

**2015 Republic of China(Taiwan)
Trafficking in Persons
Report**



April 2016

Contents

I. Prologue	2-4
II. Highlights of 2015	5-6
III. Achievements in 2015	7-47
1. Prosecution-Stamping out TIP crimes	7-12
2. Protection-Enhancing protection of TIP victims -13-22	
3. Prevention-Curbing human trafficking	23-34
4. Partnership-Fortifying alliances with foreign and NGO bodies	35-42
IV. Forging Ahead in 2016	43-46
1. Prosecution	43
2. Protection	43-44
3. Prevention	44-45
4. Partnership	45-46
V. Conclusion	47

I. Prologue

Due to rapid development of global economy and subsequent increase in the cross-border flow of people, differences in development of various countries may lead to wider gap between the poor and the rich as well as the rural and the urban areas. Under such circumstances, it is very difficult to put an end to further human migration and so as human trafficking (also known as “trafficking in persons” or TIP).

Taiwan that focuses heavily on protection of human rights will not turn a blind eye to such serious crimes and is determined to continue to combat human trafficking. As early as in November of 2006, the government promulgated the Human Trafficking Prevention Action Plan and set up a cabinet-level anti-TIP coordination task force in January of 2007 that has been meeting regularly so as to streamline cross-ministry endeavors and coordinate resources aimed at preventing related crimes. To uphold human rights, Taiwan’s legislature enacted in January of 2009 the Human Trafficking Prevention and Control Act (HTPCA), which entered into force the following June. The HTPCA has been instrumental in Taiwan’s intensified war against TIP.

With the ongoing trend of globalization and subsequent increase in the cross-border flow of people, Taiwan has engaged in progressively more intensive dealings with the rest of the world. More foreigners (people from Mainland China, Hong Kong and Macau included) have been traveling to Taiwan for business, tourism, education, employment, or even marriage. At the same time, Taiwan has seen an influx of foreign laborers who might have been treated unfairly due to their vulnerability caused by cultural and language barriers, exacerbated by workplace confinement. In recent years, the international community has laid great emphasis on the issue of labor exploitation on foreign fishing workers. Taiwan is still a destination country for men, women, and children from Mainland China and Southeast Asia subjected to forced labor and sex trafficking despite it has taken necessary measures to prevent and combat human trafficking, enhance immigration check and safeguard the rights of foreign laborers (fishing workers). *Sexual exploitation* and forced *labor* are the most common forms of *human trafficking now*.

Taiwan has seen fruitful results in preventing human trafficking thanks to the joint efforts performed by local and central governments and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) as well in 2015, making Taiwan selected as the tier-one country regarding the efforts to combat human trafficking in the US State Department’s TIP report for six years in a row. Such long-term campaigns however require continuous efforts of all countries, cross-border collaboration, and worldwide vigilance. Forging ahead in 2016, Taiwan looks forward to continued partnership with the international community in safeguarding human rights in this war on human trafficking. Taiwan is committed to fulfilling its responsibility on protection of human rights.

Cross-Agency-Tip Platform

Prosecution

Judicial Yuan,
MOJ, MOI,
CGA

Prevention

Judicial Yuan,
MOI, MOJ,
MOE, MOTC
MOFA, CGA
MAC, FSC,
CIP, VAC
COA, MOHW
MOL, NGO

Protection

Judicial Yuan,
MOI, CGA
MOJ, MOHW,
MOL, NGO

**Cabinet
Anti-TIP
Task
Force**

Judicial Yuan,
MOI, MOJ,
MOFA, NGO

Partnership

Judicial Yuan: the top administration of the Judicial Branch

The following agencies are under the Executive Yuan (the cabinet)

CGA: Coast Guard Administration

CIP: Council of Indigenous Peoples

COA: Council of Agriculture

FSC: Financial Supervisory Commission

MAC: Mainland Affairs Council

MOE: Ministry of Education

MOFA: Ministry of Foreign Affairs

MOHW: Ministry of Health and Welfare

MOI: Ministry of the Interior

MOJ: Ministry of Justice

MOL: Ministry of Labor

MOTC: Ministry of Transportation and Communications

VAC: Veteran Affairs Council

II. Highlights of 2015

During 2015, Taiwan's government agencies continued to devote considerable amounts of resources to combat human trafficking. Under the coordination of the cabinet-level anti-TIP task force, the public sector consolidated cooperation with civil society, thereby attaining substantial achievements.

Law enforcement and prosecution: Judicial police agencies uncovered 141 TIP cases (44 for labor exploitation and 97 for sexual exploitation). During the year, 148 individuals were prosecuted in 63 TIP cases.

Protection: The National Immigration Agency (NIA) under the Ministry of the Interior (MOI) and the Ministry of Labor (MOL) together oversee 22 shelters, some of which are operated by NGOs through contract. During 2015, a total of 192 newly identified victims were placed in shelters (the Hualien Shelter, out of the three shelters under the NIA was closed on December 31 in 2014 due to the decrease of number in prosecution and TIP victims). Aside from having their everyday needs met, residents received additional services, such as psychological counseling, interpretation, legal aid, social-worker accompaniment during judicial proceedings, and medical care. After the evidence was gathered and judicial investigation was subsequently concluded, the NIA arranged to return 57 victims of human trafficking to their home countries. In 2015, the NIA issued 153 temporary stay visas and renewed 152 existing visitor visas for TIP victims, and the MOL issued work permits to 121 victims.

Migrant worker services: The Consolidated Job Service Center set up by the MOL helps prevent exploitation and minimize brokerage fees, which are typically heavy financial burden for foreign laborers. During the year, the center helped 26,295 employers hire foreign employees, referred and transferred 72,438 foreign worker applications to authorities other than the MOL, and provided consultation for 180,621 individuals, either on-site or over the phone, on hiring foreigners.

Prevention: The government and civil society have mobilized various communication channels to raise public awareness of human trafficking and help immigrants better understand their rights. The NIA launched a special anti-TIP online campaign *Say No to Bad Guys* whose theme youtube video went viral and a total of 15,000 people visited the website for the lucky draw from October to December. The 2015 International Workshop on Strategies for Combating Human Trafficking organized by the NIA, the MOL, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) and the Ministry of Transportation and Communications (MOTC) was held at the Chang Yung-Fa Foundation in Taipei and the National Chung Cheng University in the southern city Chiayi from July 29 to 31 to resonate with the annual World Day against Trafficking in Persons on July 30. A total of 400 experts and scholars of governmental agencies and NGOs from 20 countries, as well as civil society in Taiwan took part in the workshop in the hope to foster international exchanges, prevent TIP crimes from happening and safeguard the legal system. President of the R.O.C (Taiwan) Ma Ying-Jeou also addressed in the opening ceremony, vowing to make Taiwan become the regional leader in combating human trafficking.

The NIA held two training programs on general TIP literacy, and one advanced follow-up program. Related government agencies also incorporated TIP courses in their in-house continuing education curriculum. The Ministry of Justice (MOJ) for example, held an anti-TIP seminar that went from October 14 to 16. The officer of the political section of American Institute in Taiwan (AIT) shared American experiences in prevention of human trafficking that the participating prosecutors had a chance to learn the latest development and trends while the prosecutors and judges with much experience in TIP cases talked about how to uncover, investigate and prosecute such cases that would be useful for head prosecutors/prosecutors to tackle TIP crimes.

To effectively facilitate anti-TIP jobs, the MOI continued to assess anti-TIP efforts of municipalities and local governments by regular visits and reviews in 2015 to ensure prevention work of human trafficking has been thoroughly implemented locally.

Partnership: To deepen cross-border exchanges and cooperation and share Taiwan's experience in combating human trafficking, representatives from the MOJ, the National Police Agency (NPA), the NIA and the ECPAT-Taiwan visited Tokyo, Japan from September 29 to October 3 for the Japan-Taiwan anti-TIP meeting where the Taiwan delegates talked about the status quo in the world and Taiwan's contribution in anti-TIP campaign, investigation, prosecution and sentencing on TIP (child sexual exploitation included) cases, protection of TIP victims as well as how cross-agency negotiation could be done. Japan has been working on legalization on prevention of human trafficking and the aforementioned serves as valuable references. The Good Shepherd Social Welfare Services, subsidized by the NIA on the other hand co-organized a seminar on cross-border legal cases with local associations in Cambodia from November 16 to 21, focusing on difficulties and future direction on anti-TIP work for both Taiwan and Cambodia.

