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Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development

Report of the Special Rapporteur on the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, Joy Ngozi Ezeilo

Addendum

Observations on communications transmitted to Governments and replies ${\bf received}^*$

Summary

The present report contains the Special Rapporteur's observations on communications sent to States between 16 March 2011 and 15 March 2012, as well as on responses received from States in relation to these communications until 15 May 2012.

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^{*} The present document is being circulated in the language of submission only.

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I. Introduction

- 1. The present document is submitted by the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, Joy Ngozi Ezeilo, to the Human Rights Council pursuant to its resolution 17/1.
- 2. In the present addendum, the Special Rapporteur provides observations, where considered appropriate, on communications sent to States between 16 March 2011 and 15 March 2012, as well as on responses received from States in relation to these communications until 15 May 2012. Communications sent and responses received during the reporting period are accessible electronically through hyperlinks.
- 3. The Special Rapporteur acknowledges the receipt of responses from three States during the period under review. The Special Rapporteur is grateful to all States which have transmitted responses to her communications. She considers response to her communications an important part of cooperation by States with her mandate. In this context, the Special Rapporteur recalls paragraph (i)(4) of the Human Rights Council resolution 17/1 which calls upon States "to provide him or her with all necessary information relating to the mandate to enable him or her to fulfil the mandate effectively". She therefore urges States which have not yet provided responses to her communications to do so without further delays.

II. Observations by the Special Rapporteur

Albania

4. JAL 28/10/2011. Case no. ALB 1/2011. State reply: 22/12/2011. Alleged trafficking of Kosovo Albanians and Serbs for the purpose of removal of organs and sexual exploitation.

Observations

5. The Special Rapporteur thanks the Government of Albania for its timely response to this communication. She appreciates the information provided regarding previous investigations carried out by non-State authorities on this matter. The Special Rapporteur further welcomes the Government's willingness to fully cooperate with the Special Investigative Task Force of the European Union Rule of Law Mission in Kosovo (EULEX), which is mandated to investigate the allegations concerned in the communication. The Special Rapporteur would be grateful to receive information on the outcomes of the investigations, including any relevant information on the questions raised in the communication. In addition, the Special Rapporteur notes the Government's efforts to address trafficking in persons through the implementation of the "Intersectional National Strategy in the fight against organized crime, trafficking and terrorism", the "National Strategy in the fight against human trafficking" and the "National Strategy in the fight against children trafficking and the protection of children trafficking victims". The Special Rapporteur would appreciate it if the Government could share copies in English of these strategies with her.

Egypt

6. AL 15/02/2012. Case no. EGY 4/2012. State reply: 11/04/2012. Alleged trafficking of persons, often migrants and refugees from Sudan, for the purpose of organ removal in Egypt.

Observations

7. The Special Rapporteur appreciates the Government's response to the communication, which is being translated into English at the time of the finalization of the report. The response will be included in the next communications report of special procedures.

France

8. AL 25/3/2011. Case no. FRA 2/2011. State reply: None to date. Alleged trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation and failure to provide the victim with remedy.

Observations

9. The Special Rapporteur regrets that the Government of France has not provided its response to her communication of 25 March 2011, despite her reminder at the 17th session of the Human Rights Council. She urges the authorities to provide as soon as possible detailed responses to all the concerns raised in her communication.

India

10. JAL 15/02/2012. Case no. IND 2/2012. State reply: None to date. Alleged trafficking of girl children from the districts of 24 North Parganas and Murshidabad, West Bengal State, for the purpose of sexual exploitation, and the alleged systematic failure of the police to investigate such incidents.

Observations

11. The Special Rapporteur regrets that the Government of India has not provided its response to her communication of 15 February 2012. She urges the authorities to provide as soon as possible detailed responses to all the concerns raised in her communication.

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

12. JAL 21/12/2011. Case no. GBR 7/2011. State reply: 23/02/2012. Alleged negative impact of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (UK) government proposal to abolish the Overseas Domestic Worker (ODW) visa system.

Observations

13. The Special Rapporteur thanks the Government of the United Kingdom for its response. However, she regrets that the results of the three-month consultation were not received from the Government before it implemented the concerned changes to the ODW visa system. In particular, she wishes to receive information on the finding that there is no convincing evidence that the changes to the ODW system would lead to an increase in trafficking. She would also appreciate more details about protections provided to overseas domestic workers, having regard to the fact that they no longer enjoy the right to change employer. This additional information would be of interest to the other Special Rapporteurs who joined this communication.

Other (Kosovo / UNMIK)

 $14.~\rm{JAL}~19/10/2011.$ Case no. KSV 1/2011. State reply: None to date. Alleged trafficking of Kosovo Albanians and Serbs for the purpose of removal of organs and sexual exploitation

Observations

15. The Special Rapporteur regrets that she has not received any response to her communication of 19 October 2011 from the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo or the Kosovo authorities. She urges them to provide as soon as possible detailed responses to all the concerns raised in her communication.

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