



THE NGO COMMITTEE TO STOP TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS COMMENDS THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA'S HUMAN TRAFFICKING PREVENTION MONTH

On December 31, 2013, President Barack Obama proclaimed January in the United States as Human Trafficking Prevention Month. He urged governments but also business, civil society, faith leaders, families and individuals to act to end all forms of modern slavery.

The NGO Committee to Stop Trafficking in Person supports efforts of all UN Member States to increase efforts to bring traffickers to justice, protect survivors and prevent human trafficking.

The U.S. State Department has published "20 Ways You Can Help Stop Human Trafficking" (www.state.gov/j/tip/id/help/index.htm) with suggestions as to how stakeholders working to end human trafficking might organize effective activities.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services funds the website of the National Human Trafficking Resource Center (NHTRC), operated by Polaris, a prominent anti-trafficking organization based in Washington. THE NHTRC maintains the most extensive data on human trafficking in the United States, providing anti-trafficking experts valuable information to help work against human trafficking.

For the last fourteen years The U.S. State Department has published an annual *Trafficking in Persons Report* (the TIP Report), which employs the standards of the U.S. Trafficking in Victims Protection Act (TVPA) to evaluate the actions of almost every country in the world to combat trafficking through prevention, protection and prosecution. It outlines continuing challenges in each country's efforts to end human trafficking.

The 2014 TIP Report theme, *The Journey from Victim to Survivor*, emphasizes that survivors know better than anyone the steps needed to identify those enslaved and bring to justice those responsible. The Report also makes recommendations and highlights practices that could ease the path forward for survivors around the world.

In its closing note, this year's TIP Report points to the coming year "to build our knowledge of the intricacies of the global supply chains and expand collaboration with other governments, the corporate sector, and civil society to address human trafficking."

The NGO Committee to Stop Trafficking in Persons is a consortium of organizations dedicated to the eradication of human trafficking in all its forms through education, advocacy, research and monitoring compliance with UN protocols, laws and resolutions. See our website www.ngocstip.org