



**ANTI-HUMAN
TRAFFICKING
ADVOCATES
COLLECTIVE
2020**



ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING ADVOCATES COLLECTIVE

ANTI-TRAFFICKING ADVOCATES COLLECTIVE STATEMENT TO GENERATION EQUALITY

Generation Equality Secretariat
March 2020

We, the undersigned global anti-trafficking advocates and survivor-advocates, want to express our immense support of the Generation Equality (GE) Process and our solidarity with your bold efforts and agenda towards ending global gender inequality. Within the context of this solidarity, we are concerned that so far in this multi stakeholder and co-creation process the voices of anti-trafficking advocates, survivors, and survivor-advocates of Human Trafficking and Modern Day Slavery (MDS) have not been sufficiently involved and engaged. We represent women and girls from across the world who have survived these harrowing experiences and fear that excluding us and them from this process has and will continue to perpetuate obstacles towards your ultimate mandate of global gender equality.

We reviewed the outcomes of the GE Process to date and are alarmed by the overwhelming absence of anti-trafficking victims, survivors, and allied stakeholders. Human Trafficking pervades each of the six Action Coalition themes, including: (1) gender-based violence (GBV), (2) economic justice and rights, (3) bodily autonomy and sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), (4) feminist action for climate change, (5) technology and innovation for gender equality, and (6) feminist movements and leadership. Bolstered by our collective training, knowledge, and grounded experience, the undersigned are deeply concerned that the success of the GE Process will be limited by the absence of women and girl survivor perspectives. For this reason, GE stakeholders must collectively ensure that while our relation to, efforts towards, and circumstances regarding combatting trafficking may be diverse, a common recognition of the reality that gender issues underpin Human Trafficking and MDS is vital. We truly appreciate your review of this statement with an eye towards how we can collectively ensure no voices are left behind.

Human trafficking is a form of Modern Day Slavery. It is globally rated as the second most lucrative trade after the arms trade, with victims being bought and sold for profit. For this important reason, Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) number 8.7, 5.2, 16.2 are centered around trafficking. According to the UNODC, 71% of victims of human trafficking are women and girls, demonstrating that GBV and human trafficking are inextricably connected. However, human trafficking transcends the GBV sphere alone, with reverberating causes and effects associated with the other five Action Coalition areas. Pervasive gender inequity in societies result in women and girls being disproportionately targeted by human traffickers, whether through sex trafficking, child sexual abuse, forced or involuntary domestic labor and servitude, early and forced marriages, labor trafficking, or other occurring and co-occurring forms of violence and exploitation.



ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING ADVOCATES COLLECTIVE

The numbers of trafficked women and girls, as well as new cases and forms of trafficking and modern day slavery, increase every day. It is therefore essential that in all forums where possible related to the Generation Equality Process that women and girls vulnerable to and affected by trafficking be given a place at the table.

Women and girls are agents of global change around the world. However, the discrimination, violence, and exploitation they face perpetuate oppression and prevent women and girls from achieving their full potential, resulting in economic, political, social, and psycho-social vulnerabilities that contribute to the disproportionate number of women and girls who are trafficked daily. A lack of female access to legal justice, dearth of appropriate laws and/or failure to implement effective laws compound these vulnerabilities. According to the UNODC, although many countries criminalize human trafficking, “the rate of convictions remains far too low, and victims are not always receiving the protection and services countries are obliged to provide.” It is therefore critical that at the same time we recognize the agency of women and girls, we also acknowledge that millions of female victims are entangled in diverse, intersecting webs of discrimination and exploitation. All of us who are interested in elevating the status and rights of girls and women must collaborate at local, regional and global levels to curb the ever-flowing tide of human trafficking.

Exclusion breeds further exclusion and perpetuates exploitation, preventing all women and girls from achieving the equality so courageously imagined and promoted by the Generation Equality Process. The GE Process provides an invaluable forum, through which to work together to ensure that the work during the next 5 years is as inclusive, comprehensive and has impact that resounds across and beyond generations. We are confident that you believe in supporting women and girls globally by removing barriers to their full and authentic participation in all aspects of society, and appreciate your consideration of our perspectives. We believe that GE Process has the tools, capacity, and global support to ensure elevating the voices of modern slaves, alongside corresponding and complementary causes present in the process. It is critical that the girls and women who have suffered these injustices have the opportunity to represent themselves alongside other allied stakeholders. Therefore, we, the undersigned, commit to being present, engaged and supportive in order to guarantee we all succeed and reach the highest levels of impact and achievement together. We look forward to the possibility of pursuing this goal with you through increased integration of anti-trafficking in the Generation Equality Process, including but not limited to the six Action Coalitions.

