

Regional Counter Child Trafficking Workshop
4th and 5th December 2007
Gauteng, South Africa

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Participants:

Name	Organization	Country	Email add
Ms Mareile Kroning	Childline Botswana	Botswana	childlinebotswana@gmail.com
Mrs. Motselisi Shale	Childline Lesotho	Lesotho	lscbursaries@leo.co.ls
Mr. Makhetha Moshabesha	UNICEF	Lesotho	mmoshabesha@unicef.org
Mr. MacBain Mkandawire	Youth Net and Counselling	Malawi	mhjmkanawire@sdp.org.mw mkandawire1965@yahoo.co.uk
Mr. Nirmal Busgopal	Halley Movement	Mauritius	halley@intnet.mu nirmalb@intnet.mu
Mrs. Bernadette Harases	Lifeline/Childline Namibia	Namibia	bernadetteh@lifeline.org.na
Joan van Niekerk	Childline South Africa	South Africa	childlinesa@iafrica.com
Mrs. Benita Nel	Childline Mpumalanga	South Africa	nelbenita@xsinet.co.za
Ms Priscilla Molaudzi	Childline Limpopo	South Africa	childlinelimpopo@iafrica.com
Mr. Knowledge Ngwenya	Ministry of Education Toll Free Line	Swaziland	knowledge_ngwenya@yahoo.com
Mr. Geoffrey Francis Mhagama	Youth Cultural and Information Centre YCIC	Tanzania	ycic@cats-net.com geoffrey_mhagama@hotmail.com
Ms Linah Mpundu Musukuma	Young Women's Christian Association YMCA	Zambia	mpundumusukuma@yahoo.co.uk ywcalsk@zamnet.zm
Ms Pamela Mwelela Chisanga	Children in Need	Zambia	pamela_chisanga@yahoo.co.uk pamchisanga@zamnet.zm
Ms Tara Jane Miller	Childline Zimbabwe	Zimbabwe	directorchl@africaonline.co.zw childl@africaonline.co.zw
Mr. Silvio Macamo	SANTAC	Mozambique	silvio_macamo@yahoo.com/againstchildabuse@tv cabo.co.mz
Ms Carol Bews	SANTAC	Mozambique	carol@jhbchildwelfare.org.za
Dr Zosa De	Save the Children	Mozambique	Zosade@gmail.com

Sas Kropiwnicki	Norway	and South Africa	
Mr. Simon Fellows	Save the Children Norway	Mozambique	scn.rpa@tdm.co.mz
Ms Alice Kubo	Child Helpline International	Netherlands	alice@childhelplineinternational.org
Mrs. Sabina dos Santos	Rede Came	Mozambique	advoc.redecame@tvcabo.co.mz
Sonia Carew	The Bridge	Namibia	bridge@mweb.com.na

Objectives:

- Enhance our understanding of child trafficking
- Map current activities in the southern African region
- Develop a counter child trafficking regional referral system

Child Helpline International Activities – Presentation by Alice Kubo

Activities:

- Unite child helplines
- Identify potential partners
- Offer quality guidelines
- Compile data on global children issues
- Advocate on behalf of children at policy making levels.

Childhelplines use:

- telephones but also other modes of communication such as
 - Text messaging
 - Freepost/postal
 - Radio
 - Concern/happy-sad boxes
 - Online counseling
 - Mobile vans

Why do children contact Helplines?

- Multipurpose
- Commercial exploitation (which includes child trafficking, child prostitution/sexual exploitation, among others) constitutes 2% of all calls – with Africa taking 15.8% of all commercial exploitation calls

The role of helplines in combating trafficking:

- Listen to children who have been trafficked
- Use information collected from trafficked children to inform other child protection organizations
- Design projects to prevent other children from being trafficked
- Offer counseling to trafficked children
- In partnership with other child focused organizations, reunite trafficked children with their families
- Link trafficked children to other social services.

Challenges:

- Little political will to address the problem
- Commitment of NGO's
- Cultural attitudes
- Financial resources and sustainability
- Trained counselors
- Access to resources.

