

CHAPTER

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**United Nations Office
on Drugs and Crime**



UNODC

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The UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)¹ is the central UN office responsible for drug control and crime prevention, and is a member of the UN Development Group. The Organization's major engagement with migration and human mobility is through its role as guardian of the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its supplementing Protocols on Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants.² It is mandated to assist Member States in their efforts to effectively implement the two protocols and adequately respond to the crimes of trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants.

UNODC has long been concerned with the linkages between human trafficking, migrant smuggling, migration, development and gender. Human traffickers and smugglers thrive in contexts where social and economic vulnerability is high. The consequences of these crimes for development are severe and involve heavy human, social and economic costs to victims, irregular migrants and their communities. Local development measures are key to lowering the social and economic vulnerabilities underlying human trafficking and migrant smuggling. Equally important are the criminal justice responses to these crimes, specifically, the prevention and prosecution of the crimes, the protection of the victims and cooperation to facilitate dialogue and coordinate responses. UNODC takes the lead in coordinating and strengthening these actions nationally, bilaterally and globally.

1. Migration and development activities since the 2006 High-level Dialogue

UNODC's anti-human trafficking and anti-smuggling of migrants programmes since 2006 have continued to follow a strategic "4 P's" approach consisting of: prevention, prosecution, protection and the development of multi-stakeholder partnerships. This has included, in particular: (a) assisting Member States in the ratification, and the full and effective implementation of the Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants Protocols, at the policy level and through the delivery of technical assistance; (b) research and awareness-raising; and (c) strengthening of partnerships and coordination with other international actors at both policy and operational levels. Related capacity-building activities concern legislative assistance, strategic planning

¹ UNODC was established in 1997 as the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention through a merger between the United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP) and the Centre for International Crime Prevention. It was renamed the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in 2002.

² The UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime is accessible from www.unodc.org/unodc/en/treaties/CTOC/index.html; the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children (or, simply, the Trafficking in Persons Protocol), from www.uncjin.org/Documents/Conventions/dcatoc/final_documents_2/convention_%20traff_eng.pdf; and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air (Smuggling of Migrants Protocol), from www.unodc.org/documents/eastasiaandpacific/2011/04/som-indonesia/convention_smug_eng.pdf.

and policy development, criminal justice responses and protection and support to victims of trafficking and smuggled migrants.

Legislative assistance

Since 2006 UNODC has supported Member States in their efforts to review, adopt and/or amend national legislation to reflect the full range of obligations arising from the Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants Protocols, including those related to the impact of the two crimes on migration and development. In support of direct assistance, UNODC has disseminated 18 specialized technical assistance tools, some for specific regions and countries. These include: the Model Law against Trafficking in Persons³ (2009); the Model Law against the Smuggling of Migrants⁴ (2010); *Combating Trafficking in Persons: A Handbook for Parliamentarians* (2009);⁵ and *Combating trafficking in persons in accordance with the principles of Islamic law* (2010)⁶, the first global text on the matter.⁷

Strategic Planning and Policy Development - Since 2006 UNODC has supported Member States in developing and enacting comprehensive policies and action plans to adequately respond to the crimes of trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants. The Office has developed tools such as the International Frameworks for Action to implement the Trafficking in Persons Protocol (2009)⁸ and the Smuggling of Migrants Protocol (2011)⁹, which assist Member States and non-state actors in identifying and addressing gaps in their respective responses. Both frameworks for action describe practical measures to implement each specific requirement of the Protocols. For example:

The Framework for Action to implement the Smuggling of Migrants Protocol notes the requirement under the Protocol to ensure that measures taken to address migrant smuggling do not result in discrimination of migrants, as enshrined in numerous international human rights instruments.¹⁰ It outlines specific measures that Member States can take, including building capacity of criminal justice systems in non-

³ The handbook may be downloaded from www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Model_Law_against_TIP.pdf.

⁴ www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Model_Law_Smuggling_of_Migrants_10-52715_Ebook.pdf.

⁵ The handbook may be downloaded from www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/UN_Handbook_engl_core_low.pdf.

⁶ The publication is available at www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Islamic_Law_TIP_English_ebook_V0985841.pdf.