Signatories:

- 1. Racha Haffar, Not 4 Trade Organization, Tunisia**
- 2. Marwa Azelmat, Luftbruecke NGO, Morocco**



ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING ADVOCATES COLLECTIVE

- 3. Neysara, TransgenderIndia, India**
- 4. Heidy Quah, Refuge For The Refugees, Malaysia**
- 5. Mona Ayoub, Domestic Violence Advocate, Lebanon & Not 4 Trade Organization, Tunisia**
- 6. Valerie Kariem, Voice for the Voiceless NPO, South Africa**
- 7. Angela Clevenger, Anti-Human Trafficking Specialist and Consultant, US**
- 8. Carolina Rudnick, Fundación Libera contra la Trata de Personas, Chile**
- 9. Kaisa Beltran, Journalist and author focused on human rights, Finland**
- 10. Pallabi Ghosh, Anti-trafficking and Human Rights Activist, India**
- 11. Khadija Abouchendi, Human Resources Consultant, Tunisia**
- 12. Sheffield Douglas, Anti-Human Trafficking Activist, Guyana Women Miners Organisation, Guyana**
- 13. Nina Volontey, psychologist in Safe House foundation, Moscow, Russia**
- 14. Veronica Lupu, Advocate, Chairwomen, Association Women for the Contemporary Society, Moldova**
- 15. Anika Jane, Young Women In Political Parties Leadership, Kenya**
- 16. Awah Francisca Mbuli, Survivors' Network (SN), Cameroon/Africa**
- 17. Cristina Sevilla, Action Against Violence and Exploitation, Philippines**
- 18. Mariana Wenzel, ANTHUS (National Association against Human Trafficking in the Society), Mexico**
- 19. Nancy Edith Alarcon, Corporación SerVoz-Colombia**
- 20. Elena Timofeeva, National Centre against human Exploitation and Violence (NCEV), Sweden**
- 21. Corporación Espacios de Mujer, Medellín - Colombia**
- 22. Cindy Dyer, Vice President, Human Rights, Vital Voices Global Partnership**
- 23. Nicole Hauspurg, Director, Justice Initiatives, Human Rights, Vital Voices Global Partnership**
- 24. Jelena Hrnjak, NGO Atina, Serbia**
- 25. Melanie Doucakis, Researcher: International Development and Social Anthropology - Modern Slavery Specialist, UK.**
- 26. Shandra Woworuntu, founder & CEO of Mentari; Survivor Advisor to ODIHR - OSCE for the update of National Referral Mechanisms hand book, USA**
- 27. Jakeline Vargas Parra, Corporación CreSer; Colombia**
- 28. Julia Didriksson Muriadas, feminist activist, Mexico**
- 29. Sofia Lorena Bogado, feminist activist and AMUMRA, Argentina**
- 30. Andrea Bravo, Fundación Marcela Loaiza, Colombia**
- 31. Beatrice Titanji, CEO/Founder WOGED, Cameroon**
- 32. Dorah Mongelgi, Gender Activist, Tunisia**
- 33. Hafid Hafi, Lawyer, Expert in Migration and Human Trafficking, Tunisia**
- 34. Mariam Mzoughi, Expert in Migration and Human Trafficking, Tunisia**
- 35. Meriem Ben Lamine, Lawyer, Tunisia**



ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING ADVOCATES COLLECTIVE

- 36. Binui Belinda Ngu, Magistrate, Legal Advisor to Centre for Human Rights and Peace Advocacy (CHRAPA), Cameroon**
- 37. Arun Dohle, Against Child Trafficking Advocate, The Netherlands**
- 38. Jenna McKaye, Founder of Jenna McKaye Foundation, USA**
- 39. Kayla Hellal, Treasurer, Youth Against Slavery Movement, USA**
- 40. Gabrielle Thompson, CEO, Free for Life International, USA**
- 41. Beth Grate, Human Trafficking Activist, bGr8, USA**
- 42. Kathleen Moran, Anti-Human Trafficking Activist, USA**
- 43. Theresa Morfaw Fonjia, CEO, Youth For Change and Empowerment (YouthFORCE), Cameroon**
- 44. Pilar Paniagua Cordova, Girls and Women Refugee and Migrants Rights Advocate, AMUMRA, Argentina**
- 45. Juan Pablo Poli, Sexual and Reproductive Rights Activist, Argentina**
- 46. Tarisai Mchuchu-MacMillan, Executive Director, MOSAIC Training Services and Healing Centre for Women, South Africa**
- 47. Emily Pasnak-Lapchick, Human Rights Advocate, USA**
- 48. Evon Benson-Idahosa, Executive Director, Pathfinders Justice Initiative Inc., Nigeria**
- 49. Ezgi Yaman, Youth Coordinator, ECPAT Turkey/NGOs Network Against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children Turkey**
- 50. Denisse Araya, Corporación Raíces, Chile**
- 51. Brekina Puka, Vatra Psycho Social Center, Albania**
- 52. Dr. Gopal Kalyani, President and Founder, Safe Coalition for Human Rights**
- 53. Feriel Fatima Zohra Mensour, Project Manager, Salamat, Algeria**
- 54. Priti Patkar, co-founder, Prerana, India**