

# Report on Anti-Trafficking in Persons 2009

March 2010

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## **I. Foreword**

Globalization means that Taiwan is enjoying greater interaction with the international community and, as economic activity on the island becomes evermore intertwined with that of other countries, the movement of people is increasing both in number and frequency. Foreigners come to Taiwan for business, tourism, education, work and through marriage. Although we have put in place various border control measures, Taiwan remains a destination and transit point for sex workers and illegal laborers from Southeast Asia. The main human trafficking problems Taiwan faces today involve forced labor and sexual exploitation. Trafficking in persons is a grave abuse of human rights that constitutes a criminal violation. Governments around the world take the issue very seriously and have been increasing their efforts to combat and prevent such crimes. To protect human rights and demonstrate Taiwan's determination to combat human trafficking, the Executive Yuan promulgated an Action Plan for the Prevention of Trafficking in Persons on November 2006, and set up the Human Trafficking Prevention Inter-Agency Meeting in 2007 to serve as a channel of communication and platform for the integration of government resources. The Executive Yuan has also earmarked a budget of NT\$490 million for work required by the Human Trafficking Prevention Action Plan (2008-2010), which includes placement services, education and training, and preventive campaigns. It is hoped that these efforts will go a long way towards effectively preventing trafficking in persons and protecting human rights.

## **II. Summary of Efforts**

To promote the prevention of trafficking in persons, the Executive Yuan promulgated an Action Plan for the Prevention of Trafficking in Persons in November 2006, detailing a three-pronged approach - “crackdown and prosecution”, “protection” and “prevention” - to mobilize all ministries in the plan’s implementation. To carry out anti-human trafficking work, the Executive Yuan set up a Human Trafficking Prevention Inter-Agency Meeting in January 2007. This inter-agency meeting is held once every two months to check the progress being made by various government agencies. The Executive Yuan has also allocated a budget of NT\$490 million for the Human Trafficking Prevention Action Plan (2008-2010). This oversight mechanism has produced some solid results in the government’s fight against human trafficking.

In addition, the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act was enacted on January 23, 2009, by presidential decree and came into force on June 1, 2009. The Act stipulates provisions for stiffer penalties for perpetrators and enhanced placement measures for human trafficking victims in Taiwan. The enactment of the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act is expected to boost work towards human trafficking prevention and victim protection.

Taiwan continued to make progress in human trafficking prevention during 2009. With respect to investigations and prosecutions, judicial and police agencies uncovered 88 cases of trafficking in persons, including 46 cases involving forced labor and 42 cases involving sexual exploitation. Prosecutors indicted 335 persons in 118 cases, including 233 persons in 83 cases of sexual exploitation and 102 persons in 35 cases of forced labor.

In its efforts towards providing protection, the Ministry of the Interior (MOI) and the Council of Labor Affairs (CLA) have worked with private organizations to set up nineteen shelters and provide placement services for 329 victims. During the placement period, victims have received living support, psychological and legal counseling, and were accompanied on medical visits and to questioning sessions. Further, 77 victims were repatriated upon the completion of investigations by the

judicial authorities. According to statistics for June-December, 2009, the MOI also agreed to issue 185 temporary entry permits, and the CLA agreed to issue 193 work permits, to affected foreigners.

With respect to prevention, first the government integrated public and private resources in order to step up the campaign to raise the general public's awareness and understanding of human trafficking issues, as well as to help foreigners in Taiwan better understand their rights. Next, to raise the professional competency and detective skills of field personnel, the MOI held two training sessions on General Education on the Prevention of Trafficking in Persons, an international workshop on the protection of trafficking victims, and an international workshop and a seminar on the prevention of trafficking in persons. Other ministries have also incorporated human trafficking prevention courses into their training curricula.

The CLA, through the services of the Direct Employment Service Center, helped stop foreign workers from being exploited by unethical brokers and shortened the time required for the rehiring of foreign workers. In 2009, the Direct Employment Service Center helped 7,357 employers rehire their domestic helpers, and handled 29,970 cases where foreign worker employment applications or requests for document authentication were forwarded or mailed on behalf of the employer, as well as 127,512 instances of telephone or onsite counseling. In addition, the CLA also helped in 2,184 cases of negotiating with employers or brokers to recover back pay, worth a total of NT\$118,297,113.

Through the government's all-out efforts towards integrating government resources, and through close collaboration with private and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), Taiwan has produced significant results in preventing human trafficking.

### III. Measures, Actions and Results

#### A. Enacting the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act

1. The Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act was enacted on January 23, 2009, by presidential decree and came into effect on June 1, 2009. The Act stipulates provisions for stiffer penalties for perpetrators and enhanced placement measures for human trafficking victims.
2. In order to more widely and firmly promote anti-trafficking and victim protection, as well as to create a sounder legal system and better safeguard human rights, the National Immigration Agency (NIA) of the MOI promulgated the Enforcement Rules on Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act, the Rules Governing the Placement and Protection of Trafficking Victims and Possible Victims, and the Measures on Temporary Entry and Permanent Residence Permits by Project. Further, the Ministry of Justice (MOJ) and the NIA promulgated the Measures on Compensating Victims through Confiscating Perpetrators' Illegal Earnings, and the CLA promulgated the Measures on Trafficking Victims Work Permits and Management.

#### B. Cracking down on human trafficking

##### 1. Performance of the crackdown on trafficking in persons

The respective judicial and police agencies have designated a unit to take charge of the planning of operations related to investigating human trafficking crimes, as well as planning the implementation of special projects that focus on investigating illegal brokers, foreign residents and groups (over three members) suspected of human trafficking. In 2009, 88 suspected human trafficking cases were investigated and forwarded to the prosecutors' offices, as illustrated below:

Judicial and police agencies	No. of cases investigated	Type		No. of cases involving sham marriages
		Forced labor	Sexual exploitation	
Total 2008	99	40	59	32
Total 2009	88	46	42	26

Crackdown performance of judicial and police agencies in 2009

National Police Agency, MOI	43	18	25	10
National Immigration Agency, MOI	22	16	6	12
Coast Guard Administration, Executive Yuan	11	6	5	3
Investigation Bureau, MOJ	12	6	6	1

## 2. Prosecutions, adjudications and dispositions

- a. Each district court prosecutor's office has designated prosecutors to be in charge of human trafficking cases. In 2009, 118 cases of human trafficking-related crimes were prosecuted as illustrated below:

Prosecution of human trafficking related cases in 2009						
Year	No. of cases	No. of suspects	Type of case			
			Forced labor		Sexual exploitation	
			No. of cases	No. of suspects	No. of cases	No. of suspects
2008	165	601	40	106	113	452
2009	118	335	35	102	83	233

Note: As of October 2007, human trafficking cases are classified under sexual exploitation or forced labor. Since 12 cases were forwarded to the prosecutor's offices before that date, they were not classified.