⁷ The Model Laws, for example, contain concrete guidance on how to legislatively protect the rights of irregular migrants (specifically trafficked persons and smuggled migrants), to provide for access to justice and assistance, and how to respond to issues of return and repatriation.

⁸ The protocol may be downloaded from www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Framework_for_Action_TIP.pdf.

⁹ The protocol may be downloaded from www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Migrant-Smuggling/Framework_for_Action_Smuggling_of_Migrants.pdf.

¹⁰ The Frameworks are built upon a human rights-based approach, emphasizing that respecting the human rights of migrants, irrespective of their immigration status, is a means by which the crimes of human trafficking and smuggling of migrants can be best prevented and combated.

discrimination, amending the mandate of anti-discrimination institutions to specifically monitor discrimination against smuggled migrants, and promoting independent monitoring and evaluation of the treatment of smuggled migrants.

Criminal Justice Responses - UNODC provides specialized training to personnel, such as, among others, the police, border agents, judges and civil society workers, to strengthen criminal justice responses to trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants, and to ensure protection and assistance to trafficked persons, as well as protection of the rights of smuggled migrants. Between 2006 and 2013, UNODC assisted 69 countries with in-depth training of more than 1,500 criminal justice practitioners and government officials. From this experience, UNODC has developed the *Anti-Human Trafficking Manual for Criminal Justice Practitioners*¹¹ (2009) and the *In-depth Training Manual on Investigating and Prosecuting the Smuggling of Migrants*¹² (2011), with modules addressing all aspects of anti-trafficking in persons and anti-smuggling of migrants in a consistent and holistic approach. For example:

- (a) All technical and skills-based modules of the Manual on Investigating and Prosecuting the Smuggling of Migrants stress that the target of migrant smuggling investigations and prosecutions are the smuggler(s), not the migrants; that migrants should not be criminalized for being smuggled; and that States should protect migrants from violence and assist those whose lives or safety are endangered.
- (b) Similarly, modules of the Anti-Human Trafficking Manual provide practical guidance to enable cooperation among officials of different States in carrying out investigations and prosecutions, as well as information-sharing, to help dismantle the organized crime networks which operate beyond national borders.

Victim Protection and Support - Trafficked persons and smuggled migrants often do not have regular residence status in the country of destination, and thus in many cases fear reporting any crime or otherwise coming into contact with the authorities. Additionally, the failure to identify trafficked persons, for example by State actors, continues to greatly hamper efforts in anti-trafficking in persons. UNODC has continued its longstanding support to Member States in their efforts to develop or strengthen mechanisms to improve the identification of victims of human trafficking or victims among smuggled migrants, to take into account the needs of the most vulnerable, such as women and children and refugees, and to offer them appropriate protection and assistance. In 2010 the UN Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons was established by the UN General Assembly, with UNODC appointed as Fund Manager.

¹¹ The manual may be downloaded from www.unodc.org/unodc/en/human-trafficking/2009/anti-human-trafficking-manual.html.

¹² The manual is available from www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Migrant-Smuggling/In-Depth_Training_Manual_SOM_en_wide_use.pdf.

The aim of the Trust Fund is to provide tangible humanitarian, legal and financial aid to victims of trafficking in persons through established channels of assistance, such as governmental, inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations. In 2011 UNODC developed the Human Trafficking First Aid Kit¹³ for front-line responders to ensure that those most likely to make first contact with trafficked persons are trained to take the vital steps to protect victims and catch the criminals involved.¹⁴ In 2011 UNODC published the Victim Translation Assistance Tool¹⁵, a unique tool using audio messages in 40 languages that allows law enforcement officials to provide a level of basic assistance to victims of human trafficking.

Data Collection and Research - Trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants are, by their nature, most often related to irregular migration. To better tackle these crimes, it is essential to understand the trafficking and smuggling flows and patterns worldwide. In 2009 UNODC published a Global Report on Trafficking in Persons,¹⁶ which offers an unprecedented view of the available information on the state of the world's response to trafficking in persons. In 2010 UNODC was mandated by the General Assembly to report biennially on patterns and flows of trafficking in persons at the national, regional and international levels, and share best practices and lessons learned from various initiatives and mechanisms. The first biennial Global Report on Trafficking in Persons (2012)¹⁷ is based on the profiles of 55,000 victims and 50,000 offenders identified by local authorities between 2007 and 2010 in 132 countries around the world. It sheds light on the myriads of trafficking flows worldwide and, for example, estimates that between 2007 and 2010, 73 per cent of victims detected worldwide were trafficked across borders.

