paying the debt when they are ready. It must be on their time, not on ours. Usually for the women, it is fear for the safety of their family back home that impedes them from taking action and drives them to continue paying the traffickers. Members of the trafficking criminal network often live near the victim's family or know where the family lives. They threaten harm on the family. We do not pressure them to press charges or stop paying the traffickers until they are ready. Whatever their decision, we respect it.

The legal framework protecting trafficking survivors is still complicated and difficult for survivors to access, so we serve to bridge the gap that exists between trafficking survivors and the law. We help them access their right to apply for residency and work permits, compensation, recover passports confiscated by the criminal networks, collaborate with law enforcement authorities, obtain witness protection mechanisms, etc. [Read the full interview>](#)

REPORTS/PUBLICATIONS ON TRAFFICKING, LABOUR AND MIGRATION

PRECARIOUS LIVES: Experiences of forced labour among refugees and asylum seekers in England, University of Leeds 2013

This research uncovered evidence that refugees and asylum seekers are susceptible to forced labour in the UK. The findings are based on a two-year study by academics at the Universities of Leeds and Salford, funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC). The research explored experiences of forced labour among 30 people who had made claims for asylum in England, supplemented by interviews with 23 practitioners and policy-makers.

This report presents new findings on forced labour and migration in the UK. The Precarious Lives research demonstrates for the first time that refugees and asylum seekers are a group of migrants susceptible to exploitation in various forms of severely exploitative, and, in some cases, forced labour in England. The report focuses on the experiences of refugees and asylum seekers in forced labour and considers the reasons they are engaged in it.

Caught at Sea - Forced Labour and Trafficking in Fisheries, ILO, 2013

Recent in-depth studies have described and analysed severe cases of forced labour and human trafficking in the fisheries sector. Whereas the fisheries sector counts among the most important economic sectors providing food security and employment worldwide, these studies reveal that, on board fishing vessels, fishers - many of them migrant workers - are subjected to extreme forms of human rights abuses, including forced labour and human trafficking. This report examines recent literature on forced labour and human trafficking in the fisheries sector, with the focus on fishing vessels engaged in commercial marine fisheries. The report considers institutional and legal frameworks as well as multi-stakeholder initiatives that have the potential to impact fishers' safety and working conditions.

Trafficking in Human Beings for the Purpose of Organ Removal in the OSCE Region: Analysis and Findings, OSCE, 2013

The paper is based on reports of cases in the OSCE region where formal criminal investigations have taken place, or which have been fully prosecuted. This makes the paper the first based on a qualitative analysis of actual cases. The findings confirm that many countries in the OSCE region are affected by this form of trafficking.

The paper also calls attention to the link between trafficking for organ removal and organized crime, the role that corruption plays in facilitating organ removal, and the transplantation networks, which often include administrators and medical professionals.

It also suggests a series of steps to prevent this transnational crime, which is headed by international brokers connected with transplant surgeons and local organ recruiters. Among others, the paper recommends to review national legislative frameworks to ensure they are adequate to punish all those who are part of the criminal networks; expanding international co-operation to pursue criminals across borders; working with the medical community to prevent unethical behaviour; and co-operating with civil society to better address the physical, psychological and legal needs of victims. To download the report, go to: <http://www.osce.org/cthb/103393>

International Migration, Health and Human Rights, IOM, 2013

In this publication, the World Health Organization (WHO), the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) explore the multifaceted health and human rights challenges that migrants face and report on recent developments in this area. The aim of this publication is to provide all stakeholders with a reference on key health and human rights issues in the context of international migration. It is meant to provide

inspiration to policymakers to devise migration policies and programmes that are guided by public health considerations and human rights imperatives, with a view to protecting the human rights and improving the health of both migrants and the communities in which they live.

Training Manual for Women’s Empowerment, Medica Mondiale, 2013

This manual was developed and tested with training groups in the framework of medica mondiale Liberia’s engagement in a two-year process of conceptualizing the content, testing it in the field, getting feedback from participants, and adjusting it accordingly.

This manual deals with the empowerment of women and girls and was conceived for the specific context of South East Liberia.

The training process is meant to train community volunteers / community activists (on its basic level) and counselors, reproductive health counselors, community advocates / paralegals and peace trainers. The fourth module is only for trained helpers who are at a more qualified level. Some modules are also suitable for non-helping staff, including management, administration and finances, logisticians, etc., namely awareness on gender and gender-based violence (module 2), and parts of the modules on self-reflection and self-care (module 1) and on ethics (module 6).

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

19th session of the Universal Periodic Review Working Group

Submissions on Albania, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominica, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Nicaragua, Norway, Portugal, and Qatar should be sent through the [on-line UPR submissions system](#) by 16 September 2013.

OPPORTUNITIES

[Association for Human Rights and Women’s Rights in Development \(AWARD\)](#), formerly WORD, is a non-government organisation based in Bangkok, Thailand and a member of GAATW. AWARD promotes the establishment of grassroots women’s groups and ensures that women have understanding and knowledge of the socio-economic and political challenges.

AWARD is looking for an intern who will support the group’s anti-trafficking project in Thailand. This role would involve helping local staff in project implementation, documentation and reporting.

For more information, please send your CV and letter to andaman2@hotmail.com.

“Participation is a fundamental principle of human rights and must be central to the rights-based approach to migration. Civil society must be able to access and participate in the intergovernmental spaces of migration governance - and it has been good to hear affirmation of that from several States today. However, too often migrants are absent from the discussion on their rights. We need to do more to achieve the genuine participation of migrants, regardless of status, in migration policy development and implementation.”

Kate Sheill, GAATW
Statement on international governance delivered at the
Informal Interactive Hearings on International Migration and Development
New York, 15 July 2013

[Human Rights at home, abroad and on the way](#)

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 once a month. A Spanish version goes out to the GAATW REDLAC mailing list 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 gaatw@gaatw.org. If you do not want to receive this e-bulletin please send us a message at gaatw@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

ISSUE 7/2013

In This Issue

[UPDATE FROM THE SECRETARIAT](#)

[FEATURED MEMBERS OF THE FORTNIGHT - NATIONAL DOMESTIC WORKERS MOVEMENT \(India\) and BAN YING \(Germany\)](#)

[RESOURCES](#)

Anti-Trafficking Review, Issue 3

Call for Papers, Special Issue
Following the Money: Spending on Anti-Trafficking

Deadline: 15 December 2013

www.antitraffickingreview.org

[Subscribe Now](#)

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

[Like us on Facebook](#) 

The linked image cannot be displayed. The file may have been moved, renamed, or deleted. Verify that the link points to the correct file and location.

Dear Members and Friends,

Greetings from GAATW International Secretariat.

August has witnessed a number of anti-migrant campaigns which is worrying. The UK government's fear campaign in the name of addressing the issue of irregular migration grabbed international headlines this month. It is a relief to note that the campaign has lost legal ground and has been grounded.

As if following suit, the Malaysian government also announced its plans to crackdown on undocumented migrants in Malaysia in the name of addressing criminal activities in the country. This move of unfair persecution was denounced by rights groups.

An extensive literature review on working conditions of migrant domestic workers coming from developing countries to Middle East, South East Asia and other regions establishes that domestic workers experience abuse, illness, and mental health problems despite their significant contribution to the economy of both sending and receiving countries. The research suggests that the problem is widespread and serious.

While every country has the right to formulate policies and procedures for its security, no one can violate human rights in that process. Right to a life that is free from fear, fair working conditions, dignity are some of the rights stipulated in the UDHR and other core international human rights laws. It is the responsibility of every state to ensure that everyone within their territory, regardless of their legal status, enjoys

those rights.

This month we talked to two of our members in Germany and India who are working to protect rights of domestic workers, including migrant domestic workers. Ban Ying in Germany shared with us their experiences of reaching out to migrant domestic workers employed by diplomats and National Domestic Workers Movement in India shared their experience in organising and mobilising domestic workers.

If there are any comments, information and contributions on relevant policy developments, please write to us at gaatw@gaatw.org.

Warm Regards,

GAATW International Secretariat

UPDATE FROM THE SECRETARIAT

EVENTS

Launch and Panel Discussion on the Working Paper on Au Pair: Challenges to Safe Migration and Decent Work (06 August 2013, Manila)



GAATW-IS in cooperation with [IDEALS](#), held a half day event to launch a working paper entitled '[Au Pair: Challenges to Safe Migration and Decent Work](#).' Representatives from government agencies ([CFO](#), [POEA](#), [IACAT](#)), the Embassy of the Netherlands, the Danish Consular Office, IOM and Migrante were present and shared their work on au pair migration. Alfie Gordo from the GAATW-IS shared the [findings and recommendations](#) from the report. She highlighted the risks and vulnerabilities in au pair migration and mentioned the need to address exploitation by creating a mechanism that

will monitor and evaluate protection measures for migrants. Ivy D. Miravalles, representative of the Commission on Filipino Overseas (CFO), the government body responsible for the overall management of Au Pair program in the Philippines, shared the current status and developments in facilitating the Au Pair program. Ms Miravalles strongly supported the data and recommendations in the GAATW report and mentioned that the CFO has recently formed a Technical Working Group to discuss the specifics of the proposed reintegration program for Au Pairs.

The discussion also raised other key issues such as illegal recruitment, prevalence of pregnancy and abortion, absence of comprehensive return and reintegration programs, lack of literature review and case studies on au pair migration, and the need to look carefully into the current situation of au pairs and take rights protective measures.

NEW YOUTUBE VIDEO

The linked image cannot be displayed. The file may have been moved, renamed, or deleted. Verify that the link points to the correct file and location.

Migrant Domestic Workers - Standing Together

In early 2013 a team of GAATW member organisations and friends visited two countries of destination, Lebanon and Qatar. This video shares women's perceptions of their lived migratory experience in Lebanon. During the visit the team identified a number of possible research and policy directions for GAATW to take in future work both independently and in collaboration with members and allies. These streams seek to address the intersecting themes affecting migrant workers and provide greater information on actors or issues which are central to women's disempowerment in migration. We are grateful to Euan Robinson for his

pro-bono work on the video.

This short 5 minutes film can be downloaded [here](#).

ADVOCACY UPDATE

The ILO Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189) enters into force on Thursday 5 September!

https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:12100:0::NO::P12100_INSTRUMENT_ID:2551460

Peoples' Global Action on Migration, Development and Human Rights

To coincide with the two-day UN High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development in October, there will be a week-long **Peoples' Global Action on Migration, Development and Human Rights (PGA)**, a series of events taking place in New York City from Monday 30 September to 4 October. Activities will include a labour and community march and rally across the Brooklyn Bridge, major plenaries by international grassroots leaders and notable dignitaries, self-organized workshops, government lobbying visits, art displays, cultural events and numerous other activities.

To **register** and **submit workshop proposals** for the PGA conference, visit: www.PGA2013.org

***The deadline for workshop proposals is Wednesday 4 September 2013 ***

We regret that no funding is available from the PGA organisers or from GAATW-IS to cover travel and expenses at the PGA.