- b. The sentences handed down in human trafficking related cases in 2009 are as follows:

Sentence	< 6 m	6 m - 1 yr	1-2 yrs	2-3 yrs	3-5 yrs	5-7 yrs	7-10 yrs	10-15 yrs	Detention	Fines	Total
No. of people 08	181	50	34	3	3	0	1	1	11	3	287
No. of people 09	256	58	30	4	7	1	13	0	6	1	376

- c. The government of the Republic of China (Taiwan) takes the integrity of its officials very seriously. In 2009, no government officials from the Investigation Bureau of the MOJ, the National Police Agency (NPA) and the National Immigration Agency (NIA) of the MOI, the Coast Guard Administration (CGA) of the Executive Yuan, or the CLA were prosecuted for involvement in human trafficking.

### 3. Enlarging the scope of the crackdown

- a. ID investigations at the border prevent crime syndicates from recruiting potential victims under false pretenses and transporting them via air or sea. Investigations undertaken by the NPA, the NIA and the CGA in 2009 are shown below:

Classification	Results of crackdown
Forged or altered passports or visas, or fraudulent use of other people's IDs or fake IDs	98 cases
Stowaways from mainland China	246 persons
Undocumented foreign workers	9,998 persons

- b. 26 out of 88 cases of human trafficking in 2009 were sham marriages, so face-to-face interviews and home visits will be increased to curb sham marriages.

#### (1) Spouses from mainland China

According to the Regulations Governing Interviews of People from Mainland China Entering Taiwan, when a citizen of mainland China who has married a citizen of Taiwan applies to come to Taiwan, both must undergo a face-to-face interview. If the marriage is discovered to be false, the case will be forwarded to the prosecutor's office. Home visits are also conducted to ascertain whether the marriage is bona fide. Interviews of spouses from mainland China conducted in 2009 are as follows:

Year	No. of interviews	No. of marriages validated	No. of marriages rejected	No. of cases requiring 2 <sup>nd</sup> interviews
2008	30,492	20,900 (69%)	3,724 (12%)	5,868 (19%)
2009	28,708	20,313 (71%)	2,865 (10%)	5,530 (19%)

#### (2) Foreign spouses

Interviews with foreigners who marry Taiwanese citizens are conducted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs outside of Taiwan. Foreign spouses



are only issued resident visas if they pass the interview. In 2009, face-to-face interviews of foreign spouses from Vietnam, Indonesia, Thailand, the Philippines, Burma, Malaysia and Cambodia conducted by our representative offices in Southeast Asia were as follows:

Year	No. of people interviewed	No. of cases passed	No. of cases rejected
2008	7,365	4,861 (66%)	2,504 (34%)
2009	4,643	3,179 (68%)	1,464 (32%)

c. CLA statistics for 2009 show that administrative actions against employers and brokers found to be exploiting foreign workers were as follows:

(1) Cases against employers

Type of unlawful behavior	No. of cases with fines imposed	No. of cases with employer permits revoked
Illegally accommodating foreigners	152	116
Hiring foreigners without permission or hiring foreigners applied for by other people	582	
Hiring foreigners to work for other people	12	
Asking foreigners to work in a capacity other than that permitted or changing the place of work without permission	410	

(2) Cases against unlawful brokers

Type of unlawful behavior	No. of cases with fines imposed	No. of cases with business permits revoked
Appropriating applicant's property and charging inappropriate fees	110	10
Providing false information or physical exam samples	12	12
Illegal brokering	92 (Note)	10 (Note)

Note:

1. Recipients of fines included individuals and companies brokering illegally; business permit revocations applied to companies.
2. There were 32 cases forwarded and 35 cases of convictions in 2009 due to violations of Article 45 of the Employment Services Acts.

- (3) Cases forwarded by administrative agencies to the judicial authority for investigation

In 2009, local governments forwarded to the judicial authority 30 cases of potential Employment Service Act violations, in which foreign workers were suspected of being trafficking victims and the perpetrators were suspected of being criminally liable.

#### 4. Case sharing

##### Case 1

##### **Crackdown on the biggest transnational human smuggling syndicate**

The Border Affairs Corps of the NIA, in association with the US Department of Homeland Security (DHS), cracked a transnational smuggling trafficking syndicate on June 18, 2009. The investigation, which



began in 2008, took over eight months, and involved checking thousands of immigration records, credit card bookings, airport surveillance footage and interviews with pertinent parties. The DHS was particularly helpful in providing key data to assist the NIA crack down on the syndicate. During the

investigation, the US government also discovered a loophole in the process of granting children US visas that allowed many female criminals to sneak into the US. Therefore, the US amended its visa application requirements to ensure that, beginning July 1, 2009, children under 14 years of age be escorted by their parents to interviews for non-immigration visas. The impressive achievement of this case has helped the US tighten its national security controls.

## **Case 2**

### **Crackdown on the Lin Trafficking Syndicate on February 5, 2009**

In March 2008, the foreign affairs section of the Miaoli County Police Bureau received complaints from a foreign worker, Yulaikah Siti, that his brokers were overcharging him and deducting money from his salary. The foreign affairs section checked with the CLA and found that the company and its branches had been punished for violating the provisions of paragraph 5 of Article 40 of the Employment Service Act. Still, the company used forged IDs and continued to run its business through unlawful means. Any foreign worker that refused to pay the inflated fees or filed complaints would have monies deducted from their earnings. Although the case was forwarded to the judicial authorities, foreign workers were coerced into claiming that the deductions were due to personal debts, so the company was not prosecuted and even went on to expand its operations by establishing 14 branches island-wide that recruited over 9,000 foreign workers between January 2005 and September 2009.

The suspects forced foreign workers to sign documents allowing monies to be deducted from their earnings as debts. Since the Indonesian Economic and Trade Office to Taipei confirmed the said debts did not exist, the Miaoli District Prosecutors' Office began investigating. On October 30, 2008, prosecutors searched the company's headquarters in Kaohsiung and its Miaoli branch. Twenty-nine suspects were arrested, and 2,038 bankcards belonging to foreign workers and more than 6,000 promissory notes (of between NT\$30,000-190,000 in value) signed by foreign workers were confiscated. To fully crackdown on the crime, the county and city police bureaus were asked by Miaoli District Prosecutors' Office to recheck all the foreign workers recruited by the company. Visits to 1,843 foreign workers were made and, on February 5, 2009, investigators detained 24 senior level

managers from 13 branches and questioned 285 members of staff. A total of over NT\$20 million was confiscated and real estate assets with a value of more than NT\$100 million were frozen.

Later that month, 38 suspects were charged with violating Articles 304 and 339 of the Criminal Law and Article 11 of the Money Laundry Control Act. 275 employees were charged with fraud. In October 2009, 7 people were sentenced to imprisonment for up to 5 years, with 26 people given probation.

### Case 3

#### Crackdown on Chen Trafficking Syndicate on September 1, 2009



On July 22, 2009, the Taipei City Government Police Department Criminal Investigation Corps received information that the Chen trafficking syndicate earned unlawful profits by recruiting both legal and illegal foreign women to perform nursing and cleaning work in the greater Taipei area.

