

Stop Trafficking !

Anti-Human Trafficking Newsletter



Awareness

Advocacy

Action

July 2010 Vol. 8 No. 7

This issue highlights portions of the 10th US State Department Report on Global Trafficking.

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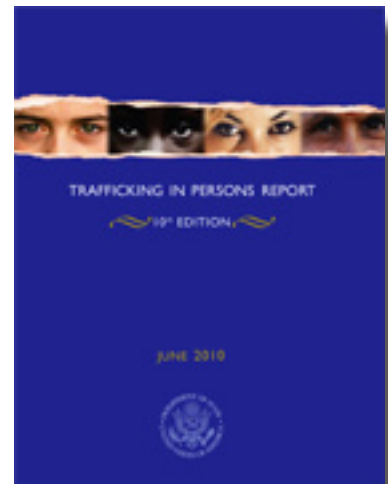
2010 'Trafficking in Persons' (TIP) Report

"In Global Affairs, the threat that unites many of the challenges that we face, from refugees to the environment to population, is that of human security. We uplift human security when we help refugees access food and clean water. ... And yet this issue of human security is most at stake when

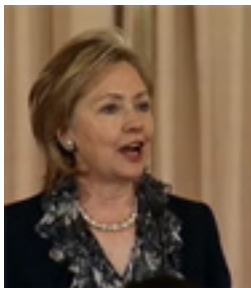


Maria Otero, Under Secretary for Democracy & Global Affairs.

presented with the horrific crime of complete deprivation of liberty, freedom, and independence – the crime of human trafficking."



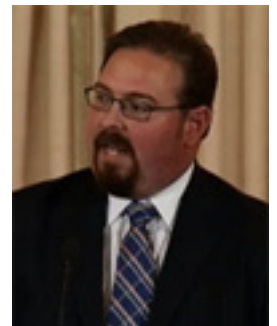
"Human trafficking crosses cultures and continents. I've met survivors of trafficking and their families, along with brave men and women in both the public and the private sector who have stood up against this terrible crime. All of us have a responsibility to bring this practice to an end. Survivors must be supported Traffickers must be brought to justice. Businesses that knowingly profit or exhibit reckless disregard about their supply chains, governments that turn a blind eye or do not devote serious resources to addressing the problem, all of us have to speak out and act forcefully."



Hillary Rodham Clinton, U.S. Sec. of State

"In our first TIP Report, we cited the U.S. only as a destination or transit country, oblivious to the reality that we, too, are a source country for people held in servitude. ...Progress has been made.

Yet, enslaving someone still carries too little risk. Remediation, fines, or warnings are too small a price to pay – those who would profit by stealing freedom should lose their own." Luis CdeBaca, Ambassador-at-Large, Office to Monitor & Combat Trafficking in Persons



For practical action see pgs. 7-8



Awareness

'TIP' Key Stats

- 12.3 million – the number of adults and children in forced labor, bonded labor, and forced prostitution around the world; 56% of these victims are women and girls.
- \$32 billion – the annual profit for traffickers.
- 49,105 – the number of victims identified worldwide; a 59% increase over the last reporting year (2008).
- 1.8 per 1,000 inhabitants – prevalence of trafficking victims in the world: (in Asia & the Pacific: 3 per 1,000).
- 8.5 – percentage ratio of convicted offenders to victims identified.
- 0.4 – percentage ratio of victims identified to estimated victims.
- 4,166 – successful trafficking prosecutions in 2009; a 40% increase over 2008.
- 335 – successful prosecutions related to forced labor.
- 62 – countries that have yet to convict a trafficker under laws in compliance with the Palermo Protocol.
- 104 – countries without laws, policies, or regulations to prevent victims' deportation.
- 23 – countries that received upgraded rankings in the 2010 TIP Report; 19 countries received downgraded rankings.
- 140 – number of anti-trafficking programs funded by the U.S. in nearly 70 countries
- 38 – number of domestic task forces that bring state and local authorities together with non-government organizations (NGOs).
- Two countries, the U.S.A. and Kiribati, are ranked for the first time in the 2010 TIP Report.

People Exploited From Albania to Western Europe

Anna's trafficker kept her in submission through physical abuse – beating her, raping her, and slicing her with knives. He abducted her from Albania and took her to a Western European country, where she was forced into prostitution for about five months. He then took her to a second Western European country, where she told border authorities she was traveling on a falsified passport in hopes of getting help. The police sent her to a refugee camp where two Albanian social workers released her back to her trafficker. During more than four years of subsequent forced prostitution in the second destination, Anna was made to undergo four abortions.