UNODC also regularly publishes issues papers on targeted elements of the fight against trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants, to support Member States and all partners in combatting these crimes. It has recently published, among others, issues papers on “Transnational Organized Crime in the Fishing Industry” (including human trafficking and migrant smuggling) (2011);¹⁸ “Migrant Smuggling by Air” (2010);¹⁹ and “Migrant Smuggling by Sea” (2011).²⁰

¹³ The Human Trafficking First Aid Kit may be downloaded from www.unodc.org/unodc/en/human-trafficking/2011/first-aid-kit.html.

¹⁴ These include: to identify human trafficking; to stabilize and control the human trafficking situation; and to prepare victims and pass information on to investigators. First responders, such as law enforcement officers, are often the victim's only chance to escape exploitation and access justice and protection services.

¹⁵ The Victim Translation Assistance Tool may be downloaded from www.ungift.org/knowledgehub/en/tools/vita.html.

¹⁶ The 2009 report is available from www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Global_Report_on_TIP.pdf.

¹⁷ The 2012 report is available from www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/glotip/Trafficking_in_Persons_2012_web.pdf.

¹⁸ The paper may be downloaded from www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Issue_Paper_-_TOC_in_the_Fishing_Industry.pdf.

¹⁹ The paper may be downloaded from www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Migrant-Smuggling/Issue-Papers/Issue_Paper_-_Migrant_Smuggling_by_Air.pdf.

²⁰ The paper may be downloaded from www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Migrant-Smuggling/Issue-Papers/Issue_Paper_-_Smuggling_of_Migrants_by_Sea.pdf.

Prevention and Awareness-Raising - UNODC has sought to promote safe migration and decent work by developing two technical training films for practitioners in combating human trafficking and migrant smuggling: “Affected for Life” (2009)²¹ and “Ways and Means” (2012).²² The primary purpose of the films is to raise awareness of the devastating impact of trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants on vulnerable people searching for a better life abroad, and to sensitize those who can positively respond to such crimes. In 2009 UNODC launched the global awareness initiative, the Blue Heart Campaign against Human Trafficking, to inspire and mobilize support for action against human trafficking by international organizations, governments, civil society, the private sector and individuals. A number of countries have subsequently adopted the Blue Heart Campaign as their official human trafficking prevention campaign. National high-profile campaigns have been conducted in Mexico, Serbia and Spain, in 2010 and 2011.

Strengthening of Partnerships and Coordination - Since 2006 UNODC has played a leading role in ensuring coordination and building effective partnerships to counter trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants. UNODC works to ensure efficient coordination at the UN level, through the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons (ICAT, established in 2007),²³ the UN Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking (UN.GIFT, launched in 2007),²⁴ as well as the Global Migration Group (GMG). UNODC and UN.GIFT have developed broader cooperation and partnerships with the larger international community, including through civil society and the private sector. UNODC has also elaborated a number of bilateral agreements with other institutions.

UNODC is responsible for coordinating the activities of ICAT, which, in 2012, decided to publish five policy papers over the course of 2012 and 2013 that examine critical challenges in the fight against trafficking in persons in the coming decade. The first policy paper, addressing “The International Legal Frameworks concerning Trafficking in Persons,”²⁵ was published in October 2012. The remaining four policy papers will be published in 2013 and will cover: (a) preventing trafficking in persons by addressing demand; (b) evaluating anti-trafficking responses; (c) preventing trafficking in persons by addressing vulnerabilities; and (d) providing effective remedies for trafficked persons.

²¹ The film may be viewed at www.unodc.org/unodc/en/human-trafficking/2009/affected-for-life.html.

²² The film may be viewed at www.unodc.org/unodc/multimedia.html?vf=/documents/video/2011/Ways_and_Means_60_sec_clip_English.flv.