An undocumented foreign worker, surnamed Daisah, served as the illegal broker to attract foreign women. These women were kept against their will and did not receive their earnings, which constitutes forced labor. The Shihlin District Prosecutors' Office investigated the case and, on September 1, 2009, 6 suspects from the syndicate were arrested in Taipei City and Taipei County. 17 foreign workers were rescued, and evidence including cell phones, SIM cards, copies of foreign worker entry permits, copies of passports, passbooks, client phone numbers, a remote control for a steel shutter and surveillance equipment. The case was forwarded to the Shihlin District Prosecutors' Office and, on October 28, 2009, 6 suspects were

prosecuted for violating Article 32 of the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act and Article 302 of the Criminal Law.

#### **Case 4**

##### **Women from mainland China rescued after crackdown on call-girl rings**

In 2009, the NIA's Special Operation Corps discovered a human trafficking syndicate was behind a sham marriage it was investigating. In August 2009, 37 officers in 6 counties and cities cracked down on the syndicate, detaining



suspects and rescuing 3 mainland Chinese women.

The syndicate selected young women in China and brought at least 10 to Taiwan, through sham marriages, where they were forced to become call girls. After surveillance, the Banciao District Prosecutors' Office arrested 22 suspects,

took computers, call girl pamphlets, client lists, bankbooks, pictures, and so forth as evidence, and confiscated at least NT\$400,000 in cash. The case was sent to court for violating Articles 216 and 296-1 of the Criminal Law and Articles 15 and 79 of Act Governing Relations between Peoples of the Taiwan Area and the Mainland Area.

#### **Case 5**

##### **Crackdown on Cheng Trafficking Syndicate on April 22, 2009**

On January 20, 2009, the Coast Guard Administration (CGA) received information that the Cheng trafficking syndicate was exploiting foreign women legally in Taiwan by forcing them to become call girls in Yulin and Chiayi. The Chiayi District Prosecutors' Office investigated the case, and discovered that the suspects used a Vietnamese woman as a broker to lure foreign women, who were then held against their will and forced into providing sexual services.



After surveillance, the Cheng trafficking syndicate was cracked on April 22, 2009. 8 suspects were arrested and 13 victims were rescued. The case was forwarded to the Chiayi District Prosecutors' Office for human trafficking, obstructing freedom and forced labor. The case was concluded on August 31, 2009, when 8 chief suspects were prosecuted

for violating Article 231-1 of the Criminal Law.

### C. Strengthening protection of trafficking victims

#### 1. Proactive identification of trafficking victims

##### a. Amending the Principles for Identifying Victims of Trafficking

To help law enforcement officers identify trafficking victims, the MOJ drew up the Principles for Identifying Victims of Trafficking in March 2007 and further amended them in terms of the promulgated Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act in February 2009. The focus was on providing: easily recognizable signs that a person is a trafficking victim; reference indicators for determining who are victims; and a detailed reference guide for questioning victims. The amended principles also stipulate that law enforcement officers should be able to dynamically identify trafficking victims as cases progress.

##### b. Amending the Operating Procedures for Processing Possible Human Trafficking Victims

According to the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act, the Operating Procedures for Processing Possible Human Trafficking Victims revised by the MOI in July 2009 stipulate the separation of victim protection procedures and prosecutors' investigations; that is, once the judicial police have identified victims or potential victims, protective measures will be taken without the

need to wait for confirmation from the prosecutors' office, thereby giving priority to victim protection.

c. Reinvestigating possible human trafficking victims

According to the Operating Procedures for Processing Possible Human Trafficking Victims at the Detention Centers of the National Immigration Agency, detainees held at detention centers are to be rechecked to ascertain if they are possible trafficking victims. In cases where doubts remain, the agency that turned over the detainee will be asked to reopen the investigation and take appropriate actions accordingly. In 2009, twenty detainees suspected of being victims were transferred to a shelter for placement.

**2. Providing victim placement services**

a. Establishing a victim placement service network

To achieve a regional balance and convenient placement, the NIA and the CLA, in association with private organizations, set up 19 shelters in North, Central, South and East Taiwan for victim protection; of these, 3 are outsourced by the MOI.

b. The statistics for victim placement compiled by the NIA and the CLA in 2009 are as below:

Type of placement	No. of people placed	Total no. of people newly placed	Sex		Nationality							
			Male	Female	Indonesia	Vietnam	Cambodia	China	Thailand	Philippines	Bangladesh	Unknown
Victims of sexual exploitation 07-08	9	9	0	9	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	1
Victims of forced labor 07-08	97	97	15	82	63	9	12	0	13	0	0	0
Total 07-08	106	106	15	91	67	13	12	0	13	0	0	1
Victims of sexual exploitation 09	85	85	0	85	45	12	0	27	1	0	0	0
Victims of forced labor 09	244	244	71	173	120	73	9	0	6	14	22	0
Total 09	329	329	71	258	165	85	9	27	7	14	22	0

### **3. Strengthening protection services**

#### **a. Providing protection during placement**

During the placement period, the NIA and the CLA provide trafficking victims with living support, psychological and legal counseling, accompaniment services during medical visits and questioning sessions, and interpretation services. The central expenditure on placement measures for 2009 totaled NT\$12,319,297, including medical care and repatriation airfares.

#### **b. Issuing temporary entry permits**

Between June and December, 2009, the NIA approved the issuance of 185 temporary entry permits to affected persons.

#### **c. Offering occupational training**

The provisions prescribed in the Principles and Guidelines for Vocational Training Outsourced by the Vocational Training Centers affiliated to the Bureau of Employment and Vocational Training (BEVT), amended on January 10, 2009, stipulate that public vocational training centers shall, for unemployed trafficking victims with work permits, build a close working relationship with the placement authority, ascertain the victims' willingness to undertake vocational training, provide information relating to vocational training courses, help victims receive adequate vocational training, and subsidize the full cost of the training.

#### **d. Protecting victims' occupational rights**

According to the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act, the CLA published both the Regulations Governing Foreigner Work Permits for Human Trafficking Victims and the relevant permit application forms. Moreover, the public employment service center in the district where the placement authority is located will be notified by letter to offer employment services to victims with work permits. For the period June-December, 2009, 193 work permits were issued with the approval of the CLA; in addition, by November 30



2009, 30 victims had been provided with services in public employment service centers, and employment for 13 victims found.

e. Providing witness protection

(1) Providing interpreters

To secure the trafficking victims' rights and to prevent law enforcement officers from misunderstanding or misjudging cases due to language barriers, the judicial and police agencies are required to offer interpreters for human trafficking victims. In 2009, interpretation services were offered on 587 occasions during investigations by the NPA, the NIA, the CGA and the Investigation Bureau.

(2) Providing accompaniment services during questioning sessions

To help the judicial and police agencies calm victims' nerves during human trafficking investigations, in April 2009 the NIA commissioned private organizations to send social workers to accompany them to questioning sessions. This service was offered 31 times in 2009. In addition, the CLA also subsidized interpreters in local foreign labor counseling centers and NGOs to accompany victims to questioning sessions on 12 occasions in 2009.