Save the Children Norway – Introduction by Simon Fellows

- Welcome, personal introductions from each participant, agenda and housekeeping
- The Southern African Network on trafficking and Abuse of Children (SANTAC) in partnership with Save the children Norway (SCN), and in collaboration with Child Helpline International (CHI) and Child Helplines are planning to establish a regional referral system and look at the possibility of Child Helplines being at the centre of developing and implementing this.
- There will be a next step which will look at implementation of this strategy.

SANTAC – Presentation by Carol Bews (Johannesburg Child and Family Welfare Society)

Activities in 2 main areas

- Fulfilling the need for public awareness – community participation, child awareness as well as the education of all stake holders. There is also a need for research.
- The need for law and policy reform: SANTAC has been very influential in the build up to the Southern African Development Community (SADC) – EU Conference. The next conference will be held in March 2008 and planning for 2010 will also begin – this will include prevention and education.

The first SANTAC Conference focused on:

- Exploring the extent of child trafficking
- Was attended by 10 countries – both civil society and governments and also international representations
- The conference declaration focused on law reform; policy change and development bi- and multilateral agreements; research and training.

Why SANTAC?

- It is a SADC focused network consisting of organization in many countries
- It brings together skills and practical experiences of all member countries
- Has the backing of powerful organizations such as Save the Children
- Has the capability to mobilize action – e.g. the T-shirt campaign.
- It has earned a reputation among patrons who are prepared to assist such as Graca Machel, Bishop Tutu, Minister of Justice and the EU.

It needs members and further networking. The benefits of membership include:

- Sharing of information
- Through networking one has greater impact both on prevention and on management
- This is an invisible crime and there are few prosecutions. When we work together we have a greater chance of breaking that invisibility.

Child Trafficking – Presentation by Simon Fellows (Save the Children Norway)**What is a child?**

- Below 18 years – as defined in most countries and by the UN Convention on the rights of the child.
- It was noted that we need to also take into account ambiguities in national legislation such that some children can legally work and be penalized for crimes, but cannot sign contracts. Legislation for boys and girls often differ where it pertains to child sexual abuse.
- We need to account for contextual definitions of childhood, and daily realities in which childhood is experienced
- We need to consider how children define themselves by asking children about their roles and responsibilities, and when they see childhood ending.

What is trafficking? Some key words:

- Recruitment
- Exploitation
- Receiving
- Illegal
- Someone else benefits
- Multi-sectoral – many people are involved in trafficking and in dealing with it.
- Sale of people
- Movement internally and externally

- Harboursing – storing the person temporarily

So what constitutes trafficking?

- Movement
- Exploitation
- Intention

So what is the difference between adult and child trafficking?

- A child has been trafficked if s/he has been moved within a country or across borders whether by force or not, with the purpose of exploiting the child. (Palermo Protocol on Trafficking)
- The difference between children and adults being trafficked is the force or consent element. Regardless of HOW the child is trafficked, a child is trafficked if another person moves a child with the intention of exploiting that child.

Outcome: The group agree on the above definition and confirm their understanding of child trafficking

Trafficking in Body Parts Exercise – Facilitation by Zosa De Sas Kropiwnicki (Save the Children Norway) *See Appendix 1*

An account of an incident of trafficking in body parts was read by each participant. Four groups were formed to look into how this matter should be dealt with over the immediate, short and long term. The groups represented State, Local organizations, NGO's and INGO's. There was an interactive group exercise which involved transferring information on to a large communal group grid which was then discussed.

Some conclusions:

- Cooperation and coordination is needed between a range of actors at state, non-state and local levels
- Coordination is needed between actors from different countries, given the transnational nature of trafficking
- Interventions need to be timely in the immediate, short and longer term
- Interventions should be designed to anticipate issues and not simply respond to issues. In other words, we should plan in advance.
- NGOs need to work with the state, but also need to pressure the state to take action
- NGOs should work closely with INGOs to secure funding from the state and other sources
- INGOs and NGOs should work from the bottom up using and strengthening local resources and local child protection strategies
- NGOs must consult with civil society organisations and local leaders such as traditional leaders, traditional healers, religious actors, women's groups etc. when designing interventions
- The media should be harnessed in advocacy and awareness-raising, but given the dangerous nature of trafficking they should be sensitive to confidentiality and child