²³ For more information about ICAT, visit www.ungift.org/knowledgehub/en/icat/about.html.

²⁴ For more information about UN.GIFT, visit www.ungift.org/knowledgehub/en/about/index.html

²⁵ The policy paper may be downloaded from www.ungift.org/doc/knowledgehub/resource-centre/ICAT/ICAT_Policy_Paper_1_The_International_Legal_Instruments.pdf.

2. Support provided to the Global Forum on Migration and Development

Together with sister members of the GMG, UNODC has assisted the GFMD in organizing meetings, implementing activities, taking forward GFMD outcomes, and participating in debates, meetings and round tables. For example, UNODC played an advisory role for Round table 1, entitled “Human Capital Development and Labour Mobility: Maximizing Opportunities and Minimizing Risks,” at the first GFMD Summit in Brussels in July 2007, and also contributed to specific technical background papers for the GFMD 2008 Meeting in Manila in October 2008.

UNODC contributes to the joint statements delivered each year at the GFMD Summit meetings by the GMG. In its capacity as the GMG Chair in the second half of 2012, UNODC delivered a joint statement on behalf of the Group at the sixth GFMD, held in Mauritius in November 2012, entitled “Combating Violence against Migrants, Migrant Workers and their Families.”

3. Identified good practices

Based on its experience, UNODC continues to identify better and promising practices to effectively combat human trafficking and smuggling of migrants, built upon the following principles:

Human rights-based approach

The human rights of trafficked persons and smuggled migrants should be at the centre of all efforts to prevent and combat both crimes and to protect, assist and provide redress to victims of trafficking and smuggled migrants. A human rights-based approach is, for example, reflected throughout the Anti-Human Trafficking Manual for Criminal Justice Practitioners (2009), developed by UNODC to address each phase of the criminal justice response to trafficking in persons. Similarly, Module 9 of the Basic Training Manual on Investigating and Prosecuting the Smuggling of Migrants²⁶ (2010) is dedicated to the consideration of human rights issues when investigating and prosecuting the smuggling of migrants.

Victim-centred approach. A multifaceted assistance response to victims of human trafficking can help reduce trauma, stigmatization and discrimination, and should include, among others, medical, legal, material, psychological and language assistance. The first initiative of the UN Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Human Trafficking managed by UNODC – the 2011 Small Grants Facility – enabled grassroots NGOs in 11 countries to provide direct and tangible support to victims of human trafficking. A

²⁶ The manual is available for download from www.unodc.org/unodc/en/human-trafficking/migrant-smuggling/electronic-basic-training-manual-on-investigating-and-prosecuting-smuggling-of-migrants.html.

victim-centred approach is also reflected in the capacity-building technical assistance by UNODC, for example, through training that addresses the needs of trafficking victims in criminal justice proceedings, assistance to victim-witnesses, and victims' right to compensation. Similarly, persons who are the object of migrant smuggling should not only have their rights protected but should also be assisted when their life and safety are endangered.²⁷

Gender- and age-sensitive approach - The specific vulnerabilities of women and children need to be addressed to combat both trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants. A gender- and age-sensitive approach empowers trafficking victims and smuggled migrants to assist the criminal justice process, access information and remedies and protect their human rights. The UNODC Victim Translation Assistance Tool (2011) contains a set of basic audio messages and questions in 40 languages that provide potential victims of human trafficking with initial information and assistance. The messages differ depending on whether they are addressed to a woman, man or child. The Anti-Human Trafficking Manual dedicates a technical module and materials to interviewing child victims, separate from general training on interviewing of victims. Likewise, UNODC has developed tailored material and corresponding training curricula to urge States to take into account the special needs of women and children and other vulnerable persons.

Evidence-based approach - Effective data collection and research should underpin all responses, which, in turn, should be constantly evaluated and revised based on changed circumstances and measurements of effectiveness. The findings of the UNODC 2012 Global Report on Trafficking in Persons rest on an objective evidence base from 132 countries; the Report thus provides a solid basis for understanding the global nature of trafficking in persons. In October 2011 UNODC launched a global Human Trafficking Case Law Database²⁸ as a publicly available resource, which currently contains more than 850 cases from 74 jurisdictions and 3 supranational courts. The database serves as an essential tool to increase the visibility of successful prosecutions, identify global patterns and promote awareness of the realities of the devastating crime of human trafficking.