(3) Providing victims with witness protection

According to the relevant regulations, trafficking victims acting as witnesses should be provided with safe transport and their identities kept confidential by judicial and police agencies to guarantee their safety.

(4) Repatriating victims safely

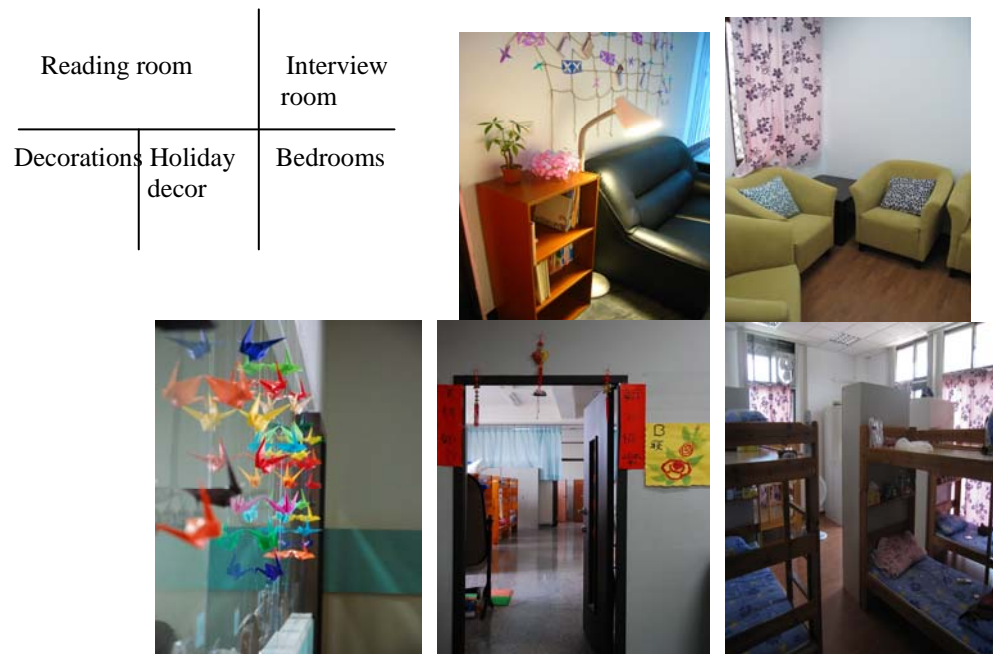
To protect trafficking victims, arrangements are made to repatriate them as soon as possible after their cases are concluded, or where the placement agency decides their assistance in investigations and trials is no longer necessary. In 2009, 77 victims were repatriated. Of these, airfares for 7 victims were subsidized at a total cost of NT\$133,347.

**4. Report on key measures**

**NGOs provide placement shelters with professional services**

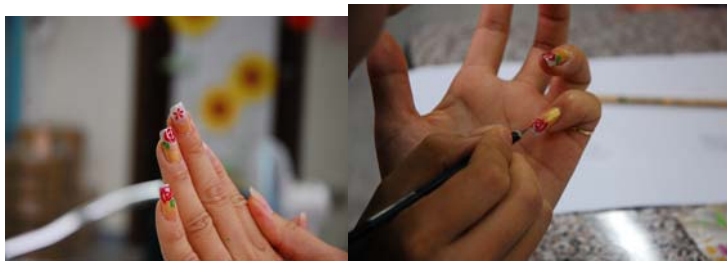
The NIA has been setting up victim placement shelters by outsourcing their administration to private organizations capable of providing the professional services that meet the victims’ needs. By the end of 2009, there were 3 outsourced placement shelters with a total of 112 beds. Details of their locations, administration, management and services are given below.

To achieve a regional balance and convenient placement, there is one shelter in Yilan (Northeast Taiwan), one in Nantou (Central Tawian) and one in Hualien (East Taiwan), with another shelter planned for Kaohsiung (South Taiwan). The four shelters combine to form a victim placement protection network around Taiwan. Because the shelters are nearby the detention centers, NGOs feel more secure and willing to run them. The shelters are however separated from the detention centers, both physically and management-wise, so as to maintain confidentiality. The remoteness and tranquility of the shelter in Hualien makes it particularly safe.



All of the shelters are outsourced, through an open bidding process, to private organizations with relevant experience and professional social workers. The placement protection services are available throughout the year.

Victims who are willing to help with investigations are often required to stay in Taiwan for more than six months due to lengthy judicial procedures. To reduce the burden on victims, the NIA has requested that the shelters offer various services, including living care, counseling, accompaniment to questioning sessions and medical visits, legal aid and interpretation, as well as language and vocational training. The victims are given guidance for the future and trained so they will not be exploited after repatriation.



Nail painting



Chinese courses	Sock doll making
BBQ Birthday Party	Art therapy mask painting



#### D. Preventing trafficking in persons

##### 1. Stepping up public awareness through multiple channels

In 2009, government agencies spent over NT\$34.11 million on preventive

campaigns as illustrated below:

a. Raising awareness of human trafficking through the education system

The Ministry of Education (MOE) helps prevent human trafficking by educating students on human rights, the rule of law and gender equality. Efforts made in 2009 were as follows.

(1) Curriculum and materials

Gender equality, human rights and the rule of law are covered in Taiwan's national curriculum, including the Nine-Year Integrated Curriculum Outline and the Provisional High School Curriculum Outline. The teaching materials, Know about Human Trafficking and Preventing Human Trafficking, are available for teachers to download. The MOE also encourages colleges and universities to run general education courses on human rights, gender equality and the rule of law, and subsidizes related activities. A total of 2,688 such courses were offered in the first semester of the 2009 academic year.

(2) Educational training

With regard to the Annual Friendly Campus - Student Affairs and Counseling Program, all levels of schools were subsidized to run 11 classes or courses for teachers on human rights and the rule of law to enhance their awareness of anti-trafficking issues.

(3) Educational campaigns

The Teens Law Journal is published in association with a domestic newspaper company. In 2009, 5 papers on anti-trafficking in persons were published. Further, 7 seminars on anti-trafficking in persons and 120 seminars on human rights and the rule of law were subsidized in accordance with the Annual Friendly Campus - Student Affairs and Counseling Program. In addition, in accordance with the Child and Youth Sexual Transaction Prevention Act and the Ministry of Education's Regulations for Promoting the Child and Youth Sexual Transaction Prevention Act through Education, the MOE is planning educational programs and activities, for all levels of

schools, geared towards preventing sexual transactions.

b. Running campaigns to raise awareness of the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act  
Anti-trafficking campaigns target the general public, foreigners, indigenous villages and veterans through a number of channels. The aim is to familiarize people with the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act and relevant protection measures, raise public awareness, and help to rescue and protect victims. The NIA's efforts therein are as follows.

