
The Situation of Human Trafficking in Mongolia and Cooperation of National Human Rights Institutions in Asia Pacific Region

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Human Trafficking – Country Profile: Mongolia

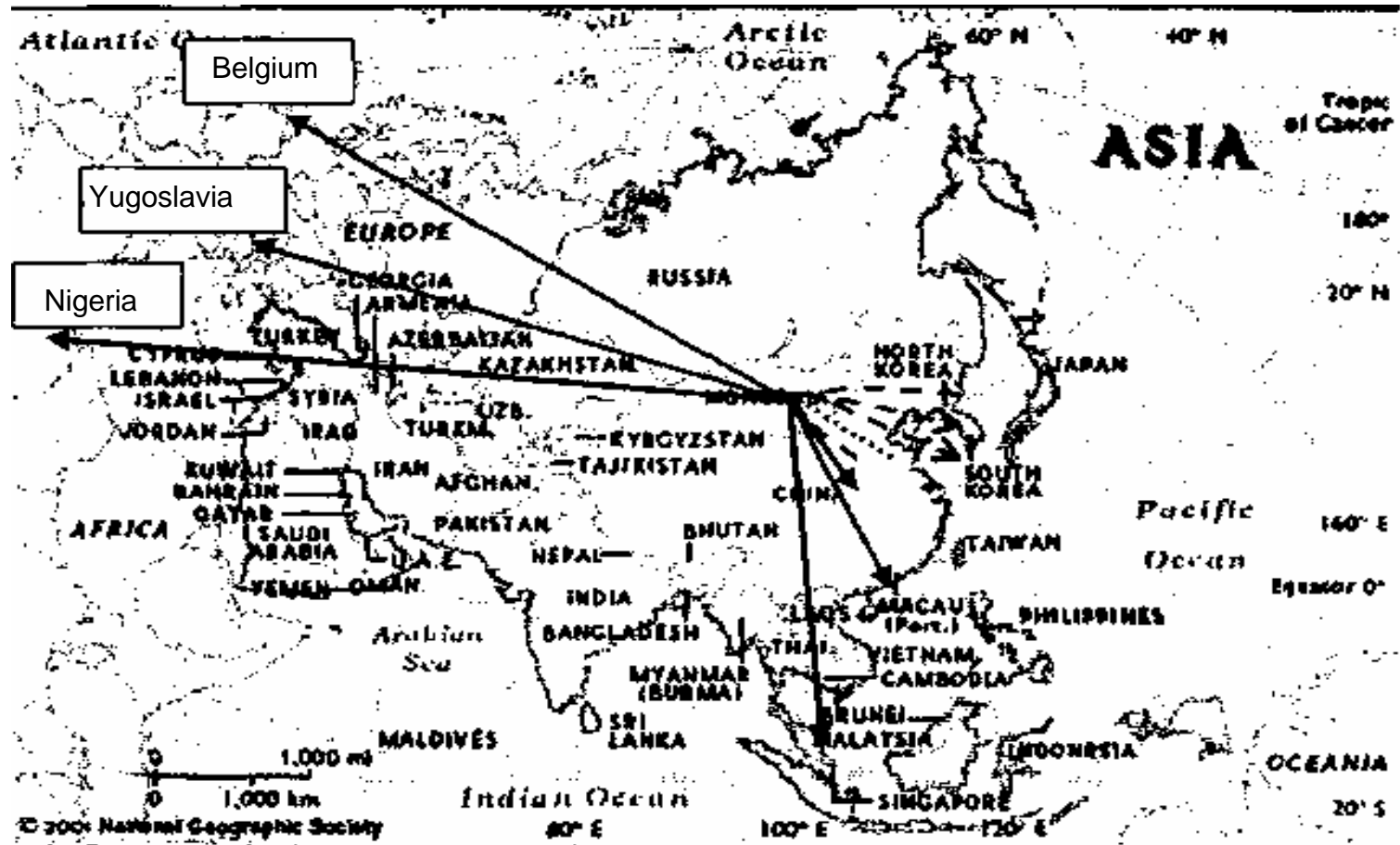
- Increased openness and greater relation with many countries of the world have resulted in a dramatic increase in Mongolian's mobility to travel abroad
 - Poverty and Unemployment in majority of population
 - Young Women and Girls engaged in prostitution
 - Mass Emigration and Illegal Migration of citizens are becoming major grounds for trafficking in persons
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Countries of destination where Mongolian women and girls are trafficked