When her trafficker was deported to Albania, five years after her initial abduction, Anna went to police with information about the trafficking ring. Two days later, she too was deported to Albania, where the trafficker continued his threats and abuse. Anna pursued prosecution of her trafficker in Albania, but he remains free. She has been denied residency and assistance from several Western European countries, including the ones in which she was exploited. She was able to resettle in the United States where she is continuing her rehabilitation and studying to become a nurse. (TIP pg. 6)

From Ethiopia to the Un. Arab Emirates

Mary left her home in East Africa determined to earn money for her family. But from her second day of work as a maid in a private house in the United Arab Emirates, she was beaten daily. *"If she didn't beat me in the day, she would beat me at night,"* Mary says of her employer. The beatings continued for two years.

Once, Mary's employer threw boiling water on her and continued to beat her after she collapsed in pain. She was denied medical attention. Her clothing stuck to her wounds. Her employer ordered Mary to have sex with another maid on video. When Mary refused, the woman put a hot iron on her neck and threatened her with more beatings. After two years, a doctor noted wounds, scars, and blisters all over Mary's body. (TIP pg. 14)

From Eastern Europe to the U.S.

Katya, a student athlete in an Eastern European capital city, dreamed of learning English and visiting the United States. Her opportunity came in the form of a student visa program, through which international students can work temporarily in the United States. But when she got to America, rather than being taken to a job at a beach resort, the people who met her put her on a bus to Detroit, Michigan. They took her passport away, and forced her and her friends to dance in strip clubs for the traffickers' profit. They controlled the girls' movement and travel, kept keys to the girls' apartment, and listened in on phone calls the girls made to their parents.

After a year of enslavement, Katya and her friend were able to reach federal authorities with the help of a patron of the strip club in whom they had confided. Due to their bravery, six other victims were identified and rescued. Katya now has immigration status under the U.S. trafficking law. She works in a health club and hopes to finish her degree in kinesiology. The traffickers are in federal prison. (pg. 22)



Awareness

Forced Labor

Recent studies show the majority of human trafficking in the world takes the form of forced labor. The ILO estimates that for every trafficking victim subjected to forced prostitution, nine people are forced to work. Also known as involuntary servitude, forced labor may result when unscrupulous employers exploit workers made more vulnerable by high rates of unemployment, poverty, crime, discrimination, corruption, political conflict, or cultural acceptance of the practice.

Immigrants are particularly vulnerable, but individuals also may be forced into labor in their own countries. Female victims of forced or bonded labor, especially women and girls in domestic servitude, are often sexually exploited as well. (TIP pg. 8)

Un. Arab Emirates

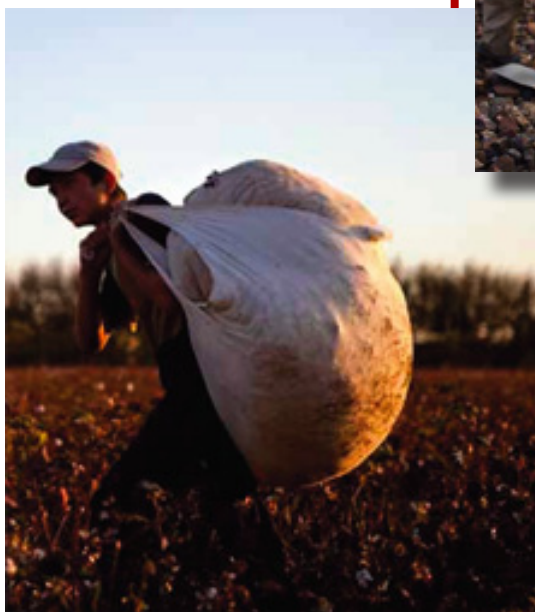
Migrant workers congregate at a labor camp outside Dubai, where hundreds of thousands of men reside amidst garbage and raw sewage. Up to 20 men often share small rooms, and employers often withhold wages of these workers with the intent of preventing them from leaving.