(1) Printed materials

- i. The CLA has produced 30,000 pamphlets in each of the Chinese, English, Vietnamese, Indonesian, Thai and Cambodian languages, which are made available at our representative offices in Southeast Asian countries, at government agency training centers, travel service centers and private organizations.
- ii. The CLA has printed 5,000 manuals and 10,000 quick reference guides on how to identify human trafficking victims, and distributed them to frontline law enforcement officers and related personnel.



iii. Print and electronic flyers and posters are displayed around the Taipei MRT, the Kaohsiung MRT, on Taipei Bus BEE TV, and on LED screens at shopping malls, cinema theaters and department stores. Posters are also regularly sent to township and city offices, and household administration offices.

iv. The Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act was printed in Vietnamese, Thai,

Indonesian and Philippine newspapers, and in the China Times, Daily United News, Liberty Times, Apple Daily and Taiwan Lihpao.

(2) Media Campaigns

- i. The CLA has produced 1,000 DVDs containing a 15-minute film, as well as 200 DVDs containing a 30-second advert, on the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act.
- ii. The 30-second advert is shown in movie theaters island-wide, on trains, buses, the Taipei MRT, 4 public TV stations, Hakka TV and Indigenous TV. The 15-minute film is shown at seminars
- iii. 5 radio commercials
- iv. The ‘Knowing Human Trafficking and Crime Hotline’ campaign is broadcast on 4 public TV stations, Hakka TV and Indigenous TV

c. Raising awareness among Taiwan and foreign nationals on human trafficking  
The National Police Agency; Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Prevention Committee, MOI; Coast Guard Administration; Mainland Affairs Council; Council of Indigenous Peoples; Veterans Affairs Commission; Council of Agriculture and Government Information Office have made the following efforts:

(1) Campaign targets and goals

Anti-trafficking campaigns target the general public, including foreigners, indigenous peoples and veterans, through a number of channels to familiarize them with the issue and reporting procedures so as to better discourage people from engaging in human smuggling, human trafficking or even becoming a stowaway. The campaign in particular targets foreign workers in Taiwan to help them understand their rights, as well as the assistance and services available to them.

(2) Campaign methods

Related pamphlets are distributed and short films shown at training

centers. In addition, public service ads are placed in magazines and journals, and public service announcements are played on radio stations. Moreover, other promotions are held at seminars on services offered by various private and public sector agencies.

d. Stepping up campaigns against child sex tourism

In 2009, the Child Welfare Bureau made the following related efforts:

(1) Campaign targets and aims

Campaigns target the general public and relevant enterprises to help foster a better understanding of child sex tourism and the efforts to deter it. By so doing, we not only help prevent such crimes directly, but also enlist the public's assistance in stopping such behavior.

(2) Campaign tactics

i. 30-sec TV commercials: a spokesperson briefly describes child sex tourism and urges the public to refrain from engaging in such illegal behavior when abroad.

ii. Internet ads: monthly promotions placed on online portals, such as yahoo, pchome, yam and sina.

iii. Public transit station ads: ads placed at the Taipei City MRT's Guting, Longshan Temple and Kunyang Stations

iv. Radio Ads: commercials placed on the Internet, TV, MRT TV, BEE TV (monitors on buses in Taipei), and theaters.

v. Exterior bus ads: ads placed on a total of 22 buses in Taipei, Taichung and Kaohsiung

vi. Luggage tags: 50,000 tags with related messages sent to travel agencies and distributed to travelers

e. Public awareness campaigns to help protect foreign laborers:

The CLA uses a variety of media to remind foreign workers to not sign documents that they cannot fully understand, such as promissory notes, and to not relinquish their passport, seal/chop and ID papers to their employers.

The CLA also educates employers, brokers and foreign workers on human trafficking issues and on the channels victims can use to seek assistance. Its efforts are as follows:

(1) Printed materials

- i. The CLA printed 280,000 “foreign worker care” cards, 210,000 copies of the booklet *Work Guidelines for Foreign Workers in Taiwan* and the flyer *Notice! Know How to Secure Your Property* in foreign languages and in Mandarin for distribution to foreign workers upon their entry into Taiwan. In addition, 150,000 flyers for the 24-hour foreign worker hotline have been provided to the offices of 25 county & city governments, county & city branches of the NIA, public employment service centers, foreign representative offices in Taiwan, foreign worker placement agencies, airports, medical care providers, the Environmental Protection Administration, police stations, the National Tax Administration, the Bureau of National Health Insurance, and the Legal Aid Foundation.
- ii. Ads for the 24-hour foreign worker hotline in Mandarin, English, Thai, Indonesian and Vietnamese were placed in newspapers.

(2) Media campaigns

- i. News reports, interviews and 11 radio programs (on such stations as Taiwan Radio, Taipei Work FM, Radio Taiwan International in Mandarin, English, Tagalog, Thai, Vietnamese and Indonesian) were made to promote related regulations and safety tips for employers, brokers and foreigner workers. Trafficking in persons was one of the topics covered.
- ii. TV and radio commercials for the 24-hour hotline were broadcast.

(3) Seminars

Local governments held a total of 12 seminars for 1,265 participants. The attendance by employers and staff members from broker agencies were



subsidized. In addition, 104 seminars were held for 16,505 foreign workers and their employers (a total of 3,721 employers were present at 23 of the seminars) to discuss relevant legal issues. The seminars raised the awareness of human trafficking issues among the employers, brokers and foreign workers.

## 2. Capacity building and training

In 2009, government agencies spent more than NT\$11.42 million to enhance the professional knowledge and investigative skills of field personnel.

a. The NIA has prepared a Trafficking Prevention Work Manual and has distributed it to relevant agencies as a reference. This should help bring the concepts and practices on victim protection and case investigation up to standard, while boosting the professional capabilities of front-line field personnel.

b. General education

Training	Sessions / Total Participants	Participants
General inter-agency training on the prevention of trafficking in persons	2/200	Police, coast guard and immigration officers; prosecutors; and personnel from relevant government agencies
International workshops / symposiums on preventing human trafficking	2/320	Government officials, experts, scholars, NGO representatives, officers from foreign representative offices in Taiwan

c. Investigations-related workshops

Training	Sessions / Total Participants	Participants
Trafficking prevention training for judicial and police officers	1/50	Police, coast guard and immigration officers, and prosecutors
Trafficking prevention seminar to train seed personnel	1/40	Police, coast guard and immigration officers
Trafficking prevention workshops for police officers	1,558 participants	County, city, and criminal investigation bureau police officers
Trafficking prevention training for coast guard officers	3/127	Leading county, city, and coast guard officers

Seminar on human trafficking case studies	1/75	Prosecutors
NIA human trafficking prevention training	8/550	Officers in Special Operation Corps 1 & 2 and on-duty officers at county & city branches, NIA
ID authentication and examination seminar	8/1,463	Border Affairs Corps officers
Facial identification principles and skills	1/388	Border Affairs Corps officers
Operating principles of ROC IC passports, and the exchange, verification and authentication mechanisms of digital certificates	2/480	On-duty Border Affairs Corps officers
Authentication and identification guideline for specialized passports at all times	1/380	On-duty Border Affairs Corps officers
Borderline surveillance training	12 each / 648 man-times	On-duty Border Affairs Corps officers
Borderline interview seminar		

d. Protection-related workshops

Training	Sessions / Total Participants	Participants
International workshop on the protection of trafficking victims	1/100	Social workers and administrative personnel
Training on the recognition and protection of human trafficking victims	9/1,089	Medical personnel and hospital social workers
Seminars on human trafficking for foreign labor management officials at local governments	3/400	Foreign labor management officials of local governments

e. Prevention-related workshops

Classes or lectures on the prevention of trafficking in persons have been incorporated into professional training curricula and seminars for field-personnel involved with foreign affairs, mainland China affairs, education, indigenous peoples, veterans, tourism, finance and fishing.