The NIA have signed memorandums of understanding (MOUs) on cooperation to prevent cross-border crimes and human trafficking with several countries in 2015, including Guatemala on February 17, Swaziland on April 8 and Nauru on June 8. Both parties signing the MOU should cooperate and exchange information on border control and management, human resource training and related experiences. Taiwan is obliged to abide by what is stipulated in the MOU to help foreign governments fight against human trafficking.

III. Achievements in 2015

1. Prosecution – Stamping out TIP crimes

1.1 Judicial Police Enforcement

1.1.1 Judicial police agencies have entrusted specific units with anti-TIP tasks and have established a cross-agency communication network to optimize enforcement at high risk sites, such as gathering places of brokers or places reputed to employ foreign workers for work or commercial sex. In 2015, combating the sexual exploitation of minors (anyone under the age of 18) has become a top priority for judicial police agencies.

1.1.2 In 2015, law enforcement officers uncovered 141 cases, 44 involving labor exploitation and 97 sex trafficking. All of them have been referred to district-level prosecutors for investigation and eventual prosecution. The figures on such cases by the judicial police over the past eight years are shown below:

Year	Cases Total	Type	
		Labor	Sex
2008	99	40	59
2009	88	46	42
2010	123	77	46
2011	126	73	53
2012	148	86	62
2013	166	84	82
2014	138	51	87
2015	141	44	97

1.2 Indictment and Sentencing

1.2.1 The MOJ has designated prosecutors at each jurisdiction to handle TIP cases. At the high court level, a prosecutor task force has been holding regular meetings since January 1 of 2007 to supervise and coordinate anti-TIP efforts at the district level so as to better ensure the timely conclusion of investigation, prosecution and sentencing. Such information will be discussed and incorporated in the evaluation process of human trafficking issue and related investigation work. In the two meetings convened in 2015, the prosecutors in charge were requested to introduce amendments of the *Child and Youth Sexual Exploitation Prevention Act* and share experience on investigation of TIP cases to enhance the expertise of prosecutors. The supervisory task force under the Taiwan High Prosecutors Office also released the guidelines for review that could be further applied on labor exploitation and sexual exploitation. Data collected from local prosecutor offices are as follows:
A. Numbers of new prosecutions/persons and comparison with those of the

previous year.

B. Numbers of closings (indictment, summary offense, suspended indictment and no indictment)/persons and comparison with those of the previous year.

C. Number of detainees and comparison with that of the previous year.

D. Conviction rate and comparison with that of the previous year.

1.2.2 Given the fact that some TIP cases are associated with sham marriage and to be pursuant to the request under the correction verdict of Control Yuan (the highest watchdog organization of the state), the MOJ collects indictment data of sham marriages from local prosecutors' offices and provides it to the MOI quarterly since 2015 as reference information for other agencies to conduct such cases. In 2015, a total of 308 individuals were indicted in 122 sham marriage cases whereas 25 individuals were granted suspension of indictment.

1.2.3 Prosecution: In 2015, a total of 148 individuals were indicted in 63 TIP cases. Prosecution figures for the past eight years are shown here:

Year	Cases	Persons	Exploitation Type			
			Labor		Sex	
			Cases	Persons	Cases	Persons
2008	165	601	40	106	113	452
2009	118	335	35	102	83	233
2010	115	441	41	110	76	346
2011	151	437	72	179	80	259
2012	169	458	34	57	136	408
2013	127	335	84	246	46	103
2014	102	184	21	52	88	153
2015	63	148	12	25	52	127

Notes: Starting in June 2009, another category of exploitation was added (organ removal), hence the total number of cases may not correlate to the sum of the different types.

1.2.4 Due to the anti-TIP achievements made of government agencies, the number of cases dropped by 39 cases from 102 in 2014 to only 63 in 2015 while the number of defendants dropped by 36.

1.2.5 According to the MOJ, 163 individuals were convicted in TIP cases. Of them, 103 were sentenced to a jail term of 6 months or under, 15 to between 1 and 3 years, 29 to between 3 and 5 years.

Sentencing: Sentences imposed for TIP crimes from 2008 to 2015 are as follows:

Sentences	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
< 6 months	181	256	192	98	144	155	97	103
6 ~ 12 months	50	58	37	15	16	21	10	10
1 ~ 2 years	34	30	34	27	27	36	20	14
2 ~ 3 years	3	4	4	5	3	5	6	1
3 ~ 5 years	3	7	19	17	32	41	30	29

5 ~ 7 years	0	1	0	2	2	4	2	1
7 ~ 10 years	1	13	1	1	3	2	1	0
10 ~ 15 years	1	0	1	0	0	-	3	1
Short detention	11	6	8	6	11	4	5	2
Fine	3	1	4	2	62	1	1	2
No sanction				1	0	1	0	0
Total	287	376	300	174	300	270	175	163

Note: The term “TIP crimes” refers to any act in violation of Taiwan’s Human Trafficking Prevention and Control Act, Criminal Code, Labor Standard Act, and/or the Regulation Governing the Prevention of Children and Adolescent from the Sex Trade, and other related statutes.

1.2.6 To prevent deep-sea fishing worker from labor exploitation, the MOJ and the Fisheries Agency of the Council of Agriculture (COA), the NPA and the NIA went through several meetings and have established a standard procedure for disputes or problems that arise due to violation against the HTPCA for foreign fishing workers hired abroad. In September 14 of 2015, the Fisheries Agency submitted the official guideline to its parallel agencies for reports and follow-ups of such cases, and the MOJ has also transferred it to all prosecution offices in September the same year. Shall any fishing vessels belonged to Taiwanese owners be involved in TIP crimes, diplomatic missions and related agencies should help collect information or evidence as soon as possible for further investigation and protection of the rights of foreign fishing workers, showing Taiwan’s determination to fight against human trafficking.

1.3 Heightened enforcement

1.3.1 Tightening border controls to clamp down on undocumented workers: Taiwan has adopted more rigorous measures to deter trafficking syndicates from (A) sneaking victims into Taiwan using a false identity at the border or during flight transits; or (B) recruiting and exploiting illegal foreign workers in vulnerable situations. The achievements by the NIA and the NPA are as follows:

Type Year	Forged travel documents, stolen identity, and fingerprint mismatch at the border (no. of cases)	Undocumented alien workers found within the border (no. of persons)
2008	149	8,562
2009	81	9,998
2010	57	10,045
2011	35	8,474
2012	29	13,594
2013	17	16,269
2014	49	14,120
2015	41	16,851

1.3.2 Uncovering sham marriage migrants with improved interview techniques
Separate interviews for the Taiwanese national and the foreign spouse (those from Mainland China, Hong Kong and Macau included) will be conducted, inquiring into

each person's background, and details of their courtship and wedding so as to determine whether their marriage is genuine. Such a mechanism is conducive to rooting out sham marriages and human trafficking.

1.3.2.1 Interviews of mainland Chinese spouses: according to current regulations, when a mainland Chinese spouse applies for an entry visa to join a Taiwanese spouse, both of them must undergo an interview. Afterward, the NIA refers any suspicious marriages to local prosecutors for further investigation. If the mainland Chinese spouse is already in Taiwan, a follow-up interview and inquiry are performed to verify the authenticity of the marriage. In 2015, the NIA conducted 11,182 interviews, among which 7,562 took place at the border. A summary of the results of the interviews over the last eight years is as follows:

Year	Interviews	Passed (%)	Failed(%)	Follow-up(%)
2008	30,500	20,904(69%)	3,726(12%)	5,870(19%)
2009	28,686	20,302(71%)	2,857(10%)	5,527(19%)
2010	23,533	17,930(76%)	1,972(8%)	3,631(16%)
2011	19,862	15,227(77%)	2,080(10%)	2,555(13%)
2012	18,405	13,863(75%)	2,297(13%)	2,245(12%)
2013	15,569	11,997(77%)	2,284(15%)	1,356(8%)
2014	13,782	10,826(79%)	1,928(14%)	1,028(7%)
2015	11,182	9,019(82%)	1,319(12%)	661(6%)

Note 1: The 2008 and 2009 figures are interviews conducted within the border.