"You have to carry 50 kg bricks and blocks of cement in the worst heat imaginable ... This heat – it is like nothing else. You sweat so much you can't pee, not for days or weeks. It's like all the liquid comes out through your skin and you stink. You become dizzy and sick but you aren't allowed to stop, except for an hour in the afternoon. You know if you drop anything or slip, you could die. If you take time off sick, your wages are docked, and you are trapped here even longer." Bangladeshi construction worker in Dubai ("The Dark Side of Dubai," The Independent, April 7, 2009) (TIP pg. 37)



India

Indian children work at a construction site in New Delhi, India. The construction project is one of many aimed at enhancing the city's sporting and transport infrastructure in advance of the *October 2010 Commonwealth Games*. Migrant workers from all over India are being paid below the minimum wage and are living and working in substandard conditions to complete these projects. (TIP pg. 12)



Uzbekistan

The Government of Uzbekistan routinely compels children and adults as laborers in the country's annual cotton harvest. During the 2009 fall harvest, school children were forced to pick cotton in at least eight of 14 regions in the country. (TIP pg. 21)

Child Soliders

The 2010 Child Soldier Protection Act lists governments that continue to recruit and use child soldiers

1. Burma
2. Chad
3. Congo (Dem. Rep.)
4. Somalia
5. Sudan
6. Yemen (TIP pg. 10)



Awareness

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‘Sponsorship’ Reforms

Many countries with significant foreign migrant labor populations have created legal avenues for temporary labor migration – termed ‘*guest worker*’ or ‘*sponsorship*’ systems. These laws and policies regulate how foreign workers can migrate and work in the destination country.

The threat of detention and deportation without compensation for wages earned can serve as a powerful tool of coercion. Often working through labor recruiters in source countries, sponsors – either employers or labor brokers – offer a job to a potential migrant worker. The worker accepts the job while in his/her home country through a local labor recruiter and receives a visa or immigration entry permit linked to the sponsor in the destination country.

These systems contribute to forced labor when the sponsor has excessive power to grant and sustain the immigration or legal status of a migrant worker and when there are no real options for migrants to seek legal remedy for abuses or conditions of forced labor. Remedies to forced labor would include the availability of and access to immigration relief, shelter, medical care, counseling, worker hotlines, and legal aid.

Governments should assess their sponsorship systems for potential contributions to forced labor. There are a number of ‘*best practices*’ to be considered in reassessing sponsorship systems:

- provide credible legal remedies to all vulnerable migrant laborers (including domestic workers);
- criminalize the withholding of workers’ identity or travel documents (e.g., passport) by the employer or sponsor;
- allow workers to switch employers or sponsors, as well as leave the country without employer or sponsor permission, if they experience conditions of forced labor;
- require a standard contract for all workers, written in the languages of both the employer or sponsor and the worker;
- require the payment of wages electronically to an account owned by the individual worker. (TIP pg. 26)

Deportations

In the 10 years since the passage of the *Palermo Protocol* with its ‘3P’ paradigm of *prevention*, *protection* and *prosecution*, a competing, more unfortunate, paradigm seems to persist in impeding greater anti-trafficking progress: the ‘3D’ phenomenon of *detention*, *deportation* and *disempowerment*.

Many destination countries throughout the world face seemingly insurmountable challenges in confronting illegal immigration. In response to this crisis, governments of developed destination countries are summarily deporting undocumented migrants in large numbers, without careful consideration of whether they are in need of protection or without screening them for indicators of exploitation and human trafficking. (TIP pgs. 16, 24)

New Insights on 10th Anniversary

The 10th annual report was commended by experts for avoiding the politicization that had colored previous years’ rankings, where some countries that oppose certain U.S. policies were ranked worse than some trafficking experts felt they should be.

The report drew praise for emphasizing the variety of trafficking abuses that exist. A representative of the *Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking* (CAST) appreciated the emphasis on forced labor, but stated, “*At the same time we want to avoid a ‘pendulum swing’ where we stop talking about other types of slavery, like sex slavery.*”

Moreover resources have increased just minimally since 2003 despite increases in numbers of victims certified to receive funding. We hope the U.S. will follow its own recommendation in the report and increase funding, including long-term, comprehensive care for victims.”

There also remain serious questions on how best to aid victims once they are identified. Immigrant victims are harmed because they must cooperate with law enforcement. They fear deportation or imprisonment or dangers to their families.

There is a long way to go in terms of removing the barriers preventing victims from coming forward. Victims usually want to move on with their lives rather than relive their experiences through activities like court subpoenas. (<http://ipsnews.net/news.asp?idnews=51817>)



Advocacy

TIP Heroes

The TIP Report highlights nine heroes, who have creatively acted to counter trafficking and aid victims (TIP pgs. 42-44).

Three are featured here:

Xavier Plassat, a French Dominican friar, who started working with the rural poor in northern Brazil and ended up leading a national campaign against slave labor.