**3. Promoting measures to support spouses not from the ROC (Taiwan)**

The MOI drew up the Support and Counseling Measures for Foreign Spouses and Spouses from Mainland China in 2003, which maps out 40 specific

measures under the following eight categories: adapting to Taiwan, general and maternity health care; employee rights; education and culture; childrearing; personal safety; law; and awareness. The measures are being carried out by 12 central government agencies and local governments, while the MOI holds meetings with them periodically to check their progress. The government hopes to help foreign spouses adapt to their new lives and shield them from being exploited or harmed due to their ignorance. Therefore, the government has been integrating public and private sector resources, putting in place comprehensive support and counseling measures, embracing diverse social values and providing whatever assistance necessary. In 2009, the following support measures were promoted through a wide variety of channels:

a. Pre-arrival orientation for foreign spouses

Our representative offices in Southeast Asian countries provide pre-arrival orientation for foreign spouses to help them develop some basic ideas about life in Taiwan, encourage them to learn Mandarin, familiarize them with their rights and obligations as a resident of Taiwan, and make them aware of the support available to victims of domestic abuse. In 2009, the representative offices have provided 676 orientations for a total of 6,804 persons.

b. Hotline for foreign spouses

A hotline that provides counseling services in six languages is available to foreign spouses in order to advise them on life in Taiwan, provide information on such areas as education, culture, employment services, health care, personal safety, permanent residence, law, and other support services. In 2009, the hotline fielded 12,285 calls.

#### **4. Protecting the rights and interests of foreign workers**

a. Facilitating Direct hiring

In 2009, the Direct Employment Service Center made direct hiring available for foreign workers engaged in manufacturing, construction, marine fishing,

caregiving and housekeeping to help keep them from being exploited by unethical brokers, saving the workers the high brokerage fees paid from their own pockets. The center provided the following services in 2009:

Service	Results
Help household employers rehire caregiver	7,357 employers
Forward or mail applications for hiring a foreign worker or authenticating documents on behalf of the employer	29,979 applications
Provide telephone and onsite counseling	127,512 instances

b. Operating the 24-hour foreign worker hotline (1955)

The hotline, which was launched on July 1, 2009, offers foreign workers a convenient channel to obtain counseling and file complaints. The complaints are quickly processed by professional hotline personnel and assigned to the local competent labor authority.

c. Helping foreign workers recover wages

In 2009, the county & city foreign worker counseling centers and the airport foreign worker service centers took on 2,184 cases, helping the workers recover from their employers or brokers a total NT\$118,297,113 in back pay.

d. Engaging in innovative international activities or projects on foreign labor management

The CLA amended the Operating Guidelines for Subsidizing Foreign Worker Management on September 17, 2009. The amendments stipulate that all of innovative, experimental or international activities or plans pertinent to foreign worker management are subject to the subsidies granted to private organizations for activities and measures that relate to employment of foreign workers or help prevent them from being victims of human trafficking.

**5. Reviewing foreign worker policies**

a. Curbing illegal brokerage practices

To help reduce the number of undocumented foreign workers and instances of forced labor stemming from illegal brokerage practices, the Determination

Basis for the Suspension of Business and Revocation of License for Violation of the Employment Service Act by Private Employment Service Agencies and Employment Service Professionals enacted and promulgated on January 14, 2009 extends the maximum duration of suspension for businesses found guilty of engaging in illegal brokerage practices and overcharging for services from nine months to twelve months.

b. Fortifying the oversight of manpower agencies

To ensure the quality of manpower agencies, the government evaluates them each year. In 2009, 936 manpower agencies were graded, where 193 (20.6%) received an A (score of 90 or higher), 668 (71.4%) a B (score 60-89) and 75 (8%) a C (score of 60 or below). The 75 agencies that received a C were not allowed to establish new branches and were asked to take remedial actions. If they fail to receive a B the next year, their applications for permit renewal will be denied, forcing them out of business.

c. Announcing clear penalties for illegal hiring practices

The Termination Basis on Recruitment Permit and Employment Permit for Employers against the Provisions of Article 72 of the Employment Service Act on Foreign Workers Category 2 was enacted on July 8, 2008. In the event that an employer, a person being cared for, or a relative of the household employing a foreign worker be convicted of violating the Criminal Code, Labor Standards Act, Sexual Assault Crime Prevention Act, or other related decrees, the said person will be sentenced using the severe violations contained in the provisions on labor protection prescribed in item 15, paragraph 1, Article 54 of the Employment Service Act. In addition, the recruitment and employment permits held by the employer could be terminated depending on the evidence presented.

d. Preventing brokers from overcharging

In accordance with the amended Deposit for Charges and Wages for Foreign Workers in Taiwan promulgated on August 20, 2009, any fee charged or debt

collected by domestic brokers on behalf of foreign brokers is automatically considered an overcharge and, therefore, against the law. The said provision went into effect on October 20, 2009.

e. Circulating a standardized employment contract

To prevent and address disputes among employers, foreign workers and brokers, a model was presented in the Standardized Contract with Foreign Workers Recruited by Employers via Commission under Article 46( I )(8-10) of the Employment Service Act and the Standardized Contract with Foreign Workers via Personal Commission under Article 46 ( I )(8-10) of the Employment Service Act was enacted on October 12, 2009. This specifies the rights and interests of the three parties involved, thereby reducing the disputes arising from the brokerage service contracts signed by employers, foreign workers and transnational manpower brokers.

f. Denying of permits and termination of recruitment due to illegal brokerage practices

The Guidelines for Permit Denial and Recruitment Termination due to Illegal Work Brokerage via Employers Violating Article 54 of the Employment Service Act was amended on October 27, 2009. They now stipulate that whenever the employers engage in illegal work brokerage practices, permit denial and recruitment termination shall apply thereto pro rata 1:2 in terms of the number of illegal work brokerages and that of application.