The 2010 to 2015 numbers are those conducted either within or at the border.

Note 2: From 2014 to 2015, the interview number dropped by 2,600 and is decreasing every year due to the strict inspection of the NIA and decreasing number of cross-straits marriages for the economy in Mainland China is better off.

1.3.2.2 Interviews of foreign spouses: There have been many incidents uncovered that Southeast Asians enter Taiwan under the pretense of marriage and subsequently engage in activities other than those stated on the visa application. Many of these turn out to be human trafficking cases. Therefore, the MOFA has instituted an interview mechanism in accordance with the Statute Governing Issuance of R.O.C. Visas in Foreign Passports and the Enforcement Rules for the Document Legalization Act for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Overseas Missions that requires both spouses to personally attend an interview at a designated consulate office if either spouse comes from Vietnam, Indonesia, Thailand, the Philippines, Myanmar or Cambodia.

1.3.3 Coming to Taiwan, aliens, foreign laborers in particular are vulnerable due to barriers in culture and language or problems that arise from the working environment. There is a higher chance for them to be treated unfairly or even

exploited. To prevent such thing from happening, the MOL gets tough on unauthorized hiring and brokerage violations to prevent aliens from being exploited. The statistics for 2015 are as follows:

1.3.3.1 Unauthorized hiring

Year/Case	Fines levied								License revoked							
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Hiring Violation																
Illegally harboring aliens	181	152	186	255	305	376	317	370	137	116	133	197	161	227	174	151
Unauthorized hiring	767	582	777	960	1136	1450	1224	1372								
Hiring aliens for use by others	27	12	26	17	14	13	20	16								
Unauthorized nature of place of work	414	410	545	746	768	897	689	848								

1.3.3.2 Employment broker violation

Year/Case	Fines levied								License revoked							
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Broker Violation																
Collecting unauthorized fees	77	110	22	21	23	16	5	2	14	10	2	6	12	5	8	2
Fiduciary failure causing citations against employers	45	52	52	58	60	64	65	83	0	0	1	1	3	2	5	1
Unauthorized job placement	76	92	62	81	73	106	98	109	7	10	17	18	9	14	13	10

Note: Fines can be levied on both individuals and companies, whereas the revoking of licenses only applies to companies.

1.4 Prominent enforcement cases

Case 1. Brokerage syndicate of undocumented foreign workers

Description:

- A. The NIA's Taichung City Specialized Operation Brigade launched a special project in September in 2014 to track down three suspects who were taking care of different jobs (recruitment, driving and monitoring) and targeting runaway foreign workers. They collected NT\$6,000 per person as the brokerage fee and still squeezed out another few thousands from the victims every month by taking advantage of their vulnerabilities of not able to or hard to seek help.
- B. More than one year after having the approval from the Yunlin District Prosecutors Office and the district court to track and tap the suspects' phones, a total of 120 frontline personnel composed of the brigade members and the police officers of Changhua County Police Department launched a raid on October 19 in 2015 to the whereabouts of the suspects, the employers connected with them and foreign workers,

seizing the written phone records between the suspects and the employers, work check-in records of foreign workers as well as account books. The Yunlin District Prosecutors Office has formed a case against them for violating the HTPCA and the Employment Service Act.

Case 2. Sexual exploitation on Indonesian workers

Description:

- A. The NIA's Tainan City Specialized Operation Brigade hunted down a Taiwanese male suspect and an Indonesian female suspect at the Karaoke next to an indoor shrimp fishing pond in Mailiao Township in Yunlin County on January 13 in 2015. They took advantage of three Indonesian female foreign workers who were either not able to or hard to seek help by restricting their mobility and forcing them to engage in commercial sex. The suspects made great profits out of it.
- B. There were ten suspects arrested in this case and the prosecutor recognized that three undocumented foreign workers seemed to be victims of human trafficking and sent them to the shelter for follow-up placement. The victims then were protected and provided interpreting services and accompaniment during the interrogation. The suspects were indicted for violating the Criminal Code and the HTPCA in September.



2. Protection: enhancing victim protection

2.1 Safeguarding victims

2.1.1 Foreign victims

2.1.1.1 The NIA and the MOL operate 22 shelters (some in collaboration with NGOs) in northern, central, southern, and eastern Taiwan. The locations have been so chosen in order to evenly distribute the resources vis-à-vis the workload. The victims have their daily needs met and receive a variety of services, such as free shelter, psychological counseling, interpretation access, legal aid, accompaniment at investigation interviews, and medical assistance during their stay. Two of the 22 shelters (the Hualien Shelter, out of the three shelters originally under the NIA was closed on December 31 in 2014 due to the decrease of number in prosecution and TIP victims) are NIA-owned but NGO-managed for human trafficking victims while the other 20 are run by the civil society organizations that receive project subsidy from the MOL. The NIA spent a total of NT\$15,052,236 (approx.US\$501,800) in 2015 on placement services while MOL spent NT\$2,708,788 (approx.US\$90,300).

2.1.1.2 In 2015, there were 192 newly placed victims, of whom 192 were female and 66 male. In terms of nationality, Indonesia was number one (132), and Vietnam came as the second (34). The foreign TIP victims put under placement programs have been as follows.

Year	2007/2008			2009			2010			2011			2012			2013		
Exploitation Category	S	L	Sum	S	L	Sum	S	L	Sum	S	L	Sum	S	L	Sum	S	L	Sum
New residents	9	97	106	85	244	329	45	279	324	56	263	319	152	310	462	121	245	366
Male	0	15	15	0	71	71	5	61	66	0	90	90	0	66	66	0	47	47
Female	9	82	91	85	173	258	40	218	258	56	173	229	152	244	396	121	198	319
Indonesia	4	63	67	45	120	165	14	147	161	20	155	175	131	225	356	110	166	276
Vietnam	4	9	13	12	73	85	4	71	75	1	83	84	1	59	60	1	64	65
Thailand	0	13	13	1	6	7	6	6	12	1	9	10	0	1	1	0	6	6
Philippines	0	0	0	0	14	14	2	37	39	1	13	14	0	23	23	1	7	8
Mainland China	0	0	0	27	0	27	19	2	21	33	0	33	20	0	20	9	0	9
Cambodia	0	12	12	0	9	9	0	13	13	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	0
Bangladesh	0	0	0	0	22	22	0	2	2	0	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
India	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stateless	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2

Year	2014			2015		
Exploitation Category	S	L	Sum	S	L	Sum
New residents	86	206	292	66	126	192
Male	0	52	52	0	66	66
Female	86	154	240	66	60	126
Indonesia	67	95	162	54	78	132
Vietnam	4	61	65	5	29	34
Thailand	2	4	6	0	1	1
Philippines	0	43	43	1	18	19
Mainland China	13	2	15	6	0	6
Cambodia	0	1	1	0	0	0
Bangladesh	0	0	0	0	0	0
India	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stateless	0	0	0	0	0	0

Note: S (short for sex) and L (short for labor)

2.1.2 Adult Taiwanese victims

2.1.2.1 There were 25 adult Taiwanese victims identified after human trafficking

investigation in 2015. 16 of them returned home, as they declined to be put under protection while the other nine were placed by local social work agencies. To ensure these victims receive follow-up services after returning home, judicial police are instructed to hand over a copy of the Guidelines on Protecting Taiwanese TIP Victims' Rights. The victims are also asked whether they wish to be referred to local social welfare agencies for counseling. For those interested, a referral form is filled out and a call made to notify the respective agency.

2.1.2.2 Juvenile Taiwanese victims

There were 90 underage victims (under 18 years of age) engaged in sexual transaction identified during police investigation in 2015. In compliance with the Regulations Governing the Protection of Children and Adolescents from the Sex Trade (RGPCAST), 86 of them were placed by local social work agencies and the other four were either brought back home by parents or went home on their own.