High Level Meeting on Migration and Human Rights

The UN Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights is hosting a half-day high-level meeting on **Migration and human rights: towards the 2013 High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development** on Wednesday 4 September 2013 from 10:00 - 13:00 (Central European Summer Time). The meeting seeks to promote a focus on the human rights of migrants towards the upcoming United Nations General Assembly's High-Level Dialogue (HLD) on International Migration and Development (New York, 3-4 October 2013). The meeting will be live-streamed, live-tweeted (#Rights4Migrants) and [on Facebook](#) and [Google +](#) . More information can be found [here](#). OHCHR will also be hosting a number of events at the HLD details of which can be found on

<http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Migration/HLD/AgendaSeptember2013.pdf>

Key Policy Recommendations regarding Women and Global Migration

GAATW worked with the [Women and Global Migration Working Group](#) to develop the *Key Policy Recommendations regarding Women and Global Migration*. This is a global advocacy document for

the UN High Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development (HLD), and beyond. It is available in [English](#), [French](#) and [Spanish](#). We welcome any comments on this.

Even if you are not participating in the HLD or PGA in New York, you can be part of the activism for migrant rights. You may want to ask your government:

- Will you commit to a five-year plan of action on global migration policy, including the engagement of civil society, with an HLD in 2018 to assess progress? Will you name this specifically in the speech to the UN HLD?
- Will you commit to shaping domestic and global migration policy with particular concern for the human rights of women and girls affected by migration?
- Will you intensify efforts for the ratification of the UN Convention on the Rights of Migrant Workers & their families and ILO Convention 189 on Domestic Workers?
- Will you affirm the critical importance of migration in the post-2015 development agenda, including examination of policies that make migration a necessity?

UN Working Groups on Trafficking in Persons and on the Smuggling of Migrants

The fifth session of the **UN Working Group on Trafficking in Persons** will be meeting from 6 to 8 November 2013 at the UN in Vienna, Austria. This meeting is not open to NGOs but the papers are available [online](#).

There's a new background paper in the series of analyses of key concepts of the Trafficking Protocol, this one with a focus on consent. They're also looking (again) at 'demand' - good practices and tools for reducing the demand for trafficking in persons, including by fostering public-private partnerships. There is a look at forms of exploitation that have arisen since the Trafficking Protocol was adopted in 2000 (and entered into force nearly 10 years ago, in December 2003).

The second session **UN Working Group on the Smuggling of Migrants** will also meet in Vienna in November (11 to 13 November 2013). Papers - on good practices in special investigative techniques; good practices in the establishment of multi-agency centres, and on good practices in informal cross-border cooperation and information-sharing - will be available at <http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/treaties/CTOC/working-group-on-migrants-2013.html>

24th Session of the UN Human Rights Council

The next session (24th) of the **UN Human Rights Council** will take place in Geneva, Switzerland, from 9 to 27 September. This session will see the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery present her final reports as her term is ending at this session. The mandate is up for renewal and there will be a new mandate holder appointed - the call for applications will likely go out in September.

The Special Rapporteur's [thematic report](#) this year is on challenges and lessons in combating contemporary forms of slavery - including domestic servitude and forced labour and she makes the link with migrant workers (para.18).

19th Session of the Committee on Migrant Workers

The 19th session of the Committee on Migrant Workers will take place in Geneva from 9 to 13 September (looking at four countries, at different stages of the review process: Burkina Faso, Morocco, Uruguay, Kyrgyzstan). Information available [here](#).

EATED MEMBERS OF THE FORTNIGHT

- NATIONAL DOMESTIC WORKERS MOVEMENT (India)

- BAN-YING (Germany)

National Domestic Workers Movement (NDWM)

A rough estimate suggested that there are currently 6.4 million domestic workers in India, 71 percent of which is women making it the largest sector for female occupations in urban areas. However, although there has been some gain in getting domestic workers protected under Sexual harassment act, India still lacks a comprehensive regulatory mechanism for this sector. We spoke to National Domestic Workers Movement (NDWM), our member in India that has been organizing and mobilizing domestic workers for the last 28 years about their approach, their successes and challenges.

In most countries, even if it's legally possible to organize, because of the nature of domestic work, because of the invisibility of the work, where not many workers work together, organization of workers has been a challenge. How did NDWM make it happen, not just to bring the workers together, sustain and grow over the years in India?

It is always difficult to get in contact with domestic workers because they work individually behind closed doors. They are also usually opposed to each other because of the competitive job market and feel continuous pressure of job insecurity. In this kind of job, the workers have found that it is easy for the employers to replace them. Their experience has also been that they found it easy to take over the job of their peers or for their peers to replace them. The other factor is most domestic workers carry out their work in more than one household which means they have multiple employers, especially if they are part time domestic workers going from house to house, several houses in a day. As such, because of this, domestic workers have many employers ranging from very good to very difficult ones.

NDWM decided from the beginning to work together on common issues of all domestic workers such as the education of their children. The domestic workers are not able to send their children to school because they did not have proper or permanent houses. One of the issues that we took up was to motivate the parents to send their children to school. We talked to them about the negative impact of lack of education and how the future of their children would be negatively affected by not having education. The other issues NDWM tried to make the parents aware of was the threat of their children being trafficked if they did not have access to education and information.

Since 1985 when NDWM first started in Tamilnadu Dindigul, our approach has always been to ensure full participation of the target group to achieve success. Our focus has always been very clearly on the rights of domestic workers, their health and their further developments. We started our outreach from the grassroots level, brought them together and helped them organize at that level. As mentioned earlier, because of the private nature of their work, it was difficult to reach out and bring them together. So we visited them at their homes, at places where they live.

We have always believed in the power of organization among workers to bring about positive change. We supported organizing among domestic workers and formed domestic workers groups. We provided trainings and workshops so that they could see labour rights as their rights. We also organized leadership and other capacity building trainings. It was a long and continuously developing process to organize and empower them. It took years but we have been able to achieve their full participation. There are leaders among the domestic workers now who take responsibility for the group. [Read the full interview >](#)

Ban Ying

This year Germany became the ninth country in the world and second in Europe to ratify ILO Convention 189. In a country with an estimated 700,000 domestic workers, what does it mean in terms of realizing their rights for decent work conditions and pay? Ban Ying, our member in Germany talked to us about their assistance work for a specific group of migrant domestic workers

domestic workers for diplomats (DWDs,) that lie outside the purview of protection.

How did you decide on your focus on Domestic Workers for Diplomats (DWD)? Can you tell us briefly about situation of DWDs in Germany?

Our work with domestic workers working in diplomatic households developed strongly when, around twelve years ago, the embassies moved from Bonn to Berlin. Since Ban Ying has a focus on women coming from South East Asia and a big part of the domestic workers working for diplomats come from this region (according to the German Protocol Department, in 2012 almost half of all the domestic workers working for diplomats came from the Philippines and Indonesia), the structures were available in Ban Ying for properly addressing this issue. At present, Ban Ying is the most specialized NGO in Germany in this field.

Our interest in working with these women was driven by the situation of extreme inequality existing in their work relationships. Domestic workers in diplomatic households are usually migrant women. While the domestic worker has an immigration status that is directly linked to her employer, the employer actually has quite a different, almost untouchable status. The employer enjoys diplomatic immunity on the basis of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations. This convention ensures that diplomats and also their private residences are protected by immunity, making it effectively impossible for the domestic workers to take any legal step against their employers when problems arise. In most countries they cannot sue them for unpaid wages, and the perpetrators cannot be taken to criminal court for assaults or be sued for pain and suffering even in cases of trafficking for the purpose of labor exploitation. Theoretically, the justice system of the diplomat's sending state would be responsible, but we do not know of a single case where a domestic worker was successful in asserting her rights in the country of origin of her employer.

In short, the German situation is the following:

If a diplomat wants to bring a domestic worker to Germany, he/she has to inform his/her embassy, which makes the contact to the German protocol department. If this authority authorizes the hiring, the process for issuing the visa starts. Responsible for this process are the embassy and the protocol department, which means that the domestic worker is obligated to hand her passport to the employer. She is not involved in the visa issuing process at all.

The visa the domestic worker gets is absolutely tied to the employer. This means that her right to live in Germany is absolutely bonded to her working relationship to that specific diplomat. Even if there is abuse, even if there is mistreatment: the domestic worker will not be allowed to change her employer. You can imagine what this means in terms of power relationship...[Read the full interview](#)

>

RESOURCES

REPORTS/PUBLICATIONS ON TRAFFICKING, LABOUR AND MIGRATION

[Home Economics: The Invisible and Unregulated World of Domestic Work - Report by National Domestic Workers Alliance](#)

The report is the result of first national survey of domestic workers in the United States in which 2086 nannies, caregivers and housecleaners from 14 metropolitan areas responded to four aspects of the industry: pay rates, benefits, and their impact on the lives of workers and their families; employment arrangements and employers' compliance with employment agreements; workplace conditions, on-the-job injuries, and access to health care; abuse at work and the ability to remedy substandard conditions. The findings showed substandard working conditions ranging from low wage, no benefits, extended working hours without overtime payments, hazardous work conditions without safety measures and face abuse and disrespect in their job.

Turning a Blind Eye: The British State and Migrant Domestic Workers' Employment Rights - Nick Clark & Leena Kumarappan, August 2011

This research was conducted from October 2010 to April 2011. The methodology included interviewing the migrant domestic workers and making Subject Access Request to UK Border Agency to access the written terms and conditions of employment lodged by employers at the time of applying for or renewing a worker's visa and interviews with workers to establish their actual pay and conditions at work. A survey of migrant domestic workers' pay and conditions conducted by Unite the Union, has been used to compliment and illuminate the data. The analysis revealed not only the suspected violations of rights of domestic workers such as low wage with extended working hours, hazardous working conditions without benefits, it was also revealed that although the UK Border Agency are in possession of details of abuse (sometimes very serious) reported by workers changing employers, there is no evidence of UKBA taking action to rectify the problems, or notify appropriate enforcement bodies. Highlighting the vulnerable position of migrant domestic workers in view of them being not covered by health and safety regulations and other employment protection laws, the report concludes that right to change employers is vital to escape from abusive working conditions.

Policy Toolkit and checklist for protection of migrant domestic workers - 2011

At the Global Forum on Migration and Development 2011, during the Global Meetings on Domestic Care Workers at the Interface of Migration and Development: action to Expand good practices, various governments, civil society and UN agencies agreed upon a checklist. The checklist is based on international standards and good national practices to help policy makers formulate and implement national policies, laws and programmes that promote and protect the rights of domestic workers, both female and male, taking account of differences between women and men within the sector as well as interacting ethnic, nationality and other differences.

Reality Check - Rights and Legislation for Migrant Domestic Workers across Asia

This report produced by CARAM Asia in 2011 gives a brief background on situation of migrant workers in six Asian countries - Bahrain, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines and Thailand - and the available legal recourses for the migrant workers. The report maps out the reposes of the government to address the issues faced by migrant workers and responses to ILO Domestic Workers Convention by these countries.