- protection issues. They need to be aware of the sensitivity of the issue, and the risks of intimidation and sensationalisation.
- All state, non-state and local levels require capacity building in the area of child protection generally, and counter child trafficking specifically
 - In this particular example, law enforcement must be improved in terms of capacity and investigative skills
 - There should be agreements and protocols up front so that the various actors can be held accountable
 - More efforts should be made to encourage child participation in a manner that does not affect the protection and wellbeing of the child
 - Monitoring and evaluation systems need to be built into all interventions with a clear baseline, indicators and impact based measurement
 - A database linking resources and information between NGOs is needed
 - More research is needed to understand why trafficking of children and body parts occur.
 - Participants supported further research and investigation on the case study that was provided.

2010 World Cup Exercise – Facilitation by Zosa De Sas Kropiwnicki (Save the Children Norway) *See Appendix 2*

A report by IOM was presented to the group from the previous world cup in Germany which examined the impact of the event on trafficking in persons. This report concluded that the low numbers of trafficking incidents was related to the success of coordinated and timely prevention efforts by state and non state actors in Europe. On this basis the participants were tasked with designing a prevention strategy for the 2010 world cup in South Africa. The participants were divided into different groups each concentrating on the objective, the allies, the target group, the strategy and a timeline. The groups were divided as follows: awareness raising, policy change, working with at risk groups of children and capacity building. Each group presented their strategy and on this basis action points for a regional response were discussed.

Discussion points:

- We need support from actors with marketing or public relations experience
- We need to link up with IOM which has developed awareness-raising material
- We need to fill in the gaps on awareness-raising by focusing more on children
- We need to change and update awareness-raising materials regularly
- We need to build on our existing skills, which are primarily in the area of child protection
- We need a budget and dedicated person for each helpline to take the strategy forward
- We need a coordination body for the regional strategy
- We need to develop a monitoring and evaluation strategy
- We should educate the child, family and community through a holistic strategy

- This education should center on the dangers of trafficking and on how children, families and communities can protect themselves. Practical information such as who to call, who to contact etc. should be provided.
- We need to improve and increase the capacity of NGOs working in the area of trafficking by ensuring that their facilities are child-friendly
- The strategy needs to continue after 2010 to prevent child trafficking in the region

Repatriation Exercise – Facilitation by Zosa De Sas Kropiwnicki

There was an interactive body exercise where each person represented a country and on this basis had to link arms with a person/country where children could be trafficked to or through. On this basis it was concluded that given the transnational nature of trafficking a coordinated repatriation exercise was necessary. The group was set the task of repatriating a child who had been trafficking during the 2010 world cup. Each participant was grouped with other participants which represented the countries in their trafficking routes and they worked together to find a way to safely repatriate the child, using civil and governmental organizations from South Africa to other SADC countries. A discussion of success and challenges during repatriation ensued.

Repatriation is difficult due to:

- Language differences
- The absence of certain embassies
- The absence of information about why the child was originally trafficked
- The fact that some children do not want to return home
- Repatriation protocols are not child friendly
- The child might be dealt with by other organizations and structures that we do not know and that are not child friendly.
- The child cannot be placed anywhere as all efforts need to be made to ensure that the trafficker does not get to the child
- Resources are poor
- Government bureaucracy is a hindrance
- The safety of the child is difficult to secure

Successes:

- The child is safe and provided with all that they need
- Ongoing support and monitoring can be provided
- We need to consider whether we need a separate facility for children given the stigma associated with being trafficked

Processes

- Location of the family has to occur
- Assessment of the family
- Counseling of the family

- Liaison of the NGO's within and between countries can be direct through the exchange of information
- The IOM does have a repatriation grant
- We may have to use translation services given language difficulties

Networks

- We need to formalize the network
- We need to develop a protocol and agreements
- We need to include more partners and broaden the network
- We need to ensure that our protocol is known to others
- We need to extend the protocol to unaccompanied foreign minors and refugee children to ensure the protection of more children.