Christine Sabiyemva, a woman from Burundi, one of the first to serve as an army officer in her native country, who searches the streets for enslaved children and recently broke up a major human trafficking ring.



Laura Germino, coordinator of the Anti-Slavery Campaign for the Florida-based *Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW)*, a community organization with over 4,000 migrant farm workers.



She and her co-workers investigated violent slavery operations in the agricultural industry of the southeastern United States, resulting in the federal prosecutions of the ringleaders and the liberation of more than 1,000 workers.

'TIP' Rankings

Tier 1

While Tier 1 is the highest ranking, it does not mean that a country has no human trafficking problem. On the contrary, a Tier 1 ranking indicates that a government has acknowledged the existence of human trafficking, has made efforts to address the problem, and meets the TVPA's minimum standards. Each year, governments need to demonstrate appreciable progress in combating trafficking to maintain a Tier 1 ranking. Indeed, Tier 1 represents a responsibility rather than a reprieve. (TIP pg. 20)

Tier 2 Watch List

As a result of amendments made by the *William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (TVPRA of 2008)*, any country that has been ranked Tier 2 Watch List for two consecutive years (beginning from the time of the 2009 report) and that would otherwise be ranked Tier 2 Watch List for the next year will instead be ranked Tier 3 for the next year, unless the president waives application of this provision based on a determination that, among other things, the government has a written plan for meeting the TVPA's minimum standards. (TIP pg. 20)

Penalties for Tier 3 Countries

Pursuant to the TVPA, governments of countries on Tier 3 may be subject to certain sanctions, whereby the U.S. government may withhold non-humanitarian, non-trade-related foreign assistance. Such assistance may be withdrawn from countries receiving it, and in addition, countries on Tier 3 may not receive funding for government employees' participation in educational and cultural exchange programs. Consistent with the TVPA, governments subject to sanctions would also face U.S. opposition to assistance (except for humanitarian, trade-related, and certain development-related assistance) from international financial institutions such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank.

Imposed sanctions will take effect on October 1, 2010; however, all or part of the TVPA's sanctions can be waived if the President determines that the provision of such assistance to the government would promote the purposes of the statute or is otherwise in the national interest of the United States. The TVPA also provides for a waiver of sanctions if necessary to avoid significant adverse effects on vulnerable populations, including women and children. Sanctions would not apply if the President finds that, after this report is issued but before sanctions determinations are made, a government has come into compliance with the minimum standards or is making significant efforts to bring itself into compliance. No tier ranking is permanent. Every country can do more, including the United States. All countries must maintain and increase efforts to combat trafficking. (TIP pg. 25, 26, 28)



Advocacy

“The 10th annual Trafficking in Persons Report outlines the continuing challenges across the globe, including in the United States.

The U.S. takes its first-ever ranking not as a reprieve but as a responsibility to strengthen global efforts against modern slavery, including those within America. This human rights abuse is universal, and no one should claim immunity from its reach or from the responsibility to confront it.” Sec. Hilary Clinton, June 14, 2010