Achieving decent work for domestic workers: An Organiser's manual to promote ILO Convention no. 189 and build domestic workers power 2012

ILO 189 is an instrument needed to transform the relationship between the employers and domestic workers from one based on exploitation to one based on rights. Organizing domestic workers will raise the visibility of the workforce; shift perceptions so that they are recognized as real workers, increase their collective power, strengthen the labour movement as a whole, and ultimately, will result in a stronger ratification campaign. This manual is designed to support these actions to garner supports to campaign for the ratification of ILO 189. In its four parts, it explains why trade unions should be taking actions, gives an organisation manual based on successful experiences of organisation of domestic workers and trade unions and necessary steps to be taken for ratification of the Convention.

Evaluation of the effectiveness of measures for integration of trafficked persons 2013

Based on more than 100 interviews with service providers, policymakers and former victims of trafficking, the study analyses and compares the integration measures dedicated to victims of trafficking in the five case countries. It also provides recommendations to enhance the integration of victims of trafficking in host countries.

Conducting Safe, Effective and Ethical Interviews with Survivors of Sexual and

Gender-based Violence 2013

This new training resource by WITNESS includes considerations and guidance for anyone setting out to interview survivors. The tips are organized into stages of preparation for the interview, during the interview, after the interview and special attention is given to ensuring the safety and security of interviewees. The Guide is intended for human rights activists, citizen witnesses, citizen journalists and professional journalists and anyone else who might be conducting interviews with survivors.

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

19th session of the Universal Periodic Review Working Group

Submissions on Albania, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominica, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Nicaragua, Norway, Portugal, and Qatar should be sent through the [on-line UPR submissions system](#) by 16 September 2013.

OPPORTUNITIES

Free leadership course for migrant women

The Arbour is currently enrolling new participants for its 'Lead to Inspire' course for migrant women in the UK who have been there for 10 or less years. Lead to Inspire is a leadership course that aims to empower women to be more active in their local communities. This is a FREE 6 month course which runs for 3 days a week (Tues, Thurs & Fri from 10:00- 3:00) and helps women to: Develop skills in English, IT and leadership; Build confidence; Become more active in their local communities; Undertake community outreach activities; Plan and develop their own community projects. Click [here](#) to find out more.

EVENT

International Assembly of Migrants and Refugees, 2-4 October 2013, New York

The International Assembly for Migrants and Refugees 4 will be held in New York City from October 2-4, 2013. IAMR4 will represent the voice of migrants and refugees calling on the United Nations to listen to what the majority of migrants and refugees around the world say about their own issues. IAMR4 is coordinated by members of the International Migrants Alliance (IMA). [Read more](#)

"Limitations on migrant workers' freedom of movement greatly increase their chances of becoming victims of contemporary slavery."

Gulnara Shahinian, Special Rapporteur on Contemporary forms of Slavery
Thematic report on challenges and lessons in combating contemporary forms of slavery
Human Rights Council
Geneva, 1 July 2013

Human Rights at home, abroad and on the way

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 once a month. A Spanish version goes out to the GAATW REDLAC mailing list 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 gaatw@gaatw.org. If you do not want to receive this e-bulletin please send us a message at gaatw@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.

[Forward email](#)



Try it FREE today.

This email was sent to alfie@gaatw.org by gaatw@gaatw.org |
[Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).
GAATW | P.O. Box 36 | Bangkok Noi Post Office | Bangkok | 10600 | Thailand

In This Issue

- UPDATES FROM THE SECRETARIAT
- ANTI-TRAFFICKING REVIEW
- FEATURED MEMBERS OF THE FORTNIGHT - Women Forum for Women in Nepal (Nepal) and Institute for Social Development (India)
- RESOURCES

Anti-Trafficking Review, Issue 3



Call for Papers,
Special Issue
*Following the
Money: Spending
on Anti-
Trafficking*

Deadline: 15
December 2013

www.antitraffickingreview.org

Like us on Facebook 

Dear Members and Friends,

Greetings from GAATW International Secretariat.

Earlier this month, the ILO Convention 189 on Domestic Workers' Right came into force. This is a landmark achievement in acknowledging the lives of domestic workers and institutionalises the rights of millions of domestic workers around the globe, over 80% of which are women. We take this space to congratulate our members who joined hands with domestic workers groups in advocating and campaigning for the ratification of this convention. We also acknowledge those who continue to push their governments to acknowledge the rights of domestic workers in their countries. With this in mind, we call on all governments to ratify ILO 189.

Saudi Arabia has passed a new law concerning migrant domestic workers. As a destination country for millions of domestic workers, Saudi Arabia has long been criticised for mistreating foreign domestic workers and violating their human rights, particularly in its execution of foreign workers. Therefore, the recent announcement of a new domestic service system that will ensure basic labour rights (such as timely payment, fixed working hours and a month of paid vacation) may be cause for some optimism in the Gulf region. However it should be noted that the new law also specifies fees for violations committed by foreign workers and deportation for repeat offences.

Staying in the Gulf region, a recent Dubai police press statement acknowledged that crimes committed by foreign domestic workers can be the result of violence suffered during their employment. The Middle Eastern media is especially prone to false and malignant representations of

foreign workers when reporting such crimes, which only serves to perpetuate discrimination and abuse against foreign workers. By recognizing the often violent working conditions of foreign domestic workers, this press statement goes some way to counter balance these media images.

This bulletin features an interview with Women Forum For Women in Nepal, a self organised group of women working in the entertainment and other informal sectors. This month we spoke with them about their work accessing rights for female workers. Our other feature is with the Institute for Social Development in Odisha, India who shared their anti-trafficking work in that state.

Warm Regards,

GAATW International Secretariat

UPDATES FROM THE SECRETARIAT

ADVOCACY UPDATE

GAATW at the People's Global Action on Migration, Development & Human Rights (PGA) and the UN High Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development (HLD) in New York

GAATW-IS staff and some of our member organisations are in New York for the People's Global Action on Migration, Development & Human Rights (30 September to 4 October) and the UN High Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development (3 and 4 October) in New York. This is a great opportunity to not only meet and learn from migrant rights activists from all over the world but also to progress a rights-based approach to migration with States at the UN.

Bandana Pattanaik, GAATW IS' International Coordinator, will be speaking at two side events to the HLD. The first is on migrant domestic workers and the second is on human rights at international borders. The programme for the HLD (plenary, roundtables, and side events) is available online.

At the PGA, we are grateful to be partnering with the Women and Global Migration Working Group (WGMWG), United Methodist Women, and the AFL-CIO to run three workshops. The first workshop is on smuggling and will be attended by the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants and the OHCHR. The second workshop concerns problems with the criminalization and law-enforcement approach to trafficking in persons and involves some of our US member organisations and friends. The third event is the launch of the second issue of the *Anti-Trafficking Review*! This event will be attended by contributing authors and will focus on human rights at borders. The full PGA programme is available here. If you're in New York, we do hope you can join us!

[CLICK HERE TO DOWNLOAD THE GAATW EVENTS AT THE PGA AND UNHLD](#)

Expert meeting on the Right to an Effective Remedy for Trafficked Persons

GAATW-IS participated in the *Regional Consultation on the Right to an Effective Remedy for Trafficked Persons* convened by the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, in Bangkok on 27 September. The right to an effective remedy has been a concern for the Special Rapporteur, evidenced in her 2011 report to the UN Human Rights Council. GAATW IS presented on procedural preconditions in realizing the right to effective remedies. This meeting was an opportunity for the Special Rapporteur to have a deeper discussion with representatives of States from the Asian Group and relevant stakeholders on the content of the draft *Basic Principles on the right to an effective remedy for trafficked persons* and seek their suggestions and recommendations to inform a report to the 26th session of the Human Rights Council.

This consultation is part of a series that the Special Rapporteur is undertaking:

- Europe region: First Regional Consultation on the Right to an Effective Remedy for Trafficked Persons (1 March 2013)
- Latin America and Caribbean region: Second Regional Consultation on the Right to an Effective Remedy for Trafficked Persons (22 July 2013)

The Special Rapporteur is looking to organise a further two regional consultations, in Africa and the Middle East, and a global consultation in New York in October.

The Special Rapporteur invites written comments on the draft principles. Please send them to SRtrafficking@ohchr.org

EVENTS/MEETINGS

Research Planning Workshop - Towards Greater Accountability: Participatory Research on Anti-Trafficking Initiatives, Thailand.

From the 3rd to the 6th September, GAATW IS hosted a workshop in Bangkok to plan a participatory action research project to understand the effects and impacts of anti-trafficking mechanisms from the perspectives of trafficked persons. The research is taking place under the umbrella of GAATW IS' "Accountability" project and it is hoped that the results will inform the development of a monitoring tool which truly centers the opinions and analyses of trafficked persons.

The workshop in Bangkok brought together GAATW associates and representatives from member organisations from Thailand, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Austria, Spain, Netherlands, Macedonia, Switzerland and Germany. A central goal of the project is to place trafficked persons in the position of experts, and the workshop benefitted greatly from the valuable contribution of representatives from two self-organised groups: Shakti Samuha (Nepal) and Live our Lives (Thailand). Everybody worked long days to create a truly participatory plan to implement this project and GAATW IS sincerely thanks all participants for their contributions.

In October, GAATW IS staff will travel to Peru to host a sister workshop with member organizations from Mexico, Colombia, Argentina and Ecuador.

Dissemination of preliminary research findings - Demonstrating Our Accountability: Developing Participatory Methods on Monitoring Anti-Trafficking Efforts, Nepal

On 1 September, GAATW-IS together with its member organisation Alliance Against Traffic in Women and Children in Nepal (AATWIN), released preliminary findings from research conducted in Nepal in late 2012. The research, conducted as pilot project in Nepal, sought to include all stakeholders in anti-trafficking activities in Nepal. This included government authorities, NGO workers, communities and survivors of trafficking themselves. The meeting was facilitated by two of the project's lead researchers: Bhaowati Nepal and Rishnu Oih. The participants included representatives from NGOs

INGOs, UN Agencies, GOs, member organisations, self-organised groups and the media. Some of the main findings included a lack of clear understanding of the concept of trafficking across all stakeholders, assistance driven by need rather than human rights, and a lack of coordination between various stakeholders. All participants considered the results from the research as strong evidence-based material on which to advocate for state accountability and improve the implementation of anti-trafficking initiatives in Nepal. Some of the immediate follow-up actions are expanding the range of research to other geographical areas and designing an integrated advocacy strategy.

Visit to organisations supporting migrant workers' rights in Colombo

On 29-30 August, Alfie Gordo from GAATW-IS made a visit to Migrant Forum Lanka members and the network in Sri Lanka. The aim of the visit was to touch-base with trade unions and NGOs who are providing assistance to Sri Lankan migrant workers and their families. Migrant Forum Lanka is a network of civil society organisations, grassroots networks, individual activists, lawyers and researchers, all of whom are committed to the protection and promotion of human and labour rights of Sri Lankan migrant workers. One of the main objectives of MFL is to promote advocacy on migrant rights among the relevant stakeholders through lobbying, rights based research, media advocacy, participation in different forums and campaigns for the protection of the rights of migrant workers and to promote a rights-based approach to utilizing migrant worker remittances in development. Support ranges from paralegal trainings, counseling, women's empowerment and awareness raising campaigns under safe migration programmes. It was a fantastic opportunity to see the different services offered to migrant returnees and their families and we are grateful for the assistance provided by Solomon from Center for Human Rights and Development for organising the 2-day visit in Colombo.