2.1.3 The Social and Family Affairs Administration, Ministry of Health and Welfare (MOHW) has included the specific services for TIP victims in the funding application guide for social welfare organizations, requesting local governments to work with civil society groups to form support groups for group therapy and other self-growth courses. In 2015, three private organizations were funded to hold the empowerment-related training workshop for TIP victims in southern Taiwan, launch the campaign on safety of cross-border traveling and anti-TIP work as well as produce pamphlets on prevention of human trafficking and rights of victims. A total of 4,069 persons received such services.

2.1.4 A decrease by 84 victims of labor exploitation in 2015 compared with that of the previous year could be due to the achievements of anti-TIP campaign, but there were also cases left uncovered due to labor exploitation might also occur behind closed doors at home. For the past one year, the fact that the number of sexual exploitation cases exceeded that of labor exploitation by a mile was because recognition and evidence collection of forced labor are difficult. Another reason was that more female minors were found engaging in commercial sex during the summer and winter vacations in 2015.

2.2 Re-identifying quasi victims

To help ensure all human trafficking victims are identified, the NIA routinely screens detainees at the NIA-operated shelters in Taipei, Hsinchu, Yilan, and Nantou. If anyone appears to meet the criteria, he or she is referred to the original judicial police agency that uncovered him/her in a raid. Once confirmed in a second-attempt, he or she will be placed in a shelter as TIP victims. In 2015, a total of 15 victims were thereby re-identified and transferred from a detention center to a shelter.

2.3 Visas for short-term stays

In 2015, the NIA granted 153 new visas to victims for short-term stays, and approved 152 applications to renew such visas.

2.4 Protection of employment rights

According to the Work Permit and Management Regulations for Human Trafficking Victims promulgated on June 8, 2009, the MOL should also inform the government-run job placement center nearest to the detention center or shelter to

provide services while issuing work permits to victims. In 2015, the NIA issued a total of 121 work permits to TIP victims, helping 19 of the victims change employers.

2.5 Free job training

The under the MOL is responsible for job training for the unemployed. For TIP victims who have the work permit but not yet find a job, its local offices would contact their shelters, inquiring whether they would like to take the training program and receive recruitment information as well. They will be matched with the programs that meet their needs and do not have to pay at all. In 2015, has helped a total of 99 TIP victims (20 persons recommend and referred while the other 79 persons find a job by themselves).

2.6 Safeguarding workers' rights through the 1955 Hotline

Since 2010, the 1955 hotline started using a computerized system to assign incoming calls and keep track of the cases. This has helped the supervisors at the hotline to conduct follow-up service on grievances or disputes so as to further safeguard foreign workers' rights. In 2015, the 1955 hotline received a total of 194,833 calls and out of which, 172,022 calls for consultation and 22,811 calls for general and emergency inquiries. 2,751 foreign workers successfully changed employers.

2.7 Recovering back-pay owed to foreign workers

The MOL runs foreign worker service stations around Taiwan, including in airports. The stations along with the 1955 Hotline helped 6,509 foreign workers recover a total of NT\$166,304,621 (approx. US\$5.54 million) in back-pay owed by employers or brokers in 2015.

2.8 Accompaniment during judicial proceedings

- 2.8.1 Interpreter and social worker accompaniment: To uphold victims' rights and facilitate judicial proceedings, judicial police agencies are required to provide interpretation services during investigation interviews involving human trafficking victims. A social worker also accompanies the victim to keep him/her more relaxed and explains the procedures and protective measures to be expected. During the investigation and court hearings of human trafficking cases in 2015, interpretation services were offered on 268 occasions and accompaniment services on 170 occasions.
- 2.8.2 Legal aid: To safeguard victims' human and legal rights, the private Legal Aid Foundation is commissioned by the Judicial Yuan (the top administrative agency in the judicial branch of the government) to provide legal aid to human trafficking victims under placement when the requirements stipulated by the Legal Aid Regulation are met. In 2015, out of 103 applications for legal aid, 100 were fully approved, two were provided with services to a limited extent, and one overruled, thereby assisting 99.03% of those requesting such aid.
- 2.8.3 Keeping victims posted of their case's progress: Judicial police and shelter staff members are required to inform victims of the procedures used by Taiwan's judicial system. Each prosecutors' office assigns a liaison specifically to enhance communication among the judicial police officers, social workers, labor affairs officials, and shelter staff members. The prosecutors are to reveal as much information as possible about the actual investigation progress

without violating Article 245.1 of the Criminal Procedure Law, which stipulates that information about a case still under investigation cannot be disclosed. This step aims to keep the victim more at ease and willing to stay in Taiwan, where he/she can testify in court against suspected traffickers. Shelters under the NIA and the MOL are encouraged to check the progress of cases involving a victim who is residing in the shelter every three months, and to compile a report to the MOJ and the Judicial Yuan so as to help expedite the judicial process, thereby enabling the victims to return home sooner.

2.8.4 Facilitating safe repatriation: When the investigation of a trafficking case is closed or when the victim no longer needs to stay in Taiwan for the investigation, and when the shelter deems that there is no longer a need to postpone the victim’s repatriation, the NIA will coordinate with various agencies to send the victim back to his/her home country in a timely manner. During 2015, a total of 57 victims were repatriated after a period of placement.

2.9 Service highlights at NIA owned, NGO operated shelters

2.9.1 Services for victims

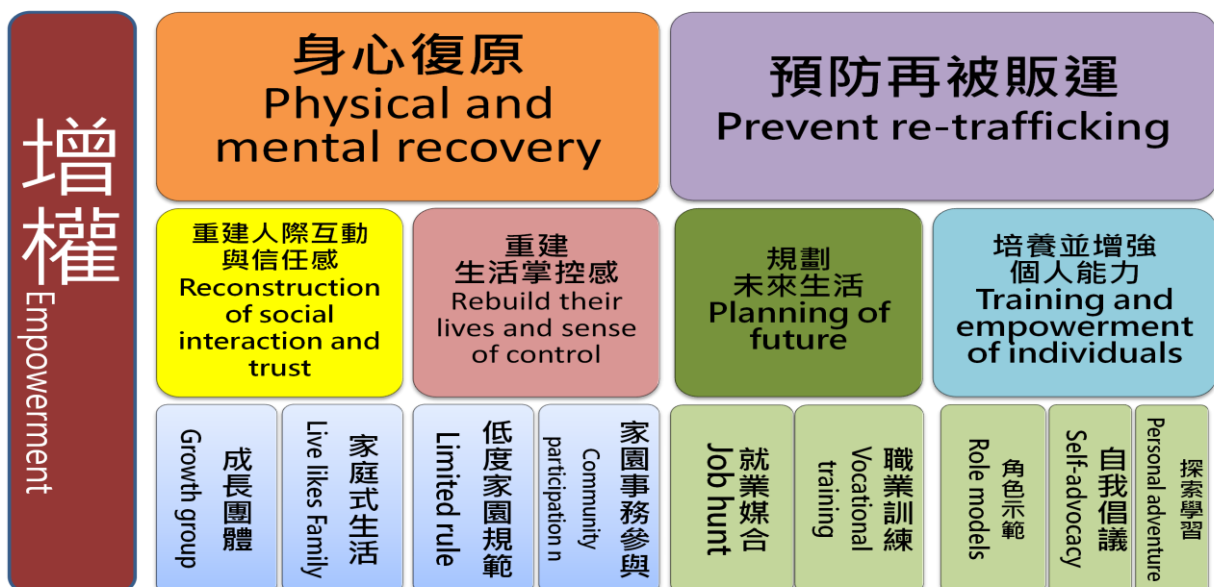
For human trafficking victims who are physically and psychologically traumatized, specific services as follows are provided to help them back on track again.

