



# SANTAC

Southern Africa Network Against Trafficking And Abuse Of Children

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## PRESS STATEMENT

Maputo, 3 October 2008 – SANTAC is launching a campaign to prevent trafficking and exploitation of children in connection with 2010 World Cup to be held in South Africa. The event will take place in a form of international conference with high profiled level of participants among SADC governments, Secretariat, academics from SADC region and Brazil, experts from African Union and local Civil Societies organizations, under the theme ***Sharing lessons learned and developing ways forward*** to be held in Maputo, Mozambique at the Rovuma Hotel, from 8<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> October, 2008.

### 1. Introduction

The Southern Africa region is highly vulnerable of human trafficking. In all historical phases the human trafficking (children included) has seen in some communities as normal thing. Prostitution and trafficking in SADC countries affects predominantly children and women.

During this conference, it will be presented four country studies from Southern Africa region, and the Brazilian experience on sexual tourism. Their information will support us to better define preventive actions and measures before, during and after the 2010 World Cup to be held in South Africa.

Southern Africa regional integration is usually seen under the economical perspective - investments, profits and development. Experiences from other regional integration, as the European Union, has shown that the borders “abolishment” has promoted economic relations between countries, but also facilitated transnational crime.

Within the various manifestations of transnational crime is the human trafficking, especially of women and children. It is usually forgotten that trafficking promotes organized crime, violence and drugs, HIV and AIDS, exploitation, ignorance, exclusion, instability and poverty.

Added to this, Southern Africa has huge limitations when it comes to prevent Trafficking in Human Beings taking into account the root causes of this phenomenon. Other important aspect at SADC level is the lack of a consolidated cooperation between States and at national level between Governments and Civil Society to deal straight forward with the problem, including the absence of adequate legislation to punish who recruits, accommodate and consume the product and the lack of action from law enforcement agents.

For the first time the African continent will host the World Cup that will take place in South Africa, in 2010. Football stands as the world’s most popular game, which attracts millions of people, as well as billions of money resources and revenues. This event will attract tourists, human resources, players, and fans, among others.

In the commitment with its goals, SANTAC is aware and concerned with consequences in all the events that involve a huge number of people and resources. Furthermore, SANTAC is expecting an increase on Child and Human Trafficking for various purposes including prostitution and forced labour.

### 2. Objectives

- Bring together all key role players and stakeholders, raise awareness and make reflections about the threats on TIC and sex exploitation, in the context and during the World Cup;
- Presentation of the main findings of the 2010 World Cup social impact on children;
- Explore and discuss strategies for intervention and prevention against TIC and sex exploitation in the region;
- Lobby and advocate SADC countries to adopt and implement the required measures at national and regional level to prevent, suppress and punish cases of human trafficking cases, specially women and children, long before 2010;

- Adoption of a regional consensus for the implementation of joint actions for preventing exacerbation of trafficking and exploitation before, during and after the 2010 World.

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