ANTI-TRAFFICKING REVIEW

NEW ISSUE OF THE ANTI-TRAFFICKING REVIEW

Anti-Trafficking Review issue 2, on 'Human Rights at the Border'

What should be the role for border controls in anti-trafficking responses, if there should be one at all? Heightened border security is increasing risks in the migration process. Many people decide that despite barriers and risks they must cross a border for survival, either for safety or economic well-being. In many cases at border crossings, it is not possible for practitioners to determine whether people are trafficked or whether they fall into other migration categories. The risks created by border systems and the violations experienced by individuals at borders must be included in conversations on trafficking and on migrants' rights more broadly.

The latest issue of the *Anti-Trafficking Review* (www.antitraffickingreview.org) includes eight peer-reviewed articles on how anti-trafficking measures play out in border zones.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- **Editorial: Human rights at the border**

Sverre Molland

**Sverre Molland, Guest Editor of the Anti-Trafficking Review's second issue, introduces the issue. He points to why we chose this topic 'Human Rights at the Border' for our issue: 'The central paradox is this: efforts to combat human trafficking are heavily premised on the importance of borders; yet, there is a dearth of specific empirical focus on borders in trafficking research and programming.'*

'Debate' on the Role of Border Controls in the Response to Human Trafficking

- **Managing Migration: Is border control fundamental to anti-trafficking and anti-smuggling interventions?**

Rebecca Miller and Sebastian Baumeister

**Writing from experience at UNODC, Miller and Baumeister defend the UN Trafficking Protocol's requirement that 'States Parties shall strengthen, to the extent possible, such border controls as may be necessary to prevent and detect trafficking in persons.' They take a realpolitik perspective that borders and controls are here to stay. The next step is to figure out how to square human rights with that.*

- **Who's Who at the Border? A rights-based approach to identifying human trafficking at international borders**

Marika McAdam

**McAdam exposes the problems in trying to identify trafficked people at borders when they have not yet gone through the exploitation phase of trafficking. She shows that the indicators of trafficking that governments and other organisations use can apply to other categories of migrants. Expectations of how much border officials can do to combat trafficking should be tempered.*

Thematic Articles

- **In the Eyes of the Beholder: Border enforcement, suspect travellers and trafficking victims**

Julie Ham, Marie Segrave and Sharon Pickering

**What do gendered and racial stereotypes look like on the border? Researchers from the Border Observatory interviewed border officials in Australia and Thailand, looking at how they make decisions. Ambiguity in decision making impacts women's mobility.*

- **Examining the Body through Technology: Age disputes and the UK border control system**

Evan Smith and Marinella Marmo

**Is x-ray coming back into fashion? The UK has been considering reintroducing it for age assessment in migration status determination. Smith and Marmo remind us not to forget our history lessons. The UK debated x-ray once before in the colonial era and dismissed it as unreliable and overly invasive. Why then is it threatening to come back?*

- **Shaping the Victim: Borders, security, and human trafficking in Albania**

James P. Campbell

**The border is two-faced. On one side people are 'criminals', and on the other, the same people are 'victims of trafficking'. Sex workers inside Albania's borders are criminalised as prostitutes, and those returning from abroad are labelled as trafficked. Campbell examines the OSCE and IOM's role in shaping this border's productive role, as the organisations prep Albania for EU accession.*

- **Immigration Policy Reform in the United States: Reframing the enforcement discourse to fight human trafficking and promote shared prosperity**

Ana Avendaño and Charlie Fanning

**How will trafficking be impacted by the US Immigration Reform Bill? Union activists lobbying on this bill, Avendano and Fanning detail the good and the bad of the Senate version of the bill, now being debated in the House. Protections for workers are stronger, but a renewed emphasis on border control will result in more precarious migration.*

- **Health and Rights at the Margins: Human trafficking and HIV/AIDS amongst Jingpo ethnic communities in Ruili City, China**

Flora Shih

**Too much focus on anti-trafficking is crowding out desperately needed attention to other rights and social issues on the Chinese-Burma border. Shih writes about drug use and HIV/AIDS based on her time working on in Ruili City, China. She concludes that ‘the global shift towards regarding human trafficking as the most “heinous” and “monstrous” phenomenon of the current age obscures ongoing issues of risk and cultural stigma for ethnic minority peoples globally.’*

- **From the Horn of Africa to the Middle East: Human trafficking of Eritrean asylum seekers across borders**

Laurie Lijnders and Sara Robinson

**Abuses in the Sinai desert are happening on a large scale as people migrate between Eritrea and Israel. 31% of people interviewed by Lijnders and Robinson for this study were kidnapped and forcibly moved for ransom. The authors explore the geography of the Eritrean-Sudanese border and refugee camps around it. They highlight border officials’ complicity in the abuses.*

Book Review

- **Who are the 'Us' and who are the 'Them'? A review of Us and Them? The Dangerous Politics of Immigration Control**

Biao Xiang

**Border control is seen as the answer to trafficking. And it actively produces trafficking violations. Xiang reviews Anderson’s book ‘Us and Them?’, looking at how universalising claims of belonging underpin migration politics, border control and compassion for trafficked persons.*

PANEL AND LAUNCH OF ANTI-TRAFFICKING REVIEW’S SPECIAL ISSUE: ‘HUMAN RIGHTS AT THE BORDER’

Human Rights at the Border: Borderline Human Rights, Borderline Anti-Trafficking Measures

The *Anti-Trafficking Review*, Issue 2 launch will be held at the People’s Global Action on Migration, Development and Human Rights in New York on 1 October, Tuesday from 10-12 Noon at the Church Center for the United Nations, 11th Floor Hardin Room. The workshop is co-hosted by GAATW, the AFL-CIO and the Women & Global Migration Working Group. [Click here](#) to download the flyer.

FORTHCOMING ISSUE

The 2014 forthcoming issue of the *Review* is on the theme 'Follow the Money: Spending on Anti-Trafficking'

Since the 1990s, anti-trafficking funding and work has expanded rapidly. However, there remains a parlous lack of analysis of this funding - where it comes from, where it goes to, what it is meant to do, what it achieves and, crucially, whether it is needed at all.

Donors, organisations and trafficked persons' priorities are not always aligned when it comes to how money is spent. In a first indication of a global mismatch between donors and organisations, AWID's 'Where's the Money for Women's Rights?' survey of over 1000 women's rights organisations showed that donors prioritise anti-trafficking (placing it in their top 10 list of priority issues to fund) more than women's organisations (who do not see anti-trafficking among their top 10 priority issues). Trafficked persons may or may not benefit from money flows aimed in their direction, or indeed may suffer as a result of anti-trafficking spending. Many organisations specifically dedicated to anti-trafficking think donors do not prioritise this issue enough. Others feel anti-trafficking funds, especially for more surface-level awareness campaigns, divert attention and money away from substantial human rights work on issues concerning workers, migrants, women and children. *Read on*

The Call for Papers is available online at www.antitraffickingreview.org.

FEATURED MEMBERS OF THE MONTH

- Women Forum for Women in Nepal (Nepal)
- Institute for Social Development (India)

WOMEN FORUM FOR WOMEN IN NEPAL

Women forum for Women Nepal (WOFOWON) is an organisation established by women working in informal and entertainment sectors. Starting with a small group of women, they now have more than 300 members. WOFOWON provides a space for women working in these sectors to come and share their issues, support each other and collectively advocates for recognition of their work and demand rights as workers.

Tell us about the activities you conduct and why are those activities needed? How do you reach out to more women in this sector?

WOFOWON works for promoting and establishing labour rights and women's rights for women workers in informal and entertainment sectors. We conduct public awareness raising campaigns, activities for women empowerment, organising campaigns for empowerment, and support and advocate for our rights. In our programs, we highlight the issues of violence, labour exploitation, sexual violations and exploitations faced by women in informal and entertainments sectors and organise events to generate pressure for ensuring labour and human rights for these workers.

We have an outreach programme to reach out to all women working in these sectors. Through this outreach program, our members reach out to women workers in their work places to inform them about our organisation and its work. We encourage them to come visit our organisation to find out more about our work and be a member. Women members create an environment to support each other and to empower each other. We provide counselling services to women that have faced violence by their employers, co-workers, police, family or their society. If necessary, we provide referral. There are women that come for other services we provide such as health, legal assistance, psychological assistance and skill development trainings where we meet them on daily basis too.

[Read the full interview>](#)

INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Institute for Social Development (ISD) in Orissa, a group established by women social workers to fight against all forms of violence against women in the state, including trafficking. The organization's biggest strength is in organizing and mobilizing women at grassroots levels. ISD shared with us their experience in working with women at grassroots level, the services they provide and their work to stop trafficking of women and encourage safe migration.

Can you please explain ISD work in addressing trafficking in Odisha, India?

The Institute for Social Development (ISD) was formed and registered in the year 1997 by a group of women with educational background in Social Work. All the founder members of the organization were professionals working on women's empowerment and development when the organization was established. ISD was formed to pursue a mission for the rights and dignity by women. Gender justice and prevention of gender based discrimination were foremost on the agenda of the organization.

The mission of ISD is to promote a violence-free life and dignity for women. We work towards the empowerment of women and challenge social barriers for gender justice. While pursuing this mission ISD has identified trafficking as a major challenge to a violence free life and a cause of concern. In order to ensure the violence-free life of women there is a need to address trafficking through which ISD believes the human rights of women can be advanced.

For the advancement of women's human rights, the ISD pursues various strategies such as community mobilization, advocacy and campaigns at different levels. The ISD primarily works as a state level in Odisha for the promotion and protection of women's human right. At the state level ISD is presently involved in research, networking and advocacy on trafficking issues. [Read the full interview>](#)

RESOURCES

REPORTS/PUBLICATIONS ON TRAFFICKING, LABOUR AND MIGRATION

World Migration Report 2013

The *World Migration Report 2013: Migrant Well-being and Development* - the seventh report in IOM's World Migration Report (WMR) series - focuses on the migrant, exploring the positive and negative effects of migration on individual well-being. Many reports linking migration and development concentrate on the broad socioeconomic consequences of migratory processes, and the impact of migration on the lives of individuals can easily be overlooked. In contrast, the WMR 2013 focuses on migrants as persons, exploring how migration affects quality of life and human development across a broad range of dimensions.