TIP Report Placements

<p>Tier 1: Governments that fully comply with the TVPA minimum standards for the elimination of human trafficking. (n) new country in ranking as of 2010; (+/-) indicates the number of tiers a country moved up (+)/down (-) since 2009.</p>				
Australia	Croatia	Germany	Mauritius	Slovenia
Austria	Czech Republic	Ireland (+)	Netherlands	Spain
Belgium	Denmark	Italy	New Zealand	Sweden
Bosnia & Herz. (+)	Finland	Korea, south	Nigeria	Taiwan (+)
Canada	France	Lithuania	Norway	United Kingdom
Colombia	Georgia	Luxembourg	Poland	USA (n)
<p>Tier 2: Countries that make significant effort to bring themselves into compliance.</p>				
Albania	Chile	Indonesia	Mongolia	Sierra Leone
Angola (+)	Costa Rica	Iraq (+)	Montenegro (+)	Slovak Republic
Antigua & Barbuda	Cyprus	Israel	Morocco	South Africa
Argentina (+)	Djibouti (+)	Jamaica	Namibia	Suriname
Armenia	Ecuador	Japan	Nepal	Switzerland (-)
Bahrain (+)	Egypt (+)	Jordan	Neth. Antilles (+)	The Bahamas
Belarus	El Salvador	Kenya	Oman	The Gambia
Benin	Estonia	Kosovo	Pakistan (+)	Timor-este
Bolivia	Ethiopia	Kyrgyz Republic	Palau	Togo
Botswana	Ghana (+)	Latvia (+)	Paraguay	Turkey
Brazil	Greece	Liberia	Peru	Uganda
Bulgaria	Honduras	Macau	Portugal	Ukraine (+)
Burkina Faso	Hong Kong	Macedonia (-)	Romania	Un. Arab Emir. (+)
Burundi (+)	Hungary	Malawi	Rwanda	Uruguay
Cambodia (+)	Iceland	Mexico	Serbia	Zambia
<p>Special Watch List: Based on the overall extent of human trafficking in the country and the extent to which government officials have participated in, facilitated, condoned, or are otherwise complicit in human trafficking.</p>				
Afghanistan (-)	Cote d'Ivoire	Lebanon	Nicaragua	Syria (+)
Algeria	Equatorial Guinea	Lesotho	Niger (+)	Tajikistan
Azerbaijan	Fiji (+)	Libya	Panama (-)	Tanzania (-)
Bangladesh	Gabon	Madagascar (-)	Philippines	Thailand (-)
Barbados (-)	Guatemala	Malaysia (+)	Qatar	Trinidad & Tobago (-)
Belize	Guinea-Bissau	Maldives (-)	Russia	Tunisia
Brunei (-)	Guinea	Mali	Senegal	Turkmenistan
Cameroon	Guyana	Malta (-)	Singapore (-)	Uzbekistan
Cent. African Rep.	India	Micronesia	Sri Lanka	Venezuela
Chad (+)	Kazakhstan (-)	Moldova	St. Vincent & the Gren.	Vietnam (-)
China (PRC)	Kiribati (n)	Mozambique (-)	Swaziland (+)	Yemen
Congo (ROC)	Laos (-)			
<p>Tier 3: Countries that do not fully comply and do not make significant effort to work toward compliance.</p>				
Burma	Dominican Rep. (-)	Korea, North	Papua New Guinea	Sudan
Congo (DRC) (-)	Eritrea	Kuwait	Saudi Arabia	Zimbabwe
Cuba	Iran	Mauritania		



Advocacy

Core Principles for Shelter Programs

Shelters for trafficking victims offer safe refuge and comprehensive services. These shelters ... should adhere to some core principles, including: 1). *Trafficked persons' sense of empowerment, trust and community need to be re-built.*

Traffickers deny victims their basic freedoms, leaving them feeling trapped, fearful, and ashamed. A shelter is often the first place victims are offered assistance and begin to rebuild what was shattered by the trafficker.

Effective shelter programs adopting this principle offer victims:

- access to family, friends, and the community outside the shelter;
- power to decide their recovery plan;
- comfortable accommodations resembling a residence, not a jail;
- respectful treatment with rights and not as criminal offenders;
- respectful, caring, and qualified staff;
- opportunities to work and the ability to leave the shelter at will.

2). *Trafficked persons' safety and well-being should be the core of all services.*

The goal of a shelter program is to provide a safe haven and move a trafficked person from crisis to recovery. Anything endangering a trafficked person's safety or well-being is in direct conflict with this main goal. Trafficked persons have physical safety needs that require protocols and physical building enhancements for their protection. However, shelter programs must meet these safety needs in a manner that does not diminish the residents' well-being. The shelter environment should not re-traumatize them.

3). *Trafficked persons require some combination of comprehensive services, including psychological, medical, legal, educational, life skills, vocational, and translation/interpretation.*

Shelters for trafficked persons should not be a detention facility used to safeguard the person before return to the country of origin. Instead, shelters should be both a safe haven and a place where trafficked persons can access critical and comprehensive services beyond emergency assistance of food and shelter. These services help the trafficked person begin the process of healing body and mind and reintegrating into society. They may also serve a preventive purpose and decrease the likelihood of re-trafficking. 4). *Service delivery must be victim-centered.*

Each trafficking experience is unique and affects individuals differently; not every trafficked person will require or want the same services. Shelter staff should work with trafficked persons individually to create a tailored recovery plan including:

- individualized case management;
- intake as well as needs and risk assessments;
- cultural and linguistic considerations;
- confidentiality;
- safety and safety planning; and,
- re-integration services.

'TIP' – Not Human Trafficking

Illegal adoptions:

The kidnapping or unlawful buying/selling of an infant or child for the purpose of offering that child for adoption is a serious criminal offense. It is a form of human trafficking only if it involves the use of force, fraud, or coercion, compelling services from a person.

The trade in human organs:

The international trade in organs is substantial and demand appears to be growing. Victims in developing countries are often exploited. It is trafficking only if force or threats are used to remove a victim's organs.