The Way forward – Initial ideas

1. Establish a small group to refine these proposals and develop a budget
2. Identify funders who could assist with certain aspects of this project.
3. Bring more partners on board and broaden the network
4. Try to coordinate and synthesise activities
5. Map what is happening in the region.
6. Expand definition to be more inclusive of unaccompanied minors and refugee children
7. Look at assistance broadly to include prevention activities.
8. Develop a protocol

Action Points:

1. Each country member needs to go back to their own country and reflect with their own partners and stake holders on the outcomes of this workshop – and try and get them on board.
2. Each member needs to send the working group the following by **the end of the first week of January**:
 - Information about their own activities
 - Information about the activities of other actors in their country
 - Information about local research on this issue
 - Information about legislation and gaps in legislation in their country
 - A list of other actors in the countries, highlighting which actors should be included in the network
 - Information about activities specifically related to 2010
3. The working group will incorporate this information into a mapping report to be shared at the next workshop
4. The working group will fine-tune the 2010 World Cup strategy and discuss with the network at the next workshop
5. All members should submit list of specific actors (eg UNICEF, IOM etc.) who should be invited to the next workshop

6. Participants need to be streamlined (e.g. 1 per country) for the next workshop
7. Meetings will be quarterly and organized through CHI and SANTAC with Save the Children Norway. The next meeting will be convened to fit in with the SANTAC annual conference. Carol Bews to provide more information about this workshop.
8. Zosa De Sas Kropiwnicki to write workshop report
9. All participants to direct information to Alice Mapenzi Kubo who will disseminate by email.
10. Name of Group – Regional Referral Group for Child Trafficking

Small working group:

- Alice Mapenzi Kubo – CHI (Contact point)
- Joan Van Niekerk – Childline SA
- Carol Bews - SANTAC
- Representative from Child Welfare SA
- Zosa De Sas Kropiwnicki – Save the Children Norway
- Silvio Macamo - SANTAC
- MacBain Happy Joel Mkwandawire - YONECO
- Tara Jane Miller – Childline Zimbabwe
- Geoffrey Francis Mhagama – YCIC

The name of the working group should ideally include “regional referral system”

Evaluation of workshop:

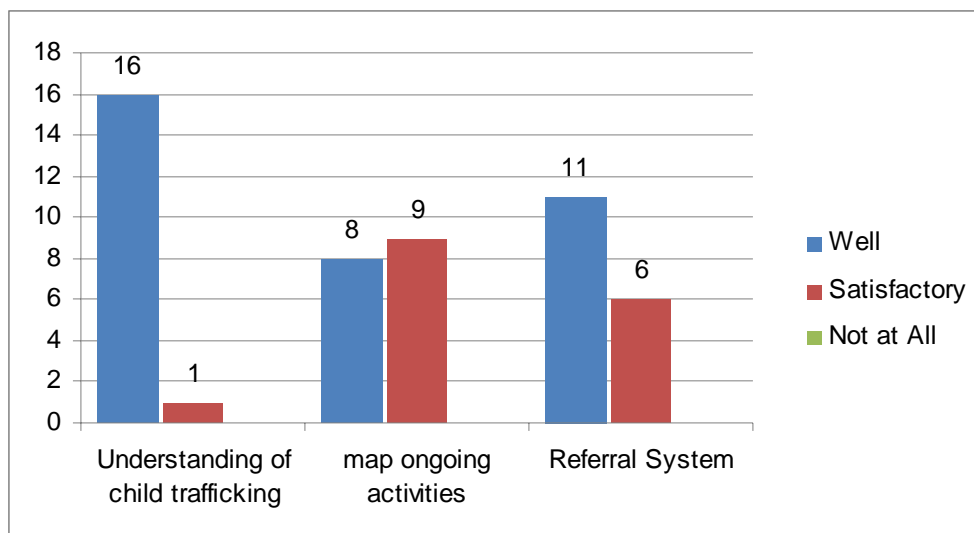
The value of this workshop (workshop participants – spontaneous comments):