Importance of awareness-raising - Most of the focus on the prevention of trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants has been on raising awareness in origin countries. Lessons learned over the last decade have revealed that, in order to be effective, awareness-raising campaigns must be broadened to tackle the issues in destination countries also, and must be targeted and formulated in ways that will be understood by their target audience. Research has shown that migrant smuggling is best prevented by not only informing potential migrants that being smuggled is not worth the expense

²⁷ The UNODC Toolkit to Combat Smuggling of Migrants (2010) demonstrates how, in many countries, simple but creative and effective actions are taken to save migrants' lives, such as the placement of emergency first aid kits along well-known smuggling routes and trails by law enforcement authorities.

²⁸ The database is accessible at www.unodc.org/cld.

and risk, but also by enforcing laws against the exploitation of foreign labour. Some countries have placed warning signs in multiple languages along well-known and popular smuggling routes and trails in land-border areas to warn migrants of the dangers that lie ahead.

Public service announcements can be broadcast in appropriate languages in countries of origin to warn potentially smuggled migrants or trafficked persons of the dangers of being smuggled or trafficked into specific countries. Serbia, for example, joined the Blue Heart Campaign in 2011 with the production and distribution of the awareness-raising film “Sestre” (The Sisters), based on the true story of two sisters who became victims of organized crime and were forced into prostitution. The film is still used as an educational tool and also serves as a training tool for judges, prosecutors and law enforcement agents.

The UNODC Toolkit to Combat Trafficking in Persons²⁹ (2008) provides examples of promising practices from around the world, and offers guidance and recommends resources to policymakers, law enforcement officers, judges, prosecutors, victim service providers and members of civil society to help them play their part in the global efforts to combat trafficking in persons. The Toolkit to Combat Smuggling of Migrants³⁰ (2010) offers similar guidance and good practices.

4. Challenges identified in carrying out UNODC work

The growing number of States Parties to the Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants Protocols is an expression of the political will of Member States to combat these crimes. Nevertheless, ratification itself is not sufficient to ensure the effective implementation of international standards and their impact on the ground.

The following challenges have been identified as impediments to effective implementation of the Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants Protocols:

- (a) *Insufficient prevention and awareness.* Often, decision makers, the general public, as well as relevant authorities with allocated responsibility, do not adequately understand migrant smuggling and human trafficking. In some countries, these practices may not be perceived as criminal activities that pose serious risks to migrants, vulnerable groups and the societies concerned. There also remain significant misunderstandings about both the distinctions and areas of overlap between the crime of migrant smuggling and that of human trafficking. These factors underscore the need to raise awareness and understanding of these criminal activities.

²⁹ The toolkit may be downloaded from www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Toolkit-files/07-89375_Ebook%5B1%5D.pdf.

³⁰ The toolkit may be downloaded from www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/SOM_Toolkit_E-book_english_Combined.pdf.

- (b) *Lack of data and research (and the gap between research findings and policy development)*. This lack of reliable, systematically collected data makes it difficult to determine the magnitude of migrant smuggling and trafficking in persons on a national, regional and global scale. Further research into the specific dimensions of human trafficking and migrant smuggling is a prerequisite for the elaboration, implementation and evaluation of strategies to counter these crimes and develop evidence-based policies.
- (c) *Lack of legislation*. While most States have reported to UNODC that their domestic legislation now criminalizes human trafficking activities, many States have identified inadequate national legislative frameworks to address trafficking in persons and migrant smuggling. Comprehensive national legislation against human trafficking and migrant smuggling must be put in place to ensure that political will, signified by ratification of the Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants Protocols, can be translated into tangible action against human trafficking, migrant smuggling and related crimes.
- (d) *Inadequate policies and planning*. Only a limited number of governments have developed specialized policies against human trafficking and migrant smuggling, set up corresponding inter-agency or multi-actor cooperation or coordination mechanisms and developed plans that detail the establishment, training and resourcing of specialized functions to counter these crimes.
- (e) *Weak criminal justice system response*. The criminal justice response to human trafficking and smuggling of migrants in most countries is significantly hampered by limited technical resources, equipment, knowledge, expertise and training to properly investigate and prosecute transnational crimes, including trafficking in persons and migrant smuggling.
- (f) *Inadequate protection and support*. In a number of countries, the rights of victims of human trafficking and smuggled migrants are gravely undermined. In short, it is necessary to fulfill the mandatory protection and assistance provisions of the Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants Protocols in order to adhere to these protocols and combat these crimes in accordance with obligations under international law, including human rights and refugee law.
- (g) *Limited international cooperation*. National efforts to counter human trafficking and smuggling of migrants are often undermined by the lack of effective bilateral and multilateral mechanisms for the sharing of information and coordination of operational activities among law enforcement agencies, border control authorities and other relevant actors.

