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editorial

It's my pleasure to welcome you to the 17th edition of our bi-monthly newsletter where we showcase how we are working alongside our partners to strengthen the response to one of the most challenging transnational organized crimes; trafficking in persons.

In this issue you will find snapshots of our team in action. We have highlighted the currently ongoing project where we are working with the transport sector actors in Nairobi to develop a communication strategy in our collective efforts to curb human trafficking along the transit routes. We have also highlighted our role in a technical working group involving government actors and the civil society; consolidating shared experiences in a bid to rescue Karamoja girls trafficked from North Eastern Uganda to Kenya for exploitation.

It is worthy to note the successes achieved despite constraints caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and in highly complex immigration process involved in repatriation. We have highlighted a successful repatriation story of a victim trafficked and abused by a relative.

Finally, I would like to extend our appreciation to our partners; GIZ, CHTEA, the entire Stop the Traffic Kenya (STTK) network; whom we collaborate with on a regular basis, Liberty Shared, the DCI–Anti-Human Trafficking & Child Protection Unit (AHTCPU), ODPP, Dwelling places Uganda, Rahab Uganda, Uganda High Commission and all the other partners not mentioned.

Please Enjoy Reading our Newsletter!

Nimo Ali

Director, Candle of Hope Foundation

TOWARDS A HUMAN TRAFFICKING-FREE COUNTRY

Beyond 2020: The first Santa Marta group- Kenya counter human trafficking conference

The Catholic Church in Kenya through the Religious Superiors Conference of Kenya (RSCK) teamed up with the Civil Society Organizations (CSO), under the theme, "Partnership beyond 2020", brought together several actors to discuss the pertinent issue of human trafficking. The organizers of the conference Fr Nicholas Makau, Consolata Missionaries, Nimo Mohamed Ali, Candle of Hope Foundation (COHF) and Mr Francis Mutuku Nguli, CHTEA, brought together government officers from the Directorate of Criminal Investigations (DCI), the Judiciary, the Office of the Directorate of Public Prosecutions (ODPP), the Law Society of Kenya (LSK), the Counter Trafficking in Persons (CTIP) Secretariat,



During the first Santa Marta group- Kenya counter human trafficking conference where Nimo Ali, Director, Candle of Hope Foundation was among the organizers and co-facilitator

and several civil society organizations and faith-based groups to search for various groups were represented in the webinar and 61 participants instrumental in putting human trafficking to an end in the society. Various groups were represented in the webinar and 61 participants engaged at the conference.

TRAININGS \$ TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Trainings: Responsible data management & protection

COHF fully participated in weekly virtual trainings facilitated by GIZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft Für Internationale Zusammenarbeit). The trainings and interactive exercises began on October 21st and ended on December 9th. The sessions covered victim information management and were aimed at improving data protection practices among various stakeholders in CTIP; in their collective capacity to assist human trafficking victims and survivors.

SAFEGUARDING THE TRANSIT ROUTES

Communication strategy with transport actors on human trafficking along the local transit routes

During the month of January we began implementing a project jointly with Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) on a communication strategy for tackling human trafficking along transit routes.

The Strategy will particularly target Matatu operators and young people with information to educate them on the nature and dangers of human trafficking. The activities will also involve engaging the travelers on information about human trafficking and irregular migration we are making inquiries about the public knowledge and learning from those who have experienced human trafficking.

MIGRATION, LAWS AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Saving the **KARAMOJA GIRLS**: A multi-agency **technical working group** to formulate a strategic framework to **raise awareness** about the exploitation dynamics among the immigrants from the Horn of Africa

The growing population of immigrants from the Horn of Africa especially; Somalis, Ethiopians and Djiboutian in areas bordering Eastleigh, Kamukunji sub-county in Nairobi has created an on-demand economy for domestic work. In Kenya, a comparative analysis shows that there is a very low turnover recorded among Karamoja domestic workers, making them more preferable compared to others. This high demand for Karamoja girls; who are much marginalized and highly vulnerable

has made the perpetrators take advantage to traffic them through Kamukunji sub-county.

It is for that reason and also due to our ability to locally interact with the local communities around the area, that we were included in a multi-agency technical working group; involving government actors, civil society, and religious leaders to formulate a strategic framework to raise awareness about the exploitation dynamics among the immigrants

living in Eastleigh and Kamukunji areas. We are training volunteers with cultural and language appropriate skills and deploy them to identify hotspots of exploitation. We are also supporting with referrals to shelters/ safe house and appropriate support services for rescued victims and potential victims. COHF is working in collaboration with CHTEA, ODPP, DCI, FIDA Kenya, CTIP, TOCU, religious leaders and the Office of Eastleigh Chief among others.

PLANNING

Prevention:work-plan For the Year 2021

COHF was among the facilitators of the annual prevention work plan that was organized by STTK in partnership with GIZ The event brought together all the anti-human trafficking stake holders in the country both from the government and the civil society with an aim of formulating the 2021 annual collective work plan that would ensure effective, timely and coordinated system-wide support to member organizations while also helping set goals that will measure our achievements at the end of this calendar year.

SUCCESSFUL REPATRIATION STORY

We are delighted to share the successful repatriation journey of Aisha* to Uganda Aisha* 16, was trafficked from Uganda to Kenya when she was 12 and was sexually assaulted by her father who is facing charges in court. Before being transported to Kenya, Aisha* had been living with her grandmother since her mother died. She was eager to reunite with her father who later turned out to be her oppressor. Candle of Hope Foundation together with the other partners were tasked to facilitate her safe stay in a safe house as the court process and repatriation procedures were being advanced.

Due to the fact that Trafficking cases in the Kenya take long to conclude, Aisha overstayed at the shelter and was growing anxious and wondering when she could see her family again. In the meantime we offered her needs alongside adequate life skills on how to deal with stigma as she was awaiting reintegration back to the community. Thanks to Maisha safe house, COHF, DCI-Anti-Human Trafficking & Child Protection Unit (AHTCPU), ODPP, Dwelling places Uganda, Rahab Uganda & Uganda High Commission, Aisha* has finally been repatriated to Uganda and has been reunited with her family.

“Coming together is a beginning, staying together is progress, and working together is success.”

— Henry Ford.



Thanks

For reading this issue of our newsletter

Partners



Directorate of
Criminal Investigations



Republic of Somaliland
Ministry of Employment
Social Affairs and Family

STOP THE TRAFFIK.
PEOPLE SHOULDN'T BE BOUGHT & SOLD



giz Deutsche Gesellschaft
für Internationale
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

LIBERTY SHARED
CREATING AN ENVIRONMENT
SAFE FROM TRAFFICKING



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