UN Special representative
International migration

Contribution from Integrated Anti-Human Trafficking and Community Development Initiative (INTACOM AFRICA) to the Fifth Informal Thematic Session on Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration “Smuggling of Migrants, Trafficking in Persons and Contemporary form of Slavery, including Appropriate Identification, Protection and Assistance to Migrants and Trafficking Victims” held in Vienna, Austria 4th to 5th September 2017:

Integrated Anti-Human Trafficking and Community Development Initiative (INTACOM Africa) is a Not for Profit, Non-Governmental Organization established in 2009 and registered with Corporate Affairs Commission, Abuja, Nigeria in 2010 (CAC/IT/NO 41220) with head office at 5, Secretariat Road, 2nd Floor Radopin Plaza, Aroma, Awka, Anambra State, Nigeria.

In this Global effort INTACOM Africa wishes to contribute the following suggestions:

1. Destination Countries should take up the responsibilities to address/prohibit the demand for cheap/forced labour and demand for commercial sex with stiffer laws and policies enforced.

2. Take all necessary actions in Identifying the Companies/Industries/Oranisations and individuals involves in engaging and exploiting Victims and Ensures the Exploiters are punished accordingly.

3. Intensifies efforts in Identifying and Rescuing Victims and helping in Rehabilitating and returning them with supports to their country for proper Re-integration in collaboration with their relevant Government Agencies and Civil Society Organisations for proper monitoring and follow-up.

4. Where there is need, help to obtain the stay of the rescued victim(s) in the destination country and support their education or job employment in the case where the victim left with the hope of going to school or promised a job in the destination Country for that will be the best therapy to aid their healing process. Returning them back just like that to their country of origin with their shattered dream after all the exploitations will leave them in a worst situation.
5. There is need for increased capacity building of CSOs working to prevent/respond to Trafficking in Persons, all forms Slavery, Smuggling of Migrants and promoting regular migration through trainings and cross country learning visits of both origin, transit and destination countries.

6. In order to strengthen the prevention/response efforts of Grassroots/Community Based NGOs for continuous and scale up of activities in the Countries of Origin/Supply, there is need for funding supports and resources needed. It is believed that “Prevention is better than cure!” for this is indeed true. From our field experience we have discovered that it is always best that victims were never exposed, exploited and dehumanized at all for they are never the same complete person no matter the level of rehabilitation and the cost of rehabilitating and reintegrating just a victim is more than enough to carry out one community awareness outreach that will reach more than 200 people at least. The more people is aware of the deceit, the exploitations, dehumanization and horrors of human trafficking, smuggling of migrants and irregular migration the lesser they opt to travel irregularly. This we can attest to from the results of our grassroots awareness activities.

Yours in this global fight,

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