**6. Joining forces with the private sector to boost government efficiency**

- a. The government has joined forces with the private sector by outsourcing services and providing subsidies to them. NGOs can now shelter victims, escort them to interviews and appointments, and interpret for them and provide them with other services. NGOs also organize training courses, seminars, and public announcement campaigns; and participate in relevant meetings, international NGO events, and international exchanges. They also

assist the government in drafting other types of materials on the prevention of trafficking in persons.

- b. In 2009, the NIA subsidized 14 activities on trafficking in persons that were held by NGOs for a total of NT\$3,156,341 in funding. It subsidized another four international activities held by NGOs for a total NT\$158,200.
- c. The Legal Aid Foundation (LAF), established through funding from the MOJ, aims to help people who are in need of professional legal aid but cannot afford it. As of October 31, 2009, 69 civil and criminal cases involving human trafficking were cracked, helping 433 persons in the process.

## **7. Promotions**

### **★ MTV EXIT (End Exploitation and Trafficking) Campaign**

The Garden of Hope Foundation and the MTV European Foundation, under the direction of the NIA, sponsored the MTV EXIT (End Exploitation and Trafficking) Campaign, including a related press conference. Posters, flyers, and MRT pass holders were prepared for the event, with local entertainers helping to promote the event. Many activities were planned to promote understanding of human trafficking issues.

One concert was held in each of Taiwan's two largest metropolises: Taipei and Kaohsiung. These were the first concerts ever held in Taiwan to raise understanding on human trafficking issues. With the avid support of the media, concern over human trafficking victims was generated. In the meantime, the performances by the entertainers attracted thousands of people. The concert proved to be a very successful channel for promoting human trafficking issues.



Concert in Kaohsiung	NGO booth for promotion
Posters	Spokesperson Liang Wen Yin



★ **24-hour foreign worker hotline: 1955**

The CLA operates a hotline (dial 1955) for foreign workers to provide them a channel to seek counseling, legal aid, referred placement, information and consultation, as well as to submit complaints. For their convenience, the hotline is available 24 hours a day, in five languages. Should they have any questions or need assistance, 1955 is here to help them.

◆ **1955 helps protect foreign laborers and prevent human trafficking**

There is the 1955 hotline for labor-related services from county & city labor offices and police bureaus, and the 113 hotline for women's and children's services from centers involved with domestic violence and sexual assault, as well as the special operations corps of the NIA. Together, they formulate an extensive resource network that secures the human rights of foreign workers



and resolves whatever labor issues they encounter while working in Taiwan.

As for suspected human trafficking victims, the 1955 hotline will notify the concerned judicial and police agencies as well as other local competent authorities, if necessary, so that the said person can be rescued quickly, an investigation made, and a conviction obtained. If a foreign worker submitting a complaint is identified as a victim of human trafficking by judicial and police agencies, the victim will be placed in an NGO shelter under the provisions prescribed in the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act and the authorities with the 1955 hotline will continue to pursue the case.

Upon receiving a complaint that an employer assigns work not covered by the worker's work permit, that no compensation is made for extra work, or that the worker's freedom has been restricted, 1955 will give the case high priority and notify the local competent authority to handle the case promptly. Cases listed as possibly involving possible human trafficking violations will be reported to local judicial and police agencies. Afterward, the local government is to place the victim under protection as per established human trafficking procedures. In addition, the hotline further ensures the safety and rights of the said foreign worker by keeping close tabs on the development of the case.

## **E. Strengthening international exchange and cooperation**

### **1. International exchange activities**

- a. On July 27, 2009, the NIA held the International Workshop on the Prevention of Trafficking in Persons with 120 attendees, and on September 8-9, 2009 the International Conference on the Prevention on Trafficking in Persons with 200 attendees. On these occasions, keynote speakers gave talks on the practical and legal aspects of trafficking in persons, such as identifying and protecting victims, improving preventive efforts via cooperation with public and private sector agencies abroad. Domestic prosecutors' offices and NGOs have been engaging in cooperation with, inter alia, the US Immigration and Customs Enforcement under the Department of Homeland Security, the US Department

of Justice, the Thai Women Foundation and the Indonesian Immigrant Labor Union.

- b. On September 10, 2009, the US Assistant Prosecutor Krishna R. Patel was invited to partake in a seminar and discuss with 30 of Taiwan's prosecutors topics on property confiscation, evidence conservation, obtainment of cooperation of victims and inappropriate debt commitments required of many human trafficking victims.
- c. The Training Institute for Judges and Prosecutors held the Symposium on Fighting Transnational Human Trafficking and Transnational Money Laundering Crimes on December 2-3, 2009. Mr. Nguyen Cong Hong, Minister of Criminal and Administrative Legal Affairs in Vietnam and Professor Takeshi Tsuchimoto of the Law Department of Hakuoh University in Japan discussed their experiences with the prosecutors from Taiwan.
- d. The NIA held the Seminar on Border Management on October 21, 2009, inviting representatives from more than 20 foreign representative offices in Taiwan. The foreign participants included representatives from the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, Australia, Germany, France, Japan and the Netherlands. The local participants included representatives from the Taoyuan District Prosecutors Office, the Bureau of Consular Affairs, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the National Security Bureau, the Investigation Bureau under the Ministry of Justice, the Aviation Police Office, the Taipei Women's Rescue Foundation (TWRP) and domestic airlines. The participants discussed innovative border management techniques and technological applications, as well as human smuggling by trafficking syndicates. They aimed to promote cooperation, spread knowledge and raise the detection rate of counterfeit IDs.
- e. The NIA sent the captain of the Special Operation Corps of Miaoli County to a seminar on trafficking in persons for federal law enforcement officers hosted by the US Department of Homeland Security on June 15-25, 2009.

- f. Members of our representative office in Japan were invited to attend Japan's Sixth Joint Human Trafficking Meeting, which was held on July 28, 2009. During the meeting, they exchanged views with representatives from Japan and other countries on future collaboration in the prevention of crimes related to human trafficking.
- g. The Legal Aid Foundation, which aims to maintain the rights and interests of minorities, held the Forum on Legal Aid 2009 on October 31-November 2, 2009. For the event, the foundation invited 26 representatives of agencies involved in legal aid from 14 countries, as well as jurisprudential experts from both Taiwan and abroad to speak on the topic "Legal Aid under the Global Economic Recession: New Challenges and Opportunities." During the forum, 1 lecture, 3 seminars, 3 sectional sessions and 1 round-table meeting with regard to Debts and Poverty, Human Rights in Crimes and Human Rights for Foreigners. Reports on the current legal aid offered in each country were presented.
- h. In 2009, various Taiwanese private organizations participated in international events, some of which received government subsidization. Presently, very few private organizations in Taiwan are familiar with the trafficking in persons issue, much less assist in tackling it. The key private sector organizations in Taiwan with an in-depth understanding of the hideous nature of human trafficking include the Taipei Women's Rescue Foundation, ECPAT Taiwan, and the Good Shepherd Social Welfare Services. Last year they participated in the following international anti-trafficking activities:

**Taipei Women's Rescue Foundation (TWRF)**

- (1) The TWRF, in association with academic institutions and legal associations from Taiwan, participated in the Joint Study for "Sending Vietnamese Workers Overseas and the Strategies for Prevention of Human Trafficking" held in Vietnam, in May 2009.
- (2) The TWRF participated in the Joint Study for "Sending Vietnamese Workers

Overseas and the Strategies for Prevention of Human Trafficking” in Vietnam in August 2009.