2.9.1.1 Physical and mental recovery

To help human trafficking victims stand on their feet again physically and psychologically, the shelter provides diverse intervention services in order to foster self-recognition and self-empowering, and relieve emotional distress as well as build confidence. It is hoped that with group therapy, a family-like environment, a carefree atmosphere with necessary rules only, participation in group activities, interpersonal interaction and relationship could the victims rebuild a sense of safety and trust, as well as regain self-worth and control of their own lives.

2.9.1.2 Prevention from becoming re-trafficked

TIP victims are easy targets of exploitation because of inadequate information, limited opportunities to learn and expand horizons for them living in the rural areas of their home countries. Career planning therefore has become the top priority amongst the services provided by shelters, which could be broken down into monetary allowances; job training and job placement in order to improve the future employment prospects for the residents and help them better understand lawful working conditions and workers’ rights in Taiwan.



2.9.2 The Nantou Shelter

Founded in October in 2009 and run by the Good Shepherd Social Welfare Services for six years, the Nantou Shelter has helped 252 TIP victims until December 31 of 2015 and placed 50 new victims in 2015.

Services and Achievements:

- A. Recovery and support: The shelter considers recovery as its core value and provides special services targeting TIP victims who have been mistreated and exploited along the way and thereby traumatized physically and psychologically and find it hard to adjust to a new environment. With continuous care and medical inspection, the shelter knows how each and every victim could put it together again and able to provide medical treatment accordingly. Through regular meetings and other activities, victims could feel persistent care and support and start to trust and accept others. They have a chance to get over their sad memories by taking part in holiday events and outdoor activities. It is also by means of the long-term accompaniment could the staff work well with victims and help them understand Taiwan from a new perspective.
- B. Empowerment and employment: The shelter lays great emphasis on employment services, launching various programs in response to different needs of victims, such as skill training, lectures, counseling, job placement and work-at-home jobs to help them equipped with abilities for job searching and future planning before returning to the society. Residents have a chance to acquire professional skills and elevate their capabilities from various angles; thereby able to do what they are good at and deal with problems and challenges that might arise in the future.
- C. Prevention of re-trafficking: Besides providing shelter and all kinds of services to TIP victims during their stay in Taiwan, how to prevent them from being trafficked again remains the most important goal. The shelter tries to fill in related information about human trafficking for residents. For those who plan to work overseas again, they will be familiarized with foreign working conditions and oriented to develop a self-protection plan to refrain from becoming the targets of re-trafficking.
- D. Group activity: According to the needs of TIP victims, special activities (such as support groups) are held to help them explore themselves. With the support and feedback from other people, the victims are encouraged to find their confidence back. The events also become the catalyst for group cohesion and trust-building.
- E. Happy farm: Residents and the staff take care of vegetables and fruits all the way from seeds planting to harvesting. They have to go through whatever might happen in this process, such as insufficient sunlight and water, or insect damage. However, no one is more moved and happier than themselves by the time they could finally enjoy the fruits. The sense of recognition and achievement is beyond description.
- F. Cross-border cooperation and return to home country: Before moving back home, residents would meet with the sister who has been working in Indonesia for years and able to provide first-hand information about the living condition

and necessary assistance there. The shelter also invites lecturers of various fields to talk on different topics, such as hidden dangers of overseas jobs or working contracts to help them better understand such work. Residents are instructed to develop an overseas personal safety plan to prevent from being re-trafficked.

Highlights

	
<p>Holiday events: the victims have a chance to experience holiday celebration in Taiwan and get to know different cultures better (BBQ on the Moon Festival).</p>	<p>Job placement: create job opportunities for the victims by visiting factories in the neighborhood. Match-make jobs for victims to help them have stable income.</p>
	
<p>Prevention of re-Trafficking: due to most of the victims planning to work in foreign countries again in the future, a lecturer was invited to talk about how to prevent from becoming victims of human trafficking and useful tips they should bear in mind working overseas.</p>	<p>Cross-border cooperation: visits to local associations for victim protection in Indonesia to make sure there are resources available after the victims go back home.</p>



2015 International workshop on strategies on combating human trafficking: introduce victim services at the Nantou Shelter for the workshop's delegates.



2015 International workshop on strategies on combating human trafficking: guide the workshop's delegates through the shelter and show them how victim services are carried out.



Outing: after a vote, the victims went for a one-day trip to the Taipei 101 and its neighboring area they chose. They could not only see the beauty of Taiwan but got to know each other even better.



Outing: after a vote, the victims went for a one-day trip to the Taipei 101 and its neighboring area they chose. They could not only see the beauty of Taiwan but got to know each other even better.



Skill training: provide training courses that meet the needs of the victims so they could be in touch with various topics and find what they are good at through this exploring process.



Lectures: different experts are invited to talk at the shelter according to the victims' needs, such as legal counseling and prevention of workplace hazards in the hope to help them better equipped with related knowledge and know how to protect themselves.

2.9.3 The Yilan Shelter

Founded in August of 2008 and run by the ECPAT-Taiwan for seven years, the Yilan Shelter has provided services for a total of 139 victims. In 2015, 12 new victims were placed.

Services and Achievements:

- A. The Yilan Shelter respects each resident's culture, language and religion and encourages in-depth understanding and tolerance. Unique needs of everyone are accepted with sincerity while multi-lingual reminder cards and orientation programs are introduced to create a multi-cultural environment. The shelter emphasizes the victim-centered service and residents enjoy the freedom to leave the premises and communicate with the outside world.
- B. Self-governance: Upon entering the shelter, each resident is informed of in-house rules and, with her consent, a placement plan is proposed. Residents are encouraged to exercise their rights to facilitate communal living rules, family meetings, housework-sharing regimes, shelter events, classes and self-governance. Also by participating in volunteer services, residents have a chance to feel empowered by providing services to others.
- C. Physical and mental care: Services including interviews, counseling, emotional support, group therapies are provided based on the victim's consent and thorough assessment over his/her physical and mental condition.
- D. Emphasis on human rights of residents' children: For residents placed together with young children, orientation programs, parental education and pre-school education will also be arranged to fulfil their needs.
- E. Relationship establishment: Social workers try to gain the trust from victims through listening, showing acceptance and empathy, companionship and communication skills. They help relieve victims' stress undergoing difficulties in adapting to a new environment and judicial procedure or being homesick. Social workers stay together with them and give them support so as to enhance their capability to deal with negative feelings.
- F. Flexible and diverse victim services: Group activities are proposed and planned with victims that the implementation of skill training courses, multicultural classes, growth groups and seminars are free for any suggestions, adjustments and changes in the hope to boost participation and learning effects.
- G. Protection of victims' legal rights: Victims are assisted to secure their optimal rights by means of matching with legal aid and agent or legal counseling. Staff of the shelter also helps victims make a plea for postponed lawsuit and communicate with the prosecutor and the judge to comfort their anxiety due to homesickness as well as confirm their placement plans.
- H. Enhance judicial efficiency by web conferencing: To prevent victims and accompanied social workers from going back and forth repeatedly, the use of web conferencing in the judicial procedure is advised in the hope to minimize victims' anxiety and the time spent in the process, and also increase the administrative efficiency.
- I. The right to leave the premises: Residents are allowed to leave the premises on short trips, such as walks, outings and shopping without an escort after a thorough safety assessment.
- J. Freedom of employment and protection of working rights: Victims are helped to take job search related tests and be matched for job opportunities by working with partnering factories and stores while their opinions are respected before the final decision is made

K. Integrated services for each individual: a database that is incorporated with practical experiences will be established in 2016 as a guide for the staff to provide more professional services. On the other hand, an integrated service for individual victim that includes activity planning and various themes each time will be launched in the aim to highlight diverse cultures, enhance the victims' physical and mental health and facilitate self-empowering.

Highlights



Self-growing class: the practice - tree of my merits that helps interpersonal communication and self growth.



Family day: foster understanding of different cultures by making cuisines of various countries.



Sovananda yoga: relax body and soul and help find the balance. Relieve the pressure.



Skill training - eggroll making: invite the skilled volunteers to teach the victims what they want to learn in the hope that they could build their own businesses after returning to home countries.



Birthday party: a birthday party for the victim who felt much blessed by others.



Multi-cultural class – sachet making: celebrate the Dragon Boat Festival in the traditional way.