Policy and legislative recommendations towards the effective implementation of the non-punishment provision with regard to victims of trafficking

This paper examines the principle of non-punishment in international law and explores the scope of its application as well as the challenges in its practical implementation. It includes a number of practical examples from court cases made available to national agencies, NGOs and legal professionals who have been examining these issues extensively. These organizations and individuals included the Belgian Centre for Equal Opportunities and Opposition to Racism, the Bureau of the Dutch National Rapporteur on Trafficking in Human Beings and UK lawyers and courts. The paper concludes with practical guidelines and various policy and legislative recommendations towards the effective implementation of the non-punishment provision with regard to victims of trafficking. <http://lastradainternational.org/lisidocs/Effective%20recommendation%20of%20the%20non-punishment%20provision.pdf>

What We Know: Regulating the Recruitment of Migrant Workers

In *What We Know: Regulating the Recruitment of Migrant Workers*, Migration Policy Institute Senior Policy Analyst Dovelyn Agunias examines the exploitation of migrant workers and proposed and enacted forms of regulation to oversee recruitment agencies. The author highlights several areas for lacking in existing recruitment regulations. Firstly, regulations often do not strike the right balance between too little and too much regulation. Secondly, current regulations often fail to address the real cause of recruitment irregularities. Thirdly, multiple regulation regimes enacted over different jurisdictions creates loop holes which can be exploited by recruitment agencies.

Exploitation and trafficking of women: critiquing narratives during the London Olympics 2012

This report was commissioned by the Central American Women's Network (CAWN) to inform its work on the role of civil society and the media in shaping public understanding of different forms of exploitation of migrant women in the context of major sporting events. It is based on an extensive study of press coverage of the issues of trafficking and exploitation of women during the London Olympics 2012 and critically examines the range of narratives on these issues in the print media. In addition, the report includes in-depth comparative analysis of campaigns mounted by five civil society organizations and assesses the relative success of each. An important aim of the study was to identify lessons learned and draw up recommendations that can be applied to other upcoming major sporting events.

Achieving Dignity: Campaigner's Handbook for the Migrants Rights Convention

This [handbook](#), first published 1998 by International Migrants Rights Watch Committee, provides background and orientation for those willing to speak up and act to uphold rights of migrants. It aims to help organizers take action to build local and national activities and campaigns to ensure that basic international human rights standards are implemented in country to protect the lives and dignity of migrants. The handbook is divided into four sections: overview on international migration trends, background on international human rights standards, overview of rights of migrant workers and an organiser's guide to promoting the Convention.

Handbook for Legislation on Violence against Women 2013 - UN WOMEN

This Handbook is based on the results of an expert group meeting on good practices in legislation to address violence against women. This meeting was convened in May 2008 by the former United Nations Division for the Advancement of Women, now part of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women), in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. The meeting reviewed and analysed experiences, approaches and good practices in legislation on violence against women from around the world, and developed a model framework for such legislation.

http://www.unwomen.it/Documents/UNW_Legislation-Handbook.pdf

PUBLICATIONS FROM MEMBERS

Migrant Worker Housing: A Survey of Men in TWC2's Cuff Road Project, Transient Workers Count Too (TWC2) 2013

This study sets out to gain a deeper understanding of the lives of transient workers on special passes by focusing on their housing and living conditions. It was thought that issues related to a basic need such as shelter would bring to light the complexity of the life of an injured worker awaiting compensation. The various issues articulated in the voices of the workers themselves demonstrate the interrelatedness of challenges they face. As with any study of this nature, there is the hope that the findings will provide the empirical basis for policy considerations regarding the housing of injured migrant workers.

http://twc2.org.sg/wp-content/uploads/2013/09/Housing_conditions_report_v6-9.pdf

Direct Services Report 2012

Transient Workers Count Too (TWC2) offers a range of assistance to migrant workers in need of help, including free daily meals, referrals for medical emergencies, guidance to reclaim owed salaries and rescue from abusive employers. Besides recording the scale of these direct services rendered for 2012, this report provides a sampling of the complaints and issues faced by migrant workers in Singapore. It also summarizes the resources that the organization is able to deploy and identifies areas for expansion and future needs.

<http://twc2.org.sg/wp-content/uploads/2013/09/Direct-Services-Report-2012.pdf>

Informe Alternativo: Un balance desde la sociedad civil sobre la situación de la trata de personas en el Perú, 2013

To mark the National Day against Human Trafficking, CHS Alternativo has prepared a comprehensive analysis of the crime situation in the Peru. CHS has reviewed the set of responsibilities of public institutions of the State, prioritizing the progress made in implementing the National Action Plan against Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants.

The report is available in Spanish. To access go to,
http://www.chsalternativo.org/upload/archivos/archivo_710.pdf

OPPORTUNITIES

The Oak Institute for the Study of International Human Rights is conducting a search for the *Fall 2014 Oak Human Rights Fellow*. This year, we are looking for a practitioner/activist involved in **human rights protection in situations relating to gender**. This focus is not limited to activism involving

women - it also includes the protection of sexual minorities and activism on men/masculinity. We are particularly seeking activists working on sexual and reproductive rights, gender empowerment and education, human and sexual trafficking, activism against gender-based violence, gender and sexual based asylum, or gender and environmental rights. <http://web.colby.edu/oak/>

“Many migrant domestic workers are isolated in private homes, facing heightened risk of abuse but few legal protections. The domestic workers Convention now coming into effect can change lives by helping domestic workers do their jobs in safety and dignity - and reach help when they are abused.”

Gauri van Gulik, women’s rights advocate at Human Rights Watch

Human Rights at home, abroad and on the way

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 once a month. A Spanish version goes out to the GAATW REDLAC mailing list 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 gaatw@gaatw.org. If you do not want to receive this e-bulletin please send us a message at gaatw@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.

In This Issue

- UPDATES FROM THE SECRETARIAT
- FEATURED MEMBERS OF THE FORTNIGHT - La Strada International (The Netherlands) and Legal Resource Center-LRCKJHAM (Indonesia)
- RESOURCES

Anti-Trafficking Review, Issue 3

Call for Papers, Special Issue
Following the Money: Spending on Anti-Trafficking
Deadline: 15 December
www.antitraffickingreview.org

Like us on [Facebook](#) 

Dear Members and Friends,

Greetings from GAATW International Secretariat.

We begin this issue with the extremely sad reports of loss of life and scenes of devastation caused by Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines. In the aftermath, many people have been left homeless and without any source of livelihood. We hope for a well-coordinated disaster response and long-term solutions to address the economic recovery of the affected communities.

Our updates begin with news of a US-based NGO's (Equality Now) recent campaign against findings from a UN research project that recommends States decriminalise sex work. GAATW-IS believes it is necessary to state that not all anti-trafficking organisations support Equality Now's position that decriminalising prostitution will increase human trafficking. On the contrary, GAATW's 20 years of experience working on trafficking in persons all over the world has led us to the opposite conclusion. GAATW-IS advocates for the decriminalisation of sex work, labour rights for sex workers and the conceptual de-linking of sex work and trafficking in persons (see [here](#)). We have documented the harmful effects of anti-trafficking measures on sex workers, who are often caught up in brothel raids ostensibly carried out to find people who have been trafficked. These findings are also echoed in the Sex Work and Law Report.

The reports that triggered Equality Now's campaign are the Global Commission on HIV and the Law's 2012 report, HIV and the Law: Risks, Rights and Health, published by UNDP, and Sex Work and the Law in Asia and the Pacific, also published in 2012, by UNDP, UNFPA and UNAIDS.

GAATW-IS thanks these agencies for their work on these reports - for their focus on the health and rights of, and collaborative approach with, sex workers. Recognising sex workers as legitimate partners in the work on HIV and human rights is an important step in limiting the spread of HIV. Furthermore, working collaboratively with sex workers on issues that affect them is a practice that should be repeated in other research projects. We also welcome UN Women's recent statement on sex work, sexual exploitation and trafficking. We call on UNDP, UNFPA, UNAIDS and UN Women and other relevant UN actors to promote this research, the good practice that produced it and work towards implementing the recommendations.

In Thailand, the government is increasing efforts to improve its ranking in the US Trafficking in Persons Report, evidenced by the appointment of Deputy Prime Minister Phongthep Thepkanchana as chairman for the reporting team. Thailand is a destination for millions of migrant workers, documented and undocumented, as well as victims of trafficking from neighbouring and other countries in Asia. Thailand's previous anti-trafficking activities were heavily skewed towards women trafficked into sex work and less towards those trafficked into forced labour. A key indicator for improvement in Thailand's counter trafficking efforts is the suppression of human trafficking in every province. However, the Thai government's initiatives to suppress human trafficking in every province must ensure that migrant workers rights are upheld or do not further victimize those who have been trafficked.

This issue features interviews with two of our members. We spoke with LRC-KJHAM from Indonesia about their work with women in the community and La Strada International about working as a network secretariat.

Please send us your feedback and what would you like to see in this space.

Warm Regards,

GAATW International Secretariat

ADVOCACY UPDATE

The 2nd UN General Assembly High Level Dialogue (HLD) on International Migration and Development

More than 100 Ministers and other representatives of Member States and civil society gathered in New York on 3 and 4 October for only the second UN General Assembly High Level Dialogue (HLD) on International Migration and Development. UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, opening the HLD and launching the UN [eight-point agenda](#) to “make migration work” for all commented, “we must do more to protect the human rights of all migrants. Too often, migrants live in fear of being victimized as the so-called “other”; of having little recourse to justice; or of having their wages or passports withheld by an unscrupulous employer.”

François Crépeau, the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants, made a [strong call](#) for human rights to be a core component of the HLD. The Special Rapporteur’s many statements to the various sessions at the HLD are available [here](#).

GAATW-IS intervened from the floor in the roundtable discussion on trafficking and smuggling. We shared [GAATW’s analysis](#) of the harms to migrants caused when states conflate smuggling and trafficking and [called on States](#) to de-link smuggling and trafficking in order to better protect the rights of all migrants.

However the outcome document for the HLD - the [Declaration of the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development](#) - developed by governments in advance of the HLD and not negotiated at the session, continues to confuse smuggling and trafficking (para.17). Though in the non-binding Declaration, States “decide to work towards an effective and inclusive agenda on international migration that integrates development and respects human rights” (para.3), it takes a protectionist attitude to migrants, particularly women migrant workers, rather than calling on states to protect their rights (para.12). This is an important distinction as the former can lead to restrictions on women’s rights, including their freedom of movement and choice of employment, which instead of respecting their human rights pushes many to take riskier migration routes and can deny them access to justice. The Declaration also emphasizes “the need to consider circular migration”, an approach that positions migrants as economic units rather than rights bearers and prevents and restricts the movement of migrant workers and puts them at increased risk of abusive and irregular situations where they can be exploited by recruiters and employers (para.26).

GAATW-IS also co-organised a very well attended side event with the UN Office of the High Commissioner of Human Rights (OHCHR) on [human rights at borders](#). GAATW-IS also spoke on a panel co-organised by the OHCHR and the ILO on migrant domestic workers. Joining speakers including Guy Ryder, the Director General of the ILO, and Peter Sutherland, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for International Migration and Development and Bandana Pattanaik, GAATW’s International Coordinator.