- it has put child trafficking on the front of the agenda
- it has given a sense of direction

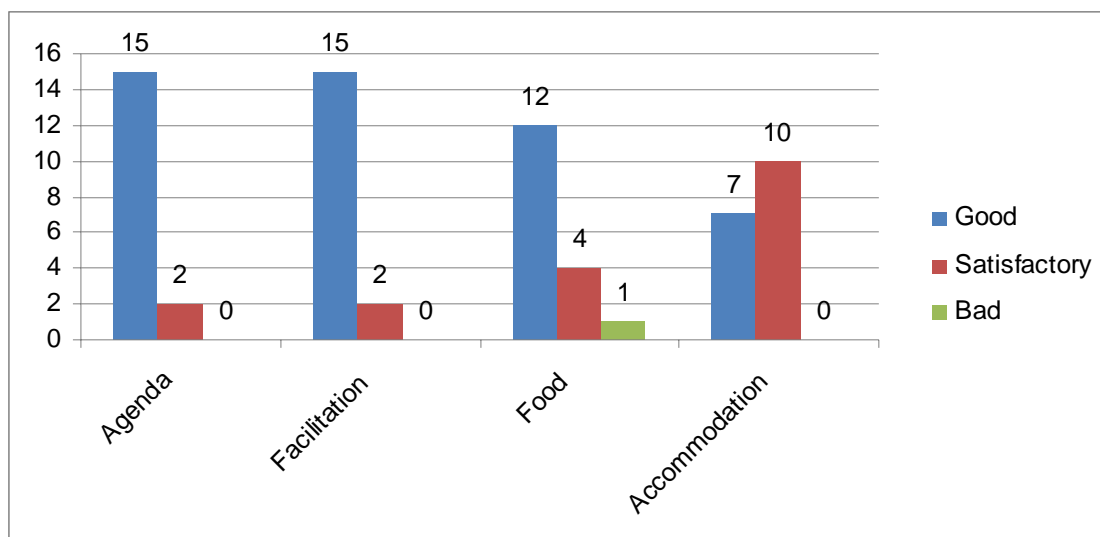
Recommended changes to the workshop

- not to have the meeting at the end of the year
- a little longer next time
- more information on where we are going and travel arrangements

How did the workshop meet the objectives



How would you evaluate the following



Appendix 1: Trafficking in body parts exercise:

	Immediate	Short medium term	Long Term
State	<p>Arrest Protect the child Discipline officers Where were the heads stored – evidence</p>	<p>Investigate the competence and capacity of the police Publicise Thorough investigation of the accused Establish an agreement between the two countries Keep the public informed</p>	<p>Child protection legislation both child protection as well as trafficking legislation Strengthen CP systems Public awareness Develop a collaborative approach – across states and across sectors Decentralize and support the Childlines Delegate specific powers to NGO's where government cannot or does not act. Research</p>
INGO	<p>Support the partner to report and follow up with relevant partners Tracing the whereabouts of the child and ensure that is placed in safe house Demanding the implementation of the law Support and trauma debriefing for the vendors at the border.</p>	<p>Workshop for stakeholders on regional cooperation and prevention Training of border officials Programmes targeting traditional beliefs Awareness campaign about this sort of crime Publicise at point where investigations are not jeopardized Capacity building and advocacy</p>	<p>Report and discuss with relevant UN and other international bodies Strengthening of the regional networks Advocate for changes in legislation Channel funds research</p>
NGO	<p>Trauma debriefing Collaborative meeting with border police and the community Watchdog report Assure the safety of the boy and woman Legal assistance for the woman</p>	<p>Ongoing inquiries on the investigation and assistance where necessary Counseling for families of dead kids, communities and professionals. Media discussions Legal assistance Training for police/customs officials/professionals</p>	<p>Develop policy and legislation influences Education of the community, police, and border customs, traditional healers and leaders Advocate and lobby Build relations with stakeholders in SA and Mozambique.</p>