- (3) The TWRF, in association with representatives of other women’s rights associations, participated in the Asia-Pacific NGO Forum and issued a report on Taiwan CEDAW (Convention on Eliminating All Forms of Discrimination against Women) in the Philippines in October 2009.
- (4) The TWFR participated in the Gender in Migration and Social Policy in the ASEAN Region and presented a report on Taiwan’s human trafficking situation in Bangkok, Thailand in November 2009.

### **ECPAT Taiwan**

- (1) ECPAT invited Oxfam Quebec to come to Taiwan and discuss the UN anti-trafficking project in the Mekong River area at the World Congress against the Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents in June 2009.
- (2) Members of ECPAT visited Bangkok, Thailand; Hanoi, Vietnam; and Phnom Penh, Cambodia to gain a better understanding of the local policies and practices regarding human trafficking. Some of the INGOs that they visited include IOM Thailand, UNIAP Vietnam, Hagar Cambodia and AFESIP Cambodia.
- (3) ECPAT joined the campaign against the sex trafficking of children sponsored by ECPAT International and Body Shop. More than 40 nations worldwide supported the campaign and called for their society to show concern over sex trafficking and the commercial sexual exploitation of children. The said campaign is also supported by the W.J. Clinton Foundation of the United States.

### **Good Shepherd Social Welfare Services (GSSWS)**

- (1) CEO Sister Tang and Consultant Associate Professor Chang joined the workshops related to human trafficking at the Asia Pacific NGO Forum in Beijing+15.

- (2) The UN NGO Committee on Social Development compiled a report on 190 social inclusion cases in 62 countries in November 2009, including information on foreign spouses provided by the CEO of GSSWS. The content included the following:
- i. The government founded a Foreign Spouse Assistance Fund, dedicating NT\$3 billion over the next decade to provide aid to foreign spouses. In addition, it also founded a committee for planning and monitoring related policies.
  - ii. Taiwan's Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act was created to help protect the rights and interests of victims. In addition, the Immigration Act was amended to better reflect the fact that transnational marriages are in the public's interests.

## **2. Strengthening cooperation with labor source countries**

- a. Thus far, Taiwan has signed memorandums of understanding (MOU) on labor affairs with Indonesia and Mongolia, an MOU on direct hiring and joint implementation guidelines with the Philippines, and other labor agreements with Thailand and Vietnam. Furthermore, Taiwan builds bilateral communication channels to prevent foreign workers becoming victims of human trafficking via bilateral ministerial-level labor conferences or working-level meetings with Thailand and Indonesia in 2007, with Vietnam in 2008, and with the Philippines in 2007 & 2009. Thus, the said countries have reached consensus on referrals for the placement and protection of victims of human trafficking, on the issuance of travel documents to them, and on assistance for their repatriation.
- b. Also, as old MOUs expire, the principles on joint efforts to help prevent foreign workers from becoming victims of human trafficking have been incorporated into new MOUs. In 2010, cooperative mechanisms against human trafficking were added to the amended Taiwan-Philippines MOU on direct hiring and the Taiwan-Indonesia MOU on labor cooperation. They

aim to promote cooperation in the prevention of foreign laborers from becoming human trafficking victims, the exchange of related information, the promotion of measures to combat trafficking in persons, as well as the safe repatriation of victims, including the issuance of travel documents for them.

## **IV. Key Future Tasks**

### **A. Crackdown**

1. The judicial and police agencies will conduct sweeps of places that are suspected of being hideouts for traffickers and their victims, as well as establishments that might be illegally employing foreigners, to collect evidence for cracking down on crime syndicates and to rescue victims. This will send a strong message as to our resolve in fighting human trafficking.
2. We will strengthen border inspections to crackdown on mainland Chinese stowaways and undocumented foreign workers, and will investigate illegal employers and unlawful brokers to prevent exploitation and curb human trafficking.

### **B. Protection**

1. Through enhanced promotion by judicial and police agencies, frontline law enforcement officers will carry out victim identification procedures and take protective measures accordingly.
2. We will continue to outsource victim placement services to NGOs and plan to build a shelter in South Taiwan to achieve a regional balance and convenient placement.

### **C. Prevention**

1. Enhancing preventive campaigns and training

In 2010, the ministries and commissions under the Executive Yuan will be stepping up campaigns and educational programs on anti-trafficking in persons. A budget of NT\$23.68 million has been earmarked for activities that use

multimedia and other formats to familiarize the general public, foreigners in Taiwan and front-line personnel with issues concerning human trafficking. The government plans to spend NT\$10.05 million on capacity-building and training for front-line personnel and specialists. Meanwhile, seminars on practical cases will be included in the training of judicial police and prosecutors to raise their professional capabilities.

## 2. Reviewing issues in the management of foreign workers

### a. Ensuring labor rights and protection for household service workers:

In order to provide labor protections for both domestic and foreign household service workers, a specific Act is in the drafting progress.

### b. Amending the penalties for forced labor in the Labor Standards Act

The amendment bill of the Labor Standards Act has been completed so as to further prevent forced labor and protect domestic service workers through stiffer penalties.

### c. Expanding the scope of direct hiring

In 2010, the Project for Employers Hiring New Foreign Workers Directly aims to enable employers in need of new recruits to select suitable workers directly from labor source countries. This will allow for related procedures to be completed without the need for brokers in Taiwan, which saves time for employers and saves brokerage fees for foreign workers.

### d. Fortifying the mechanism for disqualifying substandard manpower agencies

The government will assess the quality of private transnational manpower agencies. Moreover, the relevant guidelines and indicators are reviewed constantly to enhance the credibility of the assessment system and expel substandard agencies from the market.

### e. Managing brokerage fees

The assessment of brokerage fees is to be further enhanced, and severe penalties will be handed down to brokers who overcharge foreign workers.

In terms of fees charged by overseas brokers, we will continue to use bilateral communication channels and hold labor cooperation meetings with representatives from the foreign labor source countries to discuss brokerage fees standards and strengthen oversight with respect to overcharging.

## **V. Conclusion**

The Executive Yuan has integrated resources by setting up a Human Trafficking Prevention Inter-Agency Meeting. Doing so has allowed Taiwan to make considerable progress in preventing human trafficking, especially with respect to victim identification, placement and protection. International society has no tolerance for human trafficking and abuses of human rights. Taiwan respects human rights and is dedicated to strengthening its anti-trafficking in persons efforts through integrating the work of the relevant agencies at all levels. We are especially keen to raise the professional standards of frontline law enforcement officers and make sure that the law is enforced, as we believe these efforts will help curb human trafficking and allow Taiwan to meet the expectations of the international community.