- (h) *Insufficient allocation of resources.* In addition to the above-mentioned topical challenges, insufficient allocation of resources is a consistent challenge in the practical implementation of anti-human trafficking and migrant smuggling activities.

5. Gaps evident within the migration and development sphere

Within the context of migration and development, greater attention should be paid to the following aspects:

- (a) *Transnational organized crime.* Transnational organized crime, in particular trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants, needs to be addressed for its impact on migration and development. Constant political, economic and social changes present new challenges and threats to States and individuals alike. In this context, the threat of transnational organized crime has become a priority issue for many governments, with an increased emphasis on the linkages between development, human rights, the rule of law and organized crime.
- (b) *Vulnerability of women and children.* Women are particularly vulnerable to the false promises of traffickers and smugglers, especially within the context of an increasing feminization of migration. Women and children, lured through fake job offers, sold by members of their families and offered as brides in the hope that marriage will give them a chance to emancipate themselves and their families from poverty end up trapped in sexual exploitation, domestic servitude, forced marriage, and other labour exploitation schemes.

In many regions of the world, the decline of the agricultural sector has also contributed to an increased economic vulnerability of numerous communities which previously relied on agriculture for subsistence. Recent research indicates that women from rural areas, and from vulnerable groups such as indigenous communities, are identified as trafficked persons in many regions of the world.

- (c) *Human rights aspect.* The importance of a human rights-based approach and the understanding of the vulnerabilities and special needs of traumatized women and children, in particular, are key components in the fight against both human trafficking and migrant smuggling.
- (d) *Coherence in action and closer cooperation.* Ensuring that States and stakeholders have a common understanding of what trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants are is fundamental to harmonizing limited response activities and support efforts for enhanced cooperation and coordination.

- (e) *Multi-actor engagement and partnership.* Involvement of all stakeholders, in order to more concretely build comprehensive responses, including the engagement of businesses, policymakers and civil society.

6. Recommendations for the 2013 High-level Dialogue

UNODC would encourage the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development to explicitly address trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants in the broader context of migration and development, taking into consideration the rights of both victims of trafficking in persons and smuggled migrants.

Issues which could be addressed during the 2013 HLD include:

- (a) The impact of transnational organized crime on migration and development, in regard to which the work of the United Nations Task Force on Transnational Organized Crime³¹ should be taken into consideration in order to reinforce the discussions and outcomes of the HLD on migration and development, and vice versa;
- (b) Violence against migrants, migrant workers and their families, and the need for intensified crime prevention and criminal justice responses;
- (c) Review of the assistance and protection measures provided to smuggled migrants and victims of human trafficking;
- (d) Safe return of smuggled migrants and trafficking victims.

³¹ The creation of the United Nations Task Force on Transnational Organized Crime in March 2011 underscores the concern of the Secretary General for concerted and coherent action on this issue, which threatens security and stability. The Task Force is co-chaired by UNODC and the United Nations Department of Political Affairs (DPA), and is comprised of the Department for Peacekeeping Operations, UNDP, the UN Department of Political Affairs, the Peacebuilding Support Office, OHCHR, UNICEF, UN Women and the World Bank, and aims to harness the capacity of the United Nations to effectively support Member States at the national, regional and international levels to counter the challenges posed by transnational organized crime. The spectrum of responses to this multi-layered threat transcends the criminal justice and law enforcement dimensions and enters into the domain of political, social and economic security.