Leisure activities: the victims had fun on the beach, feeling like they were closer to their hometown on the other side of the sea.



Take a walk to know the place better: walking around not only helps the victims know the surroundings better but lets them feel relaxed and relieved.

3. Prevention: curbing human trafficking

3.1 Enhancing general awareness

3.1.1 Raising awareness of anti-TIP law and protective services

The NIA has devised numerous campaigns to boost public awareness of the HTPCA and protective services for victims so that the public is equipped to help offer the victims obtain timely assistance.

3.1.1.2 TV and Radio

A. A 30-second film clip on anti-TIP campaign was broadcasted through the Taiwan Television Enterprise (TTV) and the other five TV channels for 142 times during the “public service announcement” time slots.

B. The *Giant Ocean Case* documentary with both Chinese and English subtitles that is about labor exploitation on fishing workers was released in July and played during the 2015 International Workshop on Strategies for Combating Human Trafficking. It was uploaded to the website of the NIA and its 100-minute version was also sent to various government agencies for the use of in-house training and anti-TIP campaign.

3.1.1.3 Out-reach Events

A. The 2015 International Workshop on Strategies for Combating Human Trafficking organized by the NIA, the MOL, the MOFA and the MOTC was held at the Chang Yung-Fa Foundation in Taipei and the National Chung Cheng University in the southern city Chiayi from July 29 to 31 to resonate with the campaign on fighting against human trafficking and protecting basic human rights of annual World Day against Trafficking in Persons on July 30. A total of 400 experts and scholars of governmental agencies and NGOs from 20 countries, as well as civil society in Taiwan took part in the workshop in the hope to foster international exchanges, prevent TIP crimes from happening and safeguard the legal system. President of the R.O.C (Taiwan) Ma Ying-Jeou also addressed in the opening ceremony, showing gratitude to the US State Department for ranking Taiwan as the tier-one country in combating human trafficking for six years in a row in its TIP report, urging the leaders in the world to pay more attention to the human trafficking issue and vowing to make Taiwan become the regional leader in combating human trafficking.

B. To echo the blue heart campaign of UN’s annual World Day against Trafficking in Persons on July 30, 30 delegates consisting of foreign guests, government officials and NGO’s representatives visited the Nantou Shelter. A special event where foreign guests put puzzles that represented different countries together was held to show Taiwan’s determination to eradicate human trafficking.

C. To raise awareness amongst young people, the video clip *Say No to Bad Guys* was made and a special campaign and online lucky draw went for two months and a total of 15,000 people visited the website.

D. The Yilan County Fishermen’s Union held the year-end party for foreign fishing workers on December 5 and attended by a total of 160 persons, including representatives of the NIA, the MOL and the Fisheries Agency, as well as foreign fishing workers. There were talks about the current situation of migrant workers involved in human trafficking for attendees to better understand this issue.

- E. A special event co-organized by the NIA and the MGF Sourcing Far East to raise anti-TIP awareness of the public was held at the Taiwan Taoyuan International Airport on November 20 and attended by 100 persons
- F. A workshop on international labor standards and free trade was held at the College of Social Sciences, Chung Cheng University from August 3 to 6. The retired official of the International Labor Organization (ILO) Dr. Constance Thomas was invited to share her experiences and particularly on ILO's Convention No. 29 about forced labor.

Highlights of the NIA's Anti-TIP Campaigns

Say No to Bad Guys online campaign and lucky draw

104年防制人口販運宣導 拍狼末日

他發覺幫我們對抗拍狼集團!

拍報!

鼓勵民眾檢舉。全民防制犯罪

民眾可以跟他們舉報!

舉手投足!

拍狼集團!

那你們要防範努力啊!

全民同心協力 打擊人口販運
請打110、1955、(02)23883095 報案電話
內政部移民署 關心您

主辦單位:內政部移民署
執行單位:卓越數碼科技有限公司

內政部移民署

Theme video

104年防制人口販運宣導 拍狼末日

何謂人口販運?

剝削目的	性剝削、勞力剝削、器官摘取
不法手段	強暴、脅迫、恐嚇、拘禁、監控、藥劑、催眠術、詐術等...
人流處置行為	買賣、質押、運送、藏匿等...

去外地工作、旅行，要加強對自身權益的認識
人口販運罪，最高可處七年以上有期徒刑，新台幣
七百萬元以下罰金。

全民同心協力 打擊人口販運
請打110、1955、(02)23883095
報案電話
內政部移民署 關心您

主辦單位:內政部移民署 執行單位:卓越數碼科技有限公司

廣告

2015 International Workshop on Strategies for Combating Human Trafficking



President Ma Ying-Jeou and foreign scholars and experts



President Ma addressing at the opening ceremony



The anti-TIP event co-organized by the NIA and the MGF Sourcing Far East at the Taiwan Taoyuan International Airport

3.1.2 Preventing foreign workers from being trafficked

Numerous campaigns through various channels have been launched for employers, employment brokers, and migrant workers to gain a better understanding of the issue of human trafficking and the aid available for victims. The campaigns are the following:

3.1.2.1 Various Channels

- A. The NIA commissioned six broadcasting stations to produce 13 episodes of radio program in Chinese, Filipino, Indonesian, Vietnamese and Thai on the theme of human trafficking prevention and safety of migrant workers, 1995 the hotline, employment regulations and background information of foreign customs and traditions so as to educate employers, brokers, and foreign workers the related laws and regulations. Until the end of 2015, an estimated 3,625,455 people listened to these programs.
- B. Multi-language handbooks (Thai, Indonesian, Filipino, Vietnamese, etc...) *What Foreign Workers Must Know When Working in Taiwan* were distributed to local governments, public job placement centers, foreign missions in Taiwan, the migrant worker service center at the airport and NGOs for migrant workers to know what steps to be taken to report grievances, and how to seek help.
- C. A short clip on *The Rights for Foreign Workers in Taiwan* is also incorporated in orientation sessions for those who just arrive in Taiwan, introducing related regulations, self-protection and ways to seek help.
- D. The MOL set up migrant worker service centers at both Taoyuan and Kaohsiung international airports that provide bilingual services, assistance on going through customs and immigration, lessons on workers' rights and legal counseling. A 10-minute clip on workers' rights and regulations is played for foreign workers at the airport upon their arrival along with oral introduction by the staff there. Written texts about the life in Taiwan, work, religion, average salaries, medical care, job training, ways to seek consultation and workers' right and related regulations are also available. It is hoped that

foreign workers could understand local regulations, customs as well as their own rights in a short time and better adjust to the life in Taiwan and minimize discomfort and anxiety. A total of 154,495 persons have received such training from in 2015.

3.1.2.2 Raise the awareness of TIP issues

Local authorities were subsidized to organize 15 anti-TIP training courses targeting migrant worker supervisors or employers, attended by 763 persons and 118 anti-TIP meetings targeting migrant workers to introduce related regulations, attended by 61,079 persons in the hope to make sure migrant workers, employers and brokers are aware of human trafficking issues.

3.1.2.3 Train staffing of labor affairs to better recognize TIP victims

A total of 446 persons consisting of foreign laborer inspectors from local authorities, staff of foreign laborer service center and local placement centers attended the training programs that were held for four times from October to November to enhance their professional ability and knowledge regarding anti-TIP issues and victim protection/placement.

3.1.2.4 The MOL announced the operational guidelines governing the funding for organizing related events for foreign workers on April 2 in 2015 and sent the guidelines to various NGOs and private associations. The MOL expanded the funding for innovative, experimental or international projects or events in association with management of foreign workers in the hope to encourage NGOs to launch all kinds of programs and activities.

3.1.2.5. Facilitating direct hiring, helping foreign workers save brokerage fees up to US\$37,973,000

Since 2009, the Direct Hiring Service Center has expanded the scope of direct hiring into the fields of manufacturing, construction, deep-sea fishing, nursing home, and domestic (in-home) care. Throughout the year, the center helped 26,295 employers re-hire their existing foreign employees, referred and transferred 72,438 foreign worker applications to authorities other than the MOL, and provided consultation for 180,621 individuals, either on-site or over the phone, on hiring foreigners. The center helped workers seeking to extend their working visa in Taiwan save a total of NT\$1,139,200,000 (approx. US\$37,973,000) in brokerage fees, thus minimizing their risk of being exploited by brokers.

