

HRC-SR Trafficking in persons

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Sent: 10 May 2024 10:35
To: HRC-SR Trafficking in persons
Subject: Amb. Khalifa Losene Dunor Input for report GA 2024 gender peace and security

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Dear UN Special Rapporteur on Trafficking in Person, trust this finds you well, kindly see my contribution to Report GA 2024 Gender Peace and Security.

Understanding Gender Dynamics: Recognizing the distinct experiences and vulnerabilities of individuals based on gender is essential. This includes understanding power dynamics, stereotypes, and cultural norms that influence the occurrence and response to sexual violence and trafficking.

Comprehensive Prevention Strategies: Prevention efforts should address root causes such as gender inequality, discrimination, and social norms that perpetuate violence. This could involve educational programs, community engagement, and legal reforms aimed at changing attitudes and behaviors.

Protection Mechanisms: Establishing robust protection mechanisms involves ensuring safe spaces, access to legal aid, and mechanisms for reporting incidents of violence. These should be designed with gender sensitivity in mind, considering factors such as privacy, cultural norms, and the specific needs of different genders.

Recovery and Support Services: Providing psycho-social and medical support services that are sensitive to gender is crucial. This includes trauma counseling, medical care, and rehabilitation programs tailored to the needs of survivors. Additionally, ensuring access to livelihood opportunities and economic empowerment programs can support survivors in rebuilding their lives.

Mainstreaming Trafficking Prevention: Integrating trafficking prevention into broader efforts against sexual violence requires collaboration across sectors such as law enforcement, social services, and community organizations. This includes training professionals to identify and respond to trafficking cases, raising awareness, and implementing policies to address the root causes of trafficking.

Empowering Women and Girls: Empowering women and girls to assert their rights and access resources is central to any effective response. This involves promoting gender equality, providing education and skills training, and ensuring women's participation in decision-making processes at all levels.

Engaging Men and Boys: Engaging men and boys as allies in the fight against sexual violence and trafficking is essential. This includes challenging harmful gender norms and promoting positive masculinity, as well as addressing the role of men and boys as perpetrators and bystanders.

By incorporating these elements into responses and programs, we can create more effective and inclusive strategies for preventing, protecting, and supporting survivors of conflict-related sexual violence and trafficking in persons.

Understanding Gender Dynamics:

According to UN Women, women and girls are disproportionately affected by conflict-related sexual violence, accounting for 80% of the global refugee population.

The Women, Peace, and Security Index by Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace and Security highlights the correlation between gender inequality and conflict, emphasizing the need for gender-sensitive responses.

Comprehensive Prevention Strategies:

Research by the International Rescue Committee shows that addressing root causes of conflict, such as poverty and gender inequality, can reduce the risk of sexual violence.

The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) advocates for comprehensive sexuality education to challenge harmful gender norms and promote respect and equality.

Protection Mechanisms:

A study by the World Health Organization (WHO) found that only 40% of countries have laws addressing sexual violence in conflict.

The Global Protection Cluster provides guidelines for establishing safe spaces and gender-sensitive reporting mechanisms for survivors of sexual violence.

Recovery and Support Services:

WHO reports that only 6% of countries have specific mental health policies that address sexual violence.

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) emphasizes the importance of integrating mental health and psychosocial support into humanitarian responses to conflict.

Mainstreaming Trafficking Prevention:

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) estimates that women and girls account for 71% of detected trafficking victims globally.

The Global Report on Trafficking in Persons highlights the need for a comprehensive approach that addresses root causes such as poverty, gender inequality, and conflict.

Empowering Women and Girls:

UN Women reports that gender-based discrimination in legal frameworks and social norms exacerbates women's vulnerability to violence during conflict.

The World Bank advocates for investments in girls' education and economic empowerment as key strategies for preventing sexual violence and trafficking.

Engaging Men and Boys:

Promundo research shows that engaging men and boys in gender equality initiatives can lead to a reduction in rates of violence against women.

The MenEngage Alliance provides resources and toolkits for promoting positive masculinity and challenging harmful gender norms.

By incorporating these detailed statistics and reputable sources, we can develop more evidence-based and effective responses to conflict-related sexual violence and trafficking, with a focus on gender sensitivity and inclusivity.

Best Regards

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