			Information sharing via workshops research
Local	<p>Take care of the child</p> <p>Short term counseling/trauma debriefing</p> <p>Inform police – arrest and investigation</p> <p>Media – use them for publicity to ensure prompt action</p> <p>Preserve the evidence</p>	<p>Investigation</p> <p>Trace parents and body parts of deceased children</p> <p>Trace family and assess safety of the child found with the woman</p> <p>Continue support to child and the families of the children</p> <p>Follow up</p> <p>Awareness raising</p> <p>Involve the media – continued awareness</p>	<p>Awareness raising – parents and children, tribal chiefs and local authorities, schools, train and encourage children to be peer educators</p> <p>Recruit trusted individuals in the community to be safety nodes and entry points for children in the community.</p> <p>Perhaps involve children in community policing structures</p> <p>Lobbying & advocacy</p> <p>Using the community Media</p> <p>Interpersonal communication on the issue.</p> <p>Training</p> <p>Counseling</p> <p>Tracking</p>

Appendix 2: 2010 World Cup Counter Child Trafficking Strategy

	Why - objective	Who	How	When
Awareness Raising	Increase awareness and understanding of the impact of the world cup on child trafficking. The target is women	Women and children Men Tourism NGO's and INGO's Communities Child helplines and Children's rights groups Immigration Need materials that are attractive and perhaps use a materials development specialist. IOM ILO	Use the mass media campaigns – print, electronic, pamphlets, drawings Use theatre – dance poetry etc Have a regional workshop on awareness raising with specific groups and partners Basic messages need to be the same but messages do become stale so need to change materials regularly. Actual Steps - review materials - develop a clear plan - develop a budget - submit to funders - have a dedicated person in each country.	Mid 2008 and thereafter
At Risk Children	There will be increased demand for sex workers, cheap labour	SADC governments with different sectors/stake holders such as social development, education SANTAC Ombudspersons Traditional leaders Media	1.Regional cooperation resulting in action – particularly SANTAC 2.discussions in schools and in the media 3.a specific activity – the telephone regulators	1.as soon as possible – and to organize ourselves as a regional body 2.use the SANTAC Conference in March 3.Immediately establish a relationship with IOM to

		<p>IOM UN NGO's Target will be all children particularly vulnerable groups. Involve all partners – a holistic approach to achieve a holistic solution The domestic workers association</p>	<p>assist us with text messaging to children and adults with responsibility for children as part of their corporate social responsibility 4. Identify those groups of children who are more vulnerable than others – e.g. migrant children and children involved in child labour. 5. Develop a mobile information service for rural areas and for border posts.</p>	<p>assist with the development of materials and a budget for duplication of these etc.</p>
Capacity Building	<p>There is an assumption that there is a lack of capacity among border police</p>	<p>Governments – local, provincial and national – across countries. Customs, police, social workers, NGO's – they need to be informed about trafficking Traditional healers, churches, unions, street committees.</p>	<p>1. Build the capacity of border police and officials on child protection, child trafficking etc via training, 2. monitor and motivate for sufficient officials. 3. build the capacity of local partner organizations to understand and identify trafficked children and provide services to trafficked children. 4. A regular media release to all national papers. This will raise awareness nationally.</p>	<p>Start immediately – and continuous activity to identify partners and implement.</p>

			5. A national campaign run through tourism. 6. community workshops	
Policy Change	To ensure that we have laws in place that clearly criminalize trafficking and that these provide appropriate care of trafficked children, deal with repatriation, There must be extra-territorial application of laws There should be provisioning and extra-territorial clauses in the law and policy	SADC governments. Regional referral mechanisms Identify IOM ILO SANTAC SACTAP – the Southern African trafficking Assistance Programme. CHI ECPAT Child Welfare SA	1.Lobby SADC member countries 2.Identify all lobby and activist groups and meet with them in the region 3.Develop a unified regional Strategy 4. Within each country review existing laws and policies on trafficking and identify gaps and problems. 5. at country level identify key institutions and people 6. identify opportunities for inputting in policy and law drafting 7. Develop a resource directory of organizations working in trafficking 8. develop a directory of legislation and policy.	Feb 2008 – all the activities should be initiated within the first 6 months of 2008.