3.1.2.6. Enhancing management of brokerage firms

According to the annual evaluation held in 2015 for private brokerages engaging in cross-border placement in the previous year, a total of 1,213 brokerage firms were evaluated, of which 286 (23.56%) got grade A (above 90 points), 848 (69.85%) got grade B (70 to 89 points), and 79 (6.59%) got grade C grade (under 70 points). The latter will not be allowed to set up subsidiaries and the license will not be renewed if failing to reach grade B in the following year. This system seeks to improve the quality of the brokerages' services and eliminate brokerages that of unsatisfactory quality.

3.1.2.7. Raising informants' rewards

With amendments of the Guideline Governing the Payment of Reward to Members of the Public Informing the Authorities about Violations of the Employment Service Act made on September 11 of 2015, the rewards are increased according to whom (illegal employers, illegal private employment companies or individuals, illegal aliens) being reported or the number of individuals being reported to enhance the efficiency in uncovering such cases, protect job opportunities of nationals of Taiwan as well as maintain the social order. In 2015, a total of NT\$8,617,000 (Approx. US\$288,000) reward money was paid to 757 informants of violations regarding foreign workers, employers, and brokers.

3.1.2.8. Refining foreign labor policies

- A. To ensure brokerages fulfill their responsibility of recruitment and follow-up services and thereby prevent foreign workers from running and causing serious problems, the MOL announced the amended Regulations for Permission and Supervision of Private Employment Services Institution on October 8 in 2014, modifying the fining standard in response to the number of missing foreign workers during its regular review and assessment on private employment institution. The MOL will continue to fine-tune the law with response to the development of anti-TIP policies and the entire environment.
- B. The MOL and the MOTC have gone through amendments of the ILO's Convention No. 29 about forced labor and Article 11 about taking advantage of vulnerabilities, as well as the Maritime Labor Convention (MLC) that came into force in 2013 and compared the 11 indicators of forced labor with current regulations about labor affairs and fishery in Taiwan, discussing the possibility of harmonization of domestic and international laws or amendment of domestic regulations. The MOL is also trying to turning the aforementioned indicators into a set of instrumental guidelines that apply to Taiwan's condition.

3.1.2.9. Formalizing domestic (in-home) workers' employment

- A. The MOL has held several meetings and public hearings to solicit input from all stakeholders, employers, employees, brokers, scholars, experts and government representatives to safeguard domestic workers' employment rights and discuss the Domestic Worker Protection Bill. The first draft was completed in March 15 of 2011 for review by the Executive Yuan (the cabinet). The bill stipulates crucial elements of a domestic worker's rights, including a consecutive eight-hour rest every day, one rest day in every seven-day period, various forms of leave (marriage, decease of family members, sickness or special reasons), minimum wage, payment guidelines, employment termination, insurance, and grievance procedures.
- B. As opposed to the needs of care recipients and predicament of some minority families, the pool of caregivers and related services are not enough. It still takes time to reach a consensus from different parts of the society to formalize the Domestic Worker Protection Bill.
- C. President Ma Ying-Jeou announced the Long-Term Care Services Act on June 3 in 2015 that is slated to be effective two years later. On the other hand, according to the instructions given by the secretary-general on February 25 in 2016, the MOL would continue to review the Domestic Worker Protection Bill to make sure it is in line with the Long-Term Care Services Act.

- D. The MOL has held a multilateral meeting with Taiwan's source countries of labors, including Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam on August 28 in 2015. According to the results, the wage specified in the new labor contract of domestic worker received by employment offices in source countries since September 1 in 2015 was raised from NT\$15,840 to NT\$17,000, serving as the benchmark for follow-up check up.
- E. According to Article 48-1 newly added to the Employment Services Act and effective on October 9 in 2015, the employers who hire foreign care givers or domestic workers for the first time shall join the orientations held by the MOL before their application is approved. In doing so, the employers could better prepare themselves and fully aware of what it will be like after hiring a foreign worker and related regulations (customs and cultures of the foreign worker's home country, things they should be careful and examples of violation against the law). It is hoped that employers and foreign workers could work well together and minimize the possibility of violation of law.

3.1.3 Enlisting the public's aid in stopping child sex tourism

3.1.3.1 Target audiences and objectives

It is essential to educate the general public and businesses linked to tourism the definition of "child sex tourism", and the measures taken to curb commercial sex transactions with minors. Taiwan has endeavored to raise the awareness of the illegal and contemptible practice of sexual exploitation of minors. It is hoped that with greater knowledge about human trafficking and child sex tourism could better avoid the public committing such crime inadvertently.

3.1.3.2 Government agencies working with the media

A. The Ministry of Health and Welfare (MOHW)

- (i) Eye-catching electronic LED bulletin boards were used in local train and bus stations from May 9 to 23 to promote anti-sexual tourism campaign and raise the awareness of preventing such crimes.
- (ii) Two 30-second video clips on elimination of child and juvenile sex abuse and internet safety for children went viral on different channels like youtube and google for seven days in November and watched for 119,936 times.

B. The Tourism Bureau

- (i) Tour guides and tour managers are encouraged to report related crimes and understand the case of sexual exploitation for any commercial reasons at annual orientations. On the bureau's website, information about prevention of human trafficking is available for the public and tourism industry professionals. Such materials constitute a part of the e-course available over the internet for individuals hoping to become tour guides and tour managers. The general literacy of the HTPCA and the Child and Youth Sexual Transaction Prevention Act (renamed as the Child and Youth Sexual Exploitation Prevention Act and the official effective date to be announced) will also be taken into account for the final evaluation in the hope they could help promote the importance of non-sexual exploitation to their clients in the future. A total of 5,683 tour guides and managers received the training during the year of 2015.
- (ii) According to a collective agreement signed by various parties in the

hospitality industry on November 27 in 2015, experts, police officers responsible for women and children affairs from local police departments are invited to talk about prevention of youth sexual transaction at trainings for hotel staff. During the year, a total of 2,386 hotel staff attended 27 orientations in Kaohsiung and 15 other cities and counties.

- (iii) The campaign on general literacy of related regulations is launched during the annual hotel inspection. A total of 380 staff from 38 hotels attended such events in 2015.

3.1.4 Advocacy in schools

The Ministry of Education (MOE) has taken measures to instill the core concepts of combating human trafficking (i.e. human rights, the laws and gender equity) into students' mind from an early age.

3.1.4.1 On campus

Through collaboration with the local newspaper Mandarin Daily News, the Legal Digest for Teenagers as supplementary reading is launched. Five articles on human trafficking titled "Employers should be legal-minded when hiring foreigners", "Being submissive might lead to exploitation", "Commercial sex is against the law and there is no turning back", "Report bad employers and uphold labor rights" and "Your employee works in the disguise of marriage? You might be punished" were published on May 12, August 4, September 8, October 6 and October 20 respectively. The core concepts to combat human trafficking such as human rights, the laws and gender equity could be acquired by the newspaper's readers (the circulation reaches 180,000 copies) and student readers. Law departments of 22 universities were subsidized to initiate the legal education programs for middle school students and community residents and there were 18 lectures about prevention of human trafficking, attended by 2,655 persons. For the campus anti-TIP project, three workshops were also held in local schools.

3.1.4.2 In classrooms

Gender equity, human rights and other legal issues have been incorporated into curriculum guidelines for primary and secondary schools, including regular and vocational high schools. Teaching materials have been developed for two courses: primers on human trafficking and prevention of human trafficking. Teachers are encouraged to download the materials for classroom use. Incentives are in place for colleges and universities to offer courses related to human rights, gender equity, and related legal issues. A total of 10,472 courses were taught in 2015 and related activities were also subsidized by the MOE to raise awareness in schools.