The 2013 People’s Global Action (PGA) on Migration, Development & Human Rights

Overlapping with the HLD, the [People’s Global Action](#) (PGA) on Migration, Development & Human Rights brought together activists from all over the world to discuss strategies to realise migrants’ rights. GAATW-IS presented three workshops at the PGA. Several authors who contributed to the second issue of the *Anti Trafficking Review* on [human rights at the borders](#) were able to join us in New York for the launch. The Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants and the Migration Advisor of the OHCHR joined us for rich discussion at the panel looking at the dis/connections between smuggling and trafficking. GAATW’s New York-based Member Organisations joined us for a workshop critiquing criminalization and law-enforcement responses to trafficking in persons

The outcomes of the workshops fed into the final [PGA Declaration](#) that calls for: a human rights framework for migration law and policy and to respect, protect, fulfill the human rights of migrants and their families, including full and inclusive labour rights for all migrant workers; alternatives to the prevailing free market economic policies that benefit the few at the expense of the majority; an end to the criminalization of migrants, and movement-building with grassroots migrant organisations in leadership, at the local, national, regional, and global levels.

We look forward to building on the connections we have been able to make during the PGA and the work around the HLD as we develop our plans for the next few years.

A New Special Rapporteur on Trafficking

The term of the current Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially in women and children, will end at the 26th Session of the UN Human Rights Council in June 2014. As with her predecessor, GAATW has been pleased to work with the current Special Rapporteur, Ms. Joy Ngozi Ezeilo, and we look forward to working with her successor.

The nominations process for the next Special Rapporteur will soon open. Too often, trafficking in persons is an issue that can be ideologically divisive and this is not constructive for the work to end trafficking. GAATW Member Organisations have a role to play in ensuring that an independent expert who will keep focused on the experience (and analyses) of people who have been trafficked and draw on evidence-based research is appointed as the next Special Rapporteur.

The page for the nomination, selection and appointment of some of the other mandate holders who will be appointed at an earlier session of the Human Rights Council describes the [process](#) that will apply to the recruitment of the new mandate-holder. This is not yet an opportunity to nominate a candidate as the new Special Rapporteur on trafficking. As NGOs we can nominate candidates and support individuals who put themselves forward as a candidate. Candidates should be able to demonstrate their expertise and experience on trafficking and their independence, impartiality, personal integrity, and objectivity. Usually, candidates need the support of their government, though this is not mandatory.

CEDAW

The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) [adopted](#) General Recommendation No. 30 on women in conflict prevention, conflict and post-conflict situations. General Recommendations address issues affecting women that the Committee believes governments should give more attention. These detailed considerations elaborate international human rights law on the issue. [CEDAW General Recommendation No. 30](#) addresses a range of concerns, including the issue of trafficking in persons in conflict and post-conflict situations.

The CEDAW will also hold a general discussion on the right to education at its 58th session (30 June to 18 July 2014).

UN General Assembly

The Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants presented his latest report, on the governance of migration, to the UN General Assembly (see [press release](#) and [full report](#)). GAATW supports the Special Rapporteur's call for a UN- and rights-based approach to global migration governance.

The Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, also presented her report to the UN General Assembly on 25 October. The [report](#) looks at the issue of trafficking in persons for the purpose of removal of organs and called for a [victim-focused response](#) to the issue.

Call for submissions - child early and forced marriage

Member Organisations working on trafficking for marriage might want to consider submitting information to the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), which will be drafting a report on child, early and forced marriage to the Human Rights Council at its 26th Session in June 2014. The deadline for submissions is 15 December 2013. More information and the address to send your submission available [here](#).

EVENTS/MEETINGS

Training Workshop on Migration, Forced Labour and Human Trafficking

Jaqueline Leite and Ana Montiaga from CHAME, an organization founded in 1994 in Bahia and member of GAATW, coordinated a training workshop from the 10th-11th of October in Porto Alegre. Some 44 women union leaders and activists attended the event. The workshop aimed to broaden the discussion on the exploitation of young and adult women, as well as different forms of migration and to participate in the development of public policies for the rights of trafficked women. The training also sought to recognize different levels of vulnerability, expand access to information and the means of prevention.

Participatory Research on Anti-Trafficking Activities - Research Planning Workshop, Peru

Preparatory planning for the Alliance's Feminist Participatory Action Research project on anti-trafficking initiatives continued this month with a trip to consult with members from Latin American Countries. A 3 day workshop was hosted in Lima by our member CHS-Alternativo and we were joined by representatives with considerable experience in research and direct assistance from: Hope Foundation (Ecuador), Hope Foundation, Foundation Renacer and Espacios de Mujer (Colombia), and AMUMRA (Argentina). The workshop was an opportunity to meet with the newest member to our Alliance, Brigada Callejera from Mexico, as well as formally recognize Andrea Querol from CHS-Alternativo as the newly elected member to the GAATW International Board representing the LAC region. Our former colleague, Liyana Pavon, also joined us and was on hand to provide insight from GAATW's 2009/10 FPAR project.

As members will be aware from previous eBulletin updates, GAATW's most recent FPAR project is taking place with a view to establish a process of monitoring anti-trafficking initiatives which truly centres the needs and opinions of victims. The project seeks to understand not only the assistance that we provide, but also the larger picture in which our assistance takes place. For this purpose, member organisations in the LAC region will investigate victim's experiences and opinions on return, repatriation and deportation and accessing justice, in addition to assistance services.

Support for our members in conducting this project will continue next month with two methodology training workshop planned for Indonesia and Nepal.

CALL FOR PAPERS: 'FOLLOWING THE MONEY' - 5weeks to go!

The Anti-Trafficking Review calls for papers for a Special Issue 'Following the Money: Spending on Anti-Trafficking'. This issue will present well-researched articles that analyze the funding landscape of anti-trafficking measures. Specifically, the journal is interested in articles that identify the kind of organisations and work that anti-trafficking funding has given rise to and studies of money trails that reveal how anti-trafficking money has been spent. Deadline for submission is on **15 December 2013**. For more information, visit www.antitraffickingreview.org.

FEATURED MEMBERS OF THE MONTH

- La Strada International (The Netherlands)
- Legal Resource Centre = LRCKJHAM (Indonesia)

I ▲ STRADA INTERNATIONAL

La Strada International (LSI) is the International Secretariat of the La Strada network. LSI focuses on international networking, lobbying and public relations on behalf of its member organisations as well as producing common policies, action plans, harmonised lobbying and advocacy programmes. La Strada spoke to us about their work as a network secretariat and working with members.

What are the major challenges in addressing trafficking in persons in Europe?

The main challenges for anti-trafficking NGOs are related to the implementation of national and international policies. Good legislation is in place but a lot more awareness is required among all stakeholders. Also, more commitment is required to ensure that policies are implemented well.

Furthermore, policies in linked spheres, for example on migration and prostitution, can negatively impact the protection and assistance of trafficked persons. In general, it is given attention both by international governments and national governments and all LSI member countries have national action plans and legislation in place. In most countries, there is also a coordinating body and NGOs are invited to provide consultation and feedback on policies and actions plans. NGOs are also responsible for a specific part of the country's national referral mechanism in providing assistance to trafficked persons or, in the Netherlands, the registration of trafficked persons.

The challenge for NGOs is to be heard by different stakeholders and for their comments to be taken seriously. Furthermore, it is difficult for NGOs to remain independent while at the same time remaining financially viable to continue their work. Over the last few years, it has been very difficult for anti-trafficking NGOs to become financially sustainable for several reasons. Firstly, there is a lot of competition between different stakeholders for EU funds and secondly the more traditional donors and governments have less funding available for anti-trafficking work. This has meant that anti-trafficking NGOs are often dependent on project funding from which to do their core work.

[Read the full interview >](#)

KEADILAN JENDER DAN HAK ASASI MANUSIA (LRCKJHAM SEMARANG)

Legal Resources Centre - UNTUK KEADILAN JENDER DAN HAK ASASI MANUSIA (LRCKJHAM SEMARANG) works in Central Java and campaigns for an understanding and awareness of the values of gender equality and human rights. LRC-KJHAM applies a rights-based approach in its work to achieve its missions of promoting the respect, protection and fulfillment of women's rights in the region, including that of female migrant workers.

What changes have you seen in the lives of women, including migrant women in the communities you work with?

There is an emerging awareness among the women about gender inequality and a growing interest and knowledge concerning their rights and existing laws. Furthermore, the women are becoming more involved in policy, planning and budget decisions with the local government and attend annual Development Planning Meetings (District and City). They also conduct hearings with the local parliament to ensure that the local government adopts any proposals they have made. We have seen some improvement in victim support services and there is now an integrated centre for abused women, including migrant workers and victims of human trafficking.

In the rural areas, two new groups of former female migrant workers and victims of trafficking have been formed: Migrant Groups Wedoro in Grobogan, Peribumi (Society of Women Migrant Workers) in Kendal and SEKARTAJI Survivor Organisation in Semarang, Central Java. In these groups, former female migrant workers and victims of human trafficking continue to support one another. For example, some are working to increase the income of former women migrant workers and victims of human trafficking through a Women's Cooperative that has established microfinance and a small shop. Others have established community information centres to distribute information on safe migration, the rights of women migrant workers and how to act if they experience violence and/or human trafficking.

Like the survivors who established SEKARTAJI in Semarang, many survivors of trafficking are providing direct assistance to other victims of trafficking and/or migrant workers who have experienced violence. Many are becoming paralegals and also handle other cases of violence against women, such as rape and domestic violence, in the region. Each paralegal in the district handles on average 20-40 cases. [Read the full interview](#)>

RESOURCES

REPORTS/PUBLICATIONS ON TRAFFICKING, LABOUR AND MIGRATION

Migrant Workers' Access to Justice at Home: Indonesia, 2013

Migrant Workers' Access to Justice at Home: Indonesia is the first comprehensive study of migrant workers' access to justice in their country of origin. A collaborative effort by the Open Society International Migration Initiative, the Tifa Foundation, and the Migrant Worker Access to Justice Project, the report analyzes how migrant workers may access justice in Indonesia and identifies the systemic barriers that prevent them from receiving redress for harms they suffer before, during, and after their work abroad.

The report concludes with recommendations for government, parliament, civil society and donors on how to improve access to justice and private sector accountability in 11 key areas.

The report is available in [English](#) and [Bahasa](#). You can also download the report at <http://www.migrantworkerjustice.org/content/publications>

After Trafficking: Experiences and Challenges in the (Re)integration of Trafficked Persons in the Greater Mekong Sub-region, 2013

The United Nations Inter-agency Project on Human Trafficking (UNIAP), in co-operation with the Nexus Institute, UN and civil society partners have launched the report, "After Trafficking: Experiences and Challenges in the (Re)integration of Trafficked Persons in the Greater Mekong Sub-region". The report is based on in-depth interviews with 252 trafficked persons on their experiences of (re)integration and their future plans and aspirations. The trafficked persons interviewed for this study came from all six countries in the GMS and included men, women and children, trafficked for various forms of forced labour, sexual exploitation, begging and/or forced marriage. The study included persons who had been identified and assisted, as well as those who were not identified and/or did not receive assistance.