- Mainland China
- Macao
- Singapore
- Malaysia
- Philippines
- Belgium
- South Korea
- Japan
- Hong-Kong
- Yugoslavia

Main countries where majority of Mongolian women and girls are trafficked

An Illustration of Trafficking Routes from Mongolia



Process of Recruitment

- Media and newspaper announcements offering to mediate:
 - Overseas employment
 - Permanent residency abroad/emigration
 - Marriage to a foreiner
 - Absence of information about the individual or organization posting the advertisement
 - Promises of a suspiciously high salaries (more than USD \$500 per month)
 - Vague information about the nature of a job offer & terms of conditions of employment
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Legal framework for combating trafficking in Mongolia

- In 2000, for the first time, a provision was added in the Criminal Code that provides penalties of 3 to 8 years of imprisonment for sending women and girls to a foreign country for prostitution purposes
 - In September 2002 a new Criminal Code went into effect which had a provision prohibiting buying and selling of human beings and provides heightened penalties of up to 5 to 10 years of imprisonment if the crime is committed (1) against two or more persons; (2) against a child under the age of 18; (3) repeatedly; (4) for the purpose of illegal use of human blood, tissue, or organs; (5) for the purpose of exploitation or prostitution; or (6) by a group acting together with premeditation
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- In 1998, the Law Against Pornography, which regulates prostitution and pornography, came into force. This law defines pornography as including prostitution, exploitation of prostitution, and organizing , mediating, and promoting prostitution. According to its provisions persons engaging in prostitution shall have their income from such activities confiscated and be subject to 14-30 days of detention. Moreover, persons who organize, mediate, or promote prostitution are to be fined to approximately USD \$30-45. However, there are no punishments applied to persons who buy sexual services.
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Court desicion practices

- In May 2000, a Russian citizen M was sentenced to six years of imprisonment (security rejim)by the Mongolian court for trafficking two girls aged 18-19 to Yugoslavia for the prostitution purposes. It was the first case on trafficking heard in courts.
 - In 2001, four women aged between 21-27 were trafficked to Macao who were offered employment opportunities working as waitresses and domestic servants. However, the case was dismissed by the court prosecutor.
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Court desicion practices

- In 2003, four women were trafficked to Malaysia however, as victims had withdrawn their appeal the case was dismissed by the court.
 - Two cases of trafficking crime committed in 2004 and 2005 respectively by British and Chinese citizens are currently under court hearings.
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Cooperation of National Human Rights Institutions in Asia Pacific Region

- In 2003, for the first time, families and relatives of victims of trafficking appealed to the National Human Rights Commission of Mongolia. Upon their complaint the Commission had officially requested the Malaysian Commission about the case of four women trafficked to Malaysia.
 - According to this request, the Malaysian Commission investigated the case and collected specific information and documents related with their places of stay and living conditions.
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- However, the actual circumstances were different as Malaysian law enforcement institutions took these women under arrest and sentenced them for 6 months on the grounds that they had violated Malaysian borders and entered the country illegally. Persons who trafficked them into Malaysia were of Chinese nationality and those who received them were of Malaysian nationality.
 - Upon her return to Mongolia, a victim of this trafficking case told us that the purpose of these traffickers was to engage them in prostitution and make a substantial profit out of this.
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Cooperation of APF Trafficking Focal Point Systems countries

- Member countries should work towards greater cooperation in a Free and Timely exchange of information among themselves
 - Upon request from one member country to the other member countries, provide assistance for the benefit of victims of crime within their full powers of authority
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- An integrated information database that connects member countries needs to be established that would facilitate coordination and improve cooperation across the countries. Focal points of member countries should take the initiative on what kind of information to include into a such database.
 - APF should organize joint trainings by inviting experts and professional trainers on trafficking in persons including member countries NI's as well as specific target groups and make it a tradition.
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- Organize regular study tours to member countries that are successful in handling trafficking complaints and have considerable experience in rehabilitating rights of victims of trafficking.
 - Make a compilation of international treaties and conventions on the issue of trafficking and disseminate it among countries.
 - If needed, member countries should initiate implementation of joint projects
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THANK YOU FOR YOUR
ATTENTION!