3.1.4.3 Enhancing teacher competency

Two schools, including the Providence University were approved in 2015 to open a total of two programs for on-the-job training or continuing education in a special field targeting teachers specialized in human rights and civic education. 36 universities responsible for teacher training also opened such classes that contributed to a total of 164 courses during the year. The National Kaohsiung Normal University was funded to develop materials and launch the online course on human rights in the hope to enhance teachers' professional knowledge on human rights as well as the democratic and legal system.

3.1.5 Reaching out to specific audiences

Besides the NIA, other agencies of the government also helped educate specific

audiences about human trafficking. They are the NPA, the MOJ, the COA, the Coast Guard Administration, the Mainland Affairs Council and the Veterans Affairs Council.

National Police Agency

- A. Community based security meetings were held to raise communal awareness and facilitate voluntary services, maintaining community security and combating human trafficking and other crimes. During the year, a total of 87,261 people attended 1,738 such meetings held by municipal and local police departments that played anti-TIP video clips and introduced related regulations in the hope to raise awareness of the public.
- B. LED electronic bulletin boards and website banners of governmental agencies and related organizations were used to promote the anti-TIP hotline numbers. Anti-TIP print materials, such as booklets and pamphlets were placed at the counters of local police departments and offices whereas posters could also be seen to raise public awareness.

Ministry of Justice

- A. The MOJ worked with the show *Life in Design* of National Education Radio to launch a special corner where the MOJ's staff in charge of anti-TIP case were invited to talk about human rights and law and international legal assistance agreements once in every week. It also launched a special project with the Police Broadcasting Service that a diversity of programs in both Mandarin and Taiwanese on respect of diverse culture, prevention of human trafficking and gender equity were broadcasted for a total of 158 times in one month.
- B. A comics competition on legal education was held by the MOJ and the Shih Hsin University affiliated Lihpao Daily to encourage new immigrants, immigrant workers and the immigrants' children from South East Asia to create works in their own languages on various topics, such as prevention of human trafficking, domestic violence and cyber crime, rights of women and children, respect of human rights and the legal system as well as gender equity. A total of 42 entries were received.
- C. A comic competition on crime prevention and legal education was held for senior high school (vocational school), junior high school and elementary school students, receiving a total of 758 entries talking about anti-drug, anti-bullying, anti-TIP, anti-domestic violence and prevention of cyber crime.

Council of Agriculture

Anti-TIP and related policies were incorporated in the training program for deep-sea workers in the hope to prevent them from engaging in any kinds of human trafficking and encourage them to provide a safe working and living environment for foreign fishing workers so that no labor exploitation on foreign fishing workers happens. Magazines for the fishing industry were also used to remind ship owners not to turn their vessels into tools for smuggling, human smuggling and human trafficking.

Coast Guard Administration

The CGA carried out anti-TIP campaigns during the agency's mobile shows around Taiwan. In 2015, a total of 1,034 persons attended 18 such events and

learned to be away from human trafficking when hiring either local or foreign fishing workers.

Veterans Affairs Council

Its service centers were funded to organize events to consult with foreign and Mainland Chinese spouses for them to better adapt to the new environment. A total of 2,326 persons attended 24 such events where representatives from related authorities talked about regulations and the ideas of respecting and tolerating different cultures. Representatives from the NIA were also invited to talk about human trafficking in its in-house training program. It is hoped that the officers could apply what they have learned to where they work locally and help promote the anti-TIP campaign.

Mainland Affairs Council

The Chinese Association for Relief and Ensuing Services was funded to hold meetings for exchanges of new immigrants on March 24, June 16, September 22 and December 1 respectively. It also organized six meetings on various topics for Mainland Chinese spouses to gain a better understanding of their rights.

3.2 Develop anti-TIP online information, consultation and teaching materials

3.2.1 Training materials and related information

- 3.2.1.1 To enhance proficiency on anti-TIP cases for the judges to rule such cases efficiently and correctly and increase convictions, the Judicial Yuan continued to provide as many resources as possible to the judges. It compiled a book of human trafficking cases and sent it to them as a reference. Related information has also been uploaded to the special zone for case study of sexual assault and TIP cases on its official website for the personnel to better access such content.
- 3.2.1.2 The Judicial Yuan made a sentencing guideline on crimes against Article 31 and Article 32 of the HTPCA for the courts in the hope that the judges could make appropriate rulings by aggravating or alleviating the sentencing accordingly. It also constructed a system in the civil procedure (district courts and the first to the third trials included) that showed the number of civil claims for compensation on TIP cases and notified all the courts on June 30. It could be a reference for the judges to rule compensation and used for policy analysis.
- 3.2.1.3 To facilitate judicial police's perception and techniques for protecting victims and enforcing the law, the NIA turned written materials from the workshop on anti-TIP networking and counseling into DVDs to be incorporated in the training courses of different agencies.

3.2.2 Seminars

- A. The Judicial Yuan held a seminar on prevention of TIP crimes on June 10, inviting political officials of the American Institute in Taiwan (AIT), supreme court judges, representatives of the MOJ and professors of the Chengchi University to give talks for the audience composed of judges from different courts under the Judicial Yuan, prosecutors under the MOJ and participants from National Police Agency (NPA), the NIA, social welfare groups and NGOs. Topics concerning changeable nature of human trafficking, knowledge and regulations that can be applied to assist TIP victims were discussed during the conference in the hope that all personnel involved in the legal proceedings could

- understand TIP cases from various perspectives and facilitate cross-agency cooperation between them and personnel in charge of anti-TIP campaign of other government agencies and NGOs. The Judges Academy launched a series of courses on topics like human trafficking and legal procedures, and international cooperation on combating cross-border human trafficking in 2015, inviting judges, prosecutors and officials of the NIA as speakers.
- B. The MOJ held a hands-on workshop on anti-TIP from October 14 to 16 where the political officials of AIT shared American experiences in preventing human trafficking so that the attending prosecutors could learn the latest development in the world. Experienced prosecutors, judges and front-line personnel were also invited to talk about their experiences in hunting down criminals, investigation skills and rulings to enhance proficiency of head prosecutors/prosecutors regarding various perspectives, such as problems that might arise in the investigation process, details about the public charge, victim identification, victim protection and placement and criminals' tactics to increase illegal income.
 - C. Municipal and local police departments under the request of the NPA held training classes on TIP crimes focusing on general information of human trafficking and investigation skills for the front-line police personnel. A total of 9,534 persons attended 104 such events in 2015.
 - D. The NIA held two anti-TIP seminars to reinforce front-line civil servants' proficiency and prevent human trafficking. A total of 144 persons from local departments of labor and health as well as judicial police units attended the classes.
 - E. The NIA held the International Conference on Border Management on September 17 to enhance international cooperation, integrate domestic and international resources on combating human smuggling, prevent human trafficking as well as build up a cross-border cooperation network. Nine speakers consisting of foreign and local immigration officials and management levels of technology companies shared their experiences and latest technology regarding technological border control and collective hunt-down of smugglers. A total of 220 attendees, including representatives of 27 foreign missions in Taiwan took part in this conference.
 - F. To enhance the expertise and investigation skills of front-line personnel, the CGA held three anti-TIP hands-on workshops from August 27 to 28, August 31 to September 1 and September 3 to 4 respectively. A total of 175 persons attended such events.

4. Partnerships – enhancing partnerships with foreign public and private sector Bodies

4.1 International discourse

4.1.1 With foreign governments

Taiwan has personnel stationed at major cities around the world to maintain contact with their host governments. During their visits to Taiwan, foreign delegates could exchange ideas and form regional alliances with counterparts of Taiwan. The 2015 International Workshop on Strategies for Combating Human Trafficking is important platform for such exchanges. The major events of 2015 are as follows:

- A. The delegate of National Association of Attorneys General (NAAG) of the US invited by the MOFA visited President Ma, exchanging experiences in combating human trafficking.
- B. The fourth Taiwan - Vietnam ministerial meeting on labor affairs was held on April 6 where both sides agreed to strengthen management of brokerage firms to minimize the number of runaway foreign workers. The MOFA has also turned the draft of MOU on cooperation of labor affairs drafted by the MOL to the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Vietnam for it to discuss with its Vietnamese counterpart