[http://www.nexusinstitute.net/publications/pdfs/After%20trafficking_Experiences%20and%20challenges%20in%20\(Re\)integration%20in%20the%20GMS.pdf](http://www.nexusinstitute.net/publications/pdfs/After%20trafficking_Experiences%20and%20challenges%20in%20(Re)integration%20in%20the%20GMS.pdf)

Ethical Principles in the Re/integration of Trafficked Persons: Experiences from the Balkans, 2013

Rebecca Surtees, Nexus Institute

Building on existing efforts to address ethical issues in the anti-trafficking field, this document focuses on ethical principles for re/integration programmes and policies in the Balkan region. Surtees charts the problems and challenges that organisations have faced while working on re/integration as well as different strategies to anticipate, manage and address ethical issues on a day to day basis. The document outlines these ethical principles as a basis for reflection, discussion and analysis for re/integration professionals and is intended as a support document in making ethically informed decisions in accordance with the values of the re/integration process.

<http://www.nexusinstitute.net/publications/pdfs/Ethical%20Principles%20for%20the%20reintegration%20of%20trafficked%20persons.pdf>

Hidden in plain sight three years on: updated analysis of UK measures to protect

trafficked persons, 2013

Anti-Slavery International

This report is the fourth publication by The Anti-Trafficking Monitoring Group (ATMG). ATMG monitors and evaluates the UK Government's efforts to combat trafficking in human beings with respect to the UK's obligations under: Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings 2005 (the Convention), Directive 2011/36/EU of the European Parliament and the Directive of the Council of 5 April 2011 on preventing and combating trafficking in human beings and protecting its victims.

The report examines the progress since the publication of *Wrong Kind of Victim?* in June 2010 that assessed the UK's adherence to its obligations under the Convention.

http://www.antislavery.org/includes/documents/cm_docs/2013/h/hidden_in_plain_sight.pdf

Inter-Regional Report on Labour Migration and Social Protection, 2013

This seven-chapter publication is based on background papers presented at a workshop organized by ESCAP and ESCWA in Beirut on 28-30 June 2011. Topics in the report include the protection of the rights of migrant workers in South and South-West Asia; reforming the Kafala (sponsorship) system; recruitment costs for Bangladeshi migrants; the legal situation of migrant domestic workers in Arab States; and the experiences of returned migrants in Indonesia.

The report emphasizes the need to reform recruitment, employment and residency laws in both ESCAP and ESCWA countries to bring them into line with international standards on protection and gender mainstreaming. The report also calls for greater co-operation and dialogue between countries and between civil society and international organizations for the protection of all migrants. The report is available at the following link:

http://www.escwa.un.org/information/publications/edit/upload/E_ESCWA_SDD_2013_Technicalpaper2_E.pdf

2010 Winter Games Analysis on Human Trafficking by GAATW Canada, 2013

Our member GAATW Canada has released the report of a research project on possible increases in transnational and domestic human trafficking in British Columbia in connection with the 2010 Vancouver Olympic and Paralympic Games. Research involved examining available data on the link between trafficking in persons and previous large sporting events and analyzing media, online and public discussions on human trafficking prior to and during the Olympic Games. This desk research was complemented with information from 61 qualitative interviews with federal and provincial representatives, enforcement personnel, members of non-governmental organizations and legal and human rights advocates.

To access the publication, go to

<http://www.publicsafety.gc.ca/cnt/rsrscs/pblctns/wntr-gms-2010/index-eng.aspx>

Report of the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children: the issue of trafficking in person for the removal of organs, 2013

This report examines exploitation of persons who are compelled by need or force to provide organs for transplantation to people within their own countries or to foreigners. The report firstly describes the problem and examines legal and policy responses at the international, regional and national levels. It then considers exploitation in transplantation as a form of trafficking in persons and the extent to which this framework provides a structure within which more effective, rights-based responses can be developed and implemented. The report concludes with recommendations

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Trafficking/Pages/Annual.aspx>

EVENTS

TRANSITions = NAVIGATING

Borders, Work, Life and Justice

26 November, SFU Harbour Centre, Room 1400, 515 West Hastings St., Vancouver 7-9 pm

GAATW member [FIRST](#) is hosting a community forum entitled 'TRANSITions-NAVIGATING'. Speakers at the forum will include Julie Ham and Sharon Pickering of Monash University and Raven Bowen and Sara Hunt of Simon Fraser University. For more information, please write to Joyce at jharthur@shaw.ca.

Impact Assessment and Theory of Change

IMA International

3-6 December, Bangkok, Thailand

This four-day programme provides tools with which to do impact assessments which in turn are useful when reporting to donors, for accountability to stakeholders and for advocacy. Participants will learn about different approaches and strategies for assessing impact and have the chance to explore how the development of a theory of change can a more effective impact assessment process. For more information, visit their website at

<http://www.imainternational.com/training/factsheet/Impact+Assessment+and+Theory+of+Change>

“Criminalization of sex work in many countries exacerbates the abuse of their rights. Governments must ensure as with all of the other high risk occupations that these migrant workers have access to the appropriate information and resources, which guarantee their right to health, both physical and psychological.”

Anand Grover, Special Rapporteur on Right to Health

Human Rights at home, abroad and on the way

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 once a month. A Spanish version goes out to the GAATW REDLAC mailing list 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 gaatw@gaatw.org. If you do not want to receive this e-bulletin please send us a message at gaatw@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

Issue 10/2013

In This Issue

- UPDATES FROM THE SECRETARIAT
- FEATURED MEMBER OF THE FORTNIGHT - Portuguese Association for Victim Support (Portugal)
- RESOURCES

Call for Applications:

Dance Movement Therapy Workshop

GAATW International Secretariat and [Kolkata-Sanved](#) are co-organising an 8-day workshop on **Dance Movement Therapy** for women colleagues working to provide psycho-social assistance to trafficked and/or abused women migrant workers in Asia.

For more information, go to www.gaatw.org

Like us on Facebook 

Dear Members and Friends,

Greetings from GAATW International Secretariat.

This issue of the e-Bulletin coincides with International Migrants Day on December 18. Migrants' rights have been the focus of a lot of the GAATW-IS work in 2013. In our work in South Asia, we listened to and learned from migrant women about the information they received and the information they needed to help them migrate safely. We will be continuing to develop this work through 2014. At the UN High Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development in October, we shared our analysis of the harms to migrants caused by States conflating smuggling and trafficking and called on States to de-link smuggling and trafficking in order better to protect the rights of all migrants. You can see our statement [here](#). For more information on these links and differences between trafficking and migration, see our [working paper](#)

As we mark International Migrants Day, we share with you some recent news and resources on the issue of migrants' right to health and their often over-looked sexual and reproductive health and rights. The intersections between migration and HIV have been the subject of some recent research, which has highlighted gaps in state responses and services. Though migration is not a risk factor in HIV, individuals may move to areas with higher prevalence areas and the disruption to social networks and lack of access to health services which potentially be problematic. In time for the recent International Congress on AIDS in Asia and the Pacific (ICAAP11) in Bangkok, The Mekong Migration Network published the report [Health Access for Migrants](#)

from the Mekong neighborhood: With or Without Borders?
This article looks at the HIV services needed by Bangladesh's migrants.

The Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants (PICUM) hosted a thematic working group on Access to Health Care for Undocumented Migrants that looked at sexual and reproductive health care for undocumented migrants.

For more information on sexual and reproductive health and rights and migration, the Asian-Pacific Resource & Research Centre for Women (ARROW) have produced some useful resources, including a working paper and a bulletin.

Also in this issue, we feature our new member, Portuguese Association for Victim Support (APAV), who spoke with us about their work and the rise in the number of people accessing their support services.

To close, we would like to announce that GAATW-IS office will be closed for the holiday season, from 24 December 2013 until 5 January 2014. We are looking forward to our commemorative year in 2014, when we will celebrate our 20th year as GAATW.

Warm Regards,

GAATW International Secretariat

EVENTS/MEETINGS

Consultation on Power in Migration and Work: South Asia and Middle East

Continuing with our work on migration in South Asia, the International Secretariat organised a 3-day meeting in Calcutta to discuss women's rights, labour issues, migration, and human trafficking in the context of female migrant workers from Nepal, India and Bangladesh. The group included GAATW members, organisations providing services to migrant workers, and women's rights activists. Together they analysed female migration from South Asia to Middle Eastern countries, the strengths and weaknesses of existing activities, and identified gaps.

The group focused on areas in which a collective effort can make the most impact to achieve safer migration. It was agreed that migration is not the only reality for female migrant workers and that women cannot be artificially divided into groups of potential migrants or others. Furthermore, violence against women migrant workers is an extension of the violence and violations of rights women face regularly within their own communities. Therefore, addressing issues faced by migrant women will also require addressing issues that influence women's decision to migrate in the first place. The group collectively agreed that it is important to engage communities in a discussion of violence against women and violence faced by migrating women.

With this understanding, the group developed a two-year work plan that focuses on women's empowerment in origin countries through feminist participatory and capacity building trainings. By centring the lived experiences of women and building analytical skills, this project aims to assist women to better understand the development paradigm, policies of their own state, and the impact on their lives. The work plan will also develop and strengthen links in destination countries to support women, ensure capacity development of organisations and support national and regional campaign building.

TRANSITions-Navigating Borders, Work, Law & Justice

GAATW member [FIRST](#), a coalition of feminists advocating for the decriminalisation of sex work, held a community forum, [Transitions-Navigating Borders, Work, Law & Justice](#), on 26 November 2013, in Vancouver, Canada. [Kerry Porth from PIVOT Legal Society](#) chaired the forum and opened with an overview of the sex work policy context in Vancouver and Canada, which includes [a case with the Supreme Court of Canada](#), and recommendations from the [Missing Women Commission of Inquiry](#). Her overview was followed by 3 presentations about how women and their communities challenge the strict categories created at borders, between sex work and non-sex work, and within Canada's colonial legal frameworks. Julie, from [SWAN Vancouver](#) (a GAATW member) and the [Border Crossing Observatory at Monash University](#), presented [Hot Pants at the Border: Sorting Sex Work from Trafficking](#) which [examined immigration officers' assessments of women's sexuality at airport borders in Australia](#). Raven Bowen, from the sex work activist community in Vancouver and Simon Fraser University, presented *Sex Work/Square Work: Exploring the Dichotomy* which is based on her Master's thesis work [They Walk Among Us: Sex Work Exit, Re-entry and Duality](#). She looked at strategies women and men used for moving in and out of sex work as well as their experiences managing sex work and 'square work' simultaneously. Sarah Hunt, from [GAATW Canada](#) and Simon Fraser University, presented "*All My Relations?*" *Sex work and self-determination*, and called for [decolonising the decriminalisation of sex work](#), arguing that achieving justice requires creative community-based efforts that centre Indigenous people's agency and go beyond legal remedies. The forum webcast will be available at www.workingtv.com in the near future. For more information, contact Esther Shannon at emls@shaw.ca

Towards Greater Accountability: Participatory Methodology Workshop in Jakarta

In early November, GAATW International Secretariat hosted a two-day workshop in Jakarta with several of our Indonesian Member Organisations, including: [Institute Perempuan](#), [Center for Study and Child Protection \(PKPA\)](#), [Solidaritas Perempuan](#) and [Legal Resource Center \(LRCKJHAM\)](#). The workshop brought together direct care providers and researchers to share and map the assistance scenario in Indonesia and share experience with participatory research methodologies. We thank Nova Dewi for sharing with us her knowledge and experience in Feminist Participatory Action Research (FPAR).