Child pornography:

The production of sexual images 'representing' children is not sex trafficking unless a child is actually induced to perform a sex act for the purpose of producing the pornography. Distribution and possession of child pornography, while often criminally prohibited, are not acts of human trafficking.

Prostitution:

Prostitution by willing adults is not human trafficking regardless of whether it is legalized, decriminalized, or criminalized. However, pursuant to the *Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act (TVPRA)* of 2008, the definitions of human trafficking under U.S. law are not construed to treat prostitution as a valid form of employment. The TIP Report evaluates the efforts of countries with legalized prostitution to reduce the demand for commercial sex acts as part of its assessment of the countries' serious and sustained efforts to eliminate severe forms of trafficking in persons. (TIP pg. 8)

"This year the U.S. government includes an assessment of its own efforts and places itself in Tier 1. In some ways, this is a fair assessment, but for one very important exception – the government's dismal efforts to identify and protect sexually exploited children." Carol Smolenski, Executive Director End Child Prostitution and Trafficking (ECPAT)

Read ECPAT-USA's observations about how the US government has to do better. (<http://www.causes.com/causes/274007?m=od43bb06>)



Action

Toll-Free 24/7 Hotline
National Human Trafficking
Resource Center
1.888.3737.888

Breaking the 'Supply' Chain

With the majority of modern slaves in agriculture and mining around the world – and forced labor prevalent in cotton, chocolate, steel, rubber, tin, tungsten, coltan, sugar, and seafood – it is impossible to get dressed, drive to work, talk on the phone, or eat a meal without touching products tainted by forced labor. Even reputable companies can profit from abuse when they do not protect their supply chain – whether the raw materials, parts, or final products – from modern slavery.

Consumer spending and corporate investment in business are leverage points that can turn around a system that has for too long allowed traffickers to operate with impunity. There is an increasing push for consumer transparency, certification, and more rigorous regulation.

Research suggests companies investing in fair labor practices and labeling their products accordingly improve conditions on the ground and drive up the demand for, and price of, their products. A new paradigm of corporate accountability is emerging, demanding companies cast their attentions beyond the places where their products are produced or processed – such as apparel factories and seafood processing shops – to places where the raw materials are collected, harvested, or mined.

Principles for supply chain standards:

- Statements of corporate policy must incorporate truly independent verification.

- While remediation is important, when labor abuses become a human trafficking offense, authorities should be notified.
- Governments must redefine norms and set standards to create a space for companies to take the lead on combating modern slavery.
- Lending institutions should consider establishing whether a company has a forced labor supply chain policy as a factor for determining that company's credit rating.

Companies should adopt policies that:

- take accountability for all the labor in the supply chain all the way down to raw materials, with a pledge to monitor compliance, remediate noncompliance, and verify those actions by an independent third party;
- honor the role and voice of the worker as the best check on abuse;
- publicly disclose mechanisms for providing independent, unannounced, and thorough audits;
- provide effective whistleblower and complaint procedures;
- provide clear guidelines for security procedures throughout the supply chains to ensure that security forces are not used to intimidate, hold, or abuse workers;
- regularly update shareholders and stakeholders on creation, maintenance, and implementation of related policies;
- guarantee all workers mobility by strictly forbidding any confiscation of official documents;
- commit to providing restitution for victims & other forms of remediation;

Supply Chain *cont.* col. 3

Informative Web Sites:

(Each contains information related to human trafficking)

TIP Report

<http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2010/index.htm>

(Interactive Map:

<http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2010/138377.htm>)

Supply Chain *cont.*

- comply with trafficking-related local laws and international standards for confronting human trafficking and protecting victims; and,
- hold employees accountable for violations or exploitative conduct contributing to trafficking in persons.

(TIP pg. 30)

Salvation Army: September 24-26, 2010 Annual Day of Fast & Prayer for Victims of Sex Trafficking

For information and materials, go to:
http://www.salvationarmyusa.org/usn/www_usn_2.nsf/vw-dynamic-index/2E617561A12EFFB6852574440043C4B5?Opendocument

Stop Trafficking! is dedicated exclusively to fostering an exchange of information among religious congregations, their friends and collaborating organizations, working to eliminate all forms of trafficking of human beings.

Use the following web address to access back issues of *Stop Trafficking!* <http://www.stopenslavement.org/index.html>

To contribute information, or make requests to be on the mailing list, please contact: jeansds2010@yahoo.com

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