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS: DANCE MOVEMENT THERAPY WORKSHOP

GAATW International Secretariat and [Kolkata-Sanved](#) are co-organising an 8-day workshop on **Dance Movement Therapy** for women colleagues who provide psycho-social assistance to trafficked and/or abused women migrant workers in Asia.

This training programme is designed for professionals and/or Dance Movement Therapy trainers who are interested in incorporating DMT into social development initiatives. This training for trainers will be done through a very focused module to build the capacity of participants. Applications are open to women colleagues in Asia who work in shelters, drop-in centre, counselling centres or short-stay homes for women who have been trafficked or abused women migrant workers.

[Click here](#) for more information and to download the application form. Deadline for submission of application form is **6 January 2014**.

FEATURED MEMBER OF THE MONTH

- Portugese Association for Victim Support (Portugal)

PORTUGUESE ASSOCIATION FOR VICTIM SUPPORT - APAV

The **Portuguese Association for Victim Support - APAV** is a non-profit organization based in Portugal, which supports victims of crime, their families and friends by providing free and confidential services. APAV has 15 Victim Support Offices throughout the country, where victims can seek support by themselves or after being referred by other institutions (police, social services or others). APAV believes that the statute of the victim of crime must be fully acknowledged, valued and effective and works to achieve this goal in Portugal and beyond

Since 2005, due to an agreement made with the High Commission for Immigration and Intercultural Dialogue (ACIDI - public institute), APAV has created the Support Unit for Migrant Victims and Victims of Racial and Ethnic Discrimination - UAUVIDRE. This special unit is specialized in supporting migrants who are victims of crime, in particular hate crimes and transnational crimes, such as human trafficking. [Read the full article>](#)

RESOURCES

REPORTS/PUBLICATIONS ON TRAFFICKING, LABOUR AND MIGRATION

Understanding Multiple Discrimination against Labour Migrants in Asia: An Intersectional Analysis by Sohoon Lee and Nicola Piper

Using an intersectionality methodology to analyse labour migration in Asia, this article reveals the multiplicity of discriminatory mechanisms and complex identities of female labour migrants in Asia. These identities might include characteristics such as non-citizens, low-income, bonded and being undocumented. The article shows how these identities are shaped by structures that are disadvantageous to women-patriarchal regimes, neoliberal globalisation and social hierarchy.

The authors argue that governments have not adequately paid attention to the inequalities resulting from the intersection of migrant status, gender and the situation of being a precarious worker. The authors show that more interventions at the local and national level are necessary to address certain push factors of migration in Asia, as well as the gendered channelling into certain jobs and roles of women post-migration.

<http://www.fes.de/cgi-bin/gbv.cgi?id=10073&ty=pdf>

Labour Migration for Decent Work in Afghanistan: Issues and Challenges

Piyasiri Wickramekara and Nilim Baruch

This article assesses the challenges involved for policy makers looking at labour migration to address unemployment rates in Afghanistan. The article argues that prospects for foreign employment for Afghan workers have to be seen in the broader context of the demand for migrant workers within Asia and the Middle East. Afghanistan is entering a highly competitive market at a difficult time and wherein a number of countries - including Bangladesh, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka - are also actively promoting overseas labour migration. The authors highlight a number of key responses for labour migration for decent work in Afghanistan, including: (1) more proactive foreign employment promotion on the part of the government; (2) improving the legislative and regulatory framework and support services for the protection of migrant workers; (3) improving return and reintegration services and;(4) engaging with members of the Afghan diaspora as development partners and enhancing the development impact of remittances.

http://apmagnet.ilo.org/resources/with_regard_to_labour_migration_for_decent_work_in_Afghanistan_promoting_labour_migration_for_decent_work_in_afghanistan_issues_and_challenges/at_download/file1

Towards a post-2015 development agenda: What role for migrant rights and international labour migration?

Martin Ruhs

This paper discusses the potential role of international labour migration and the rights of migrant workers in a post-2015 framework for international development. The paper is concerned with legal rather than illegal migration, with a focus on low-skilled workers whose international movement is restricted. The author argues that the liberalisation of international labour migration from low- to high-income countries can have beneficial impacts on development. However the impact of international migration on development is dependent on the rights migrant workers are granted in both law and in practice, in the countries of employment.

http://www.erd-report.eu/erd/report_2012/documents/bp/bgpapers/Ruhsfinal.pdf

Labour migration and development: ILO moving forward

This document was prepared for the Tripartite Technical Meeting on Labour Migration, held in Geneva from 4 to 8 November 2013. The goal of that Meeting was to enable the ILO to assess the outcome of the United Nations General Assembly High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development. Drawing on research carried out by the ILO, this paper highlights the key challenges and opportunities for the ILO in the context of the changing landscape of international labour migration and its implications for the world of work.

http://www.ilo.org/migrant/events-and-meetings/WCMS_222548/lang--en/index.htm

UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) report on Inter-Regional Report on Labour Migration and Social Protection.

Based on background papers presented at a workshop in Beirut in June 2011, this article looks at labour migration from Asia to the Middle East. Amongst the issues addressed are: protection of the rights of migrant workers in South and South-West Asia; reforming the Kafala (sponsorship); recruitment costs for Bangladeshi migrants; the situation of migrant domestic workers in Arab States from a legislative viewpoint; and the experiences of return migrants in Indonesia

<http://www.escwa.un.org/divisions/newsdetails.asp?id=1403&division=SDD>

Qatar's Treatment of Migrant Workers Is Under the Spotlight Ahead of 2022 FIFA World Cup

By Dovelyn Rannveig Agunias, Migration Policy Institute

Qatar's dependence on foreign workers is expected to intensify over the coming decade as it steps up its preparations to host the World Cup in 2022. Migrant workers already dominate Qatar's labor force, comprising 94 percent of all workers and 86 percent of the country's total population of nearly 2 million – the world's highest ratio of migrants to citizens. The International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) estimates that around 500,000 to 1 million additional foreign construction workers will be required to help build an estimated US\$220 billion worth of hotels, stadiums, other facilities, and infrastructure by 2022.

With the international spotlight shining brightly on Qatar's preparation for the world's largest sporting event, civil-society groups have increased pressure on the Qatari government to ensure that migrant workers are treated humanely and in accordance with international labor standards.

<http://www.migrationinformation.org/Feature/display.cfm?ID=974>

Exploitation and Trafficking of Women: Critiquing Narratives during the London Olympics 2012

Central America Women's Network (CAWN)

This article is based on an extensive study of press coverage of the issues of trafficking and exploitation of women during the London Olympics 2012 and examines critically the range of narratives underlying the approach to these issues in the print media. In addition, the report includes in-depth analysis of the campaigns mounted by five civil society organizations (CSOs) and compares the different approaches and strategies applied in each case, assessing the reasons for the varying degrees of success of each, respectively. An important aim of the study was to identify lessons and draw up recommendations based on the experience of the London Olympics that can be applied to other forthcoming major sporting events.

The report highlights the fact that dominant narratives about trafficking not only conflate issues of trafficking with those of immigration and sexual exploitation but also frequently fail to employ the necessary analytical rigour. [Read more](#)

CAMPAIGN

One Story, Two Outcomes

The *La Strada International NGO Platform - United against human trafficking in Europe* - has launched a campaign to urge governments to fully implement anti-trafficking legislation on the ground.

The campaign "One Story, Two Outcomes" tells the story of Anna, a woman who finds herself lured abroad and then ruthlessly exploited by her employers. What happens to her illustrates what it means for an individual if rights are not respected, and what happens when they are.

<http://lastradainternational.org/2outcomes>

FILM

Don't Shout Too Loud

Courtney Campbell

Leading up to the 2010 FIFA World Cup, media organizations reported that 40,000 sex workers would be trafficked into South Africa. The prediction was a gross overestimation based on unsubstantiated evidence. "Don't Shout Too Loud" offers the harsh and unsettling theory that special interest groups are manipulating public policy in order to promote their agendas by inflating the scope of human trafficking. In doing so, they cause public panic and resources to be directed away from those who require the most help.

The film will tell the story of the victims, human beings who are forced to work through fraud or threat of violence for no pay beyond subsistence, the transnational crime-syndicates who profit from their abuse, as well as the individuals, international organizations, civil society groups and public officials working to stop the trade and assist the victims. By examining this issue, the documentary aims to advance public understanding and awareness on the current realities of human trafficking and make crucial strides toward ending an enduring human tragedy.

<http://www.dontshout2loud.com/>

EVENT

Flower Boats and Working Girls: a History of Prostitution in Hong Kong

On 16 January 2014, Action for REACH OUT (AFRO), a GAATW member, is organising a fund raising event in Hong Kong, SAR. Hong Kong Historian and Writer Jason Wordie will offer a talk about history of Hong Kong's sex industry. A short clip of interviews with some female sex workers will be shown and Kendy Yim, the Executive Director of Action for REACH OUT, will share updates on the current situation in Hong Kong. The venue will be at The Helena May, 35 Garden Road, Central. For tickets and reservations, contact AFRO at (852) 27701065/ kendyyim@afro.org.hk

STATEMENT

Statement 17 December: International Day to End Violence Against Sex Workers

On 17 December, the *LSI NGO Platform - United against human trafficking in Europe*¹ calls to end violence against sex workers and for the protection and promotion of their human rights.

Globally, sex workers face many forms of violence. Due to the often criminalised status of sex work and the stigma that sex workers face, violence against sex workers remains nearly always unpunished. We believe that violence against sex workers needs to be addressed by protecting their rights and investigating and prosecuting all violent offences against anyone working in the sex sector.

[Read the full statement >](#)

"...every country that fails to protect migrants and migrant workers, whether legal or illegal, must take responsibility for creating an environment in which exploitation of these persons becomes both possible and worthwhile. Engaging with governments on these issues is difficult and often thankless work. But it's an important part of the puzzle that shouldn't be ignored."

- [Keynote speech](#) given by Anne Gallagher
Trust Women Conference, London, December 3, 2013

Human Rights at home, abroad and on the way

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 once a month. A Spanish version goes out to the GAATW REDLAC mailing list 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

¹ The *LSI NGO Platform - United against trafficking in Europe* aims to strengthen the cooperation in Europe (EU and Non-EU) among civil society organisations combining practical work with trafficked persons and affected groups with political advocacy for human rights based policies to eradicate trafficking in human beings

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 gaatw@gaatw.org. If you do not want to receive this e-bulletin please send us a message at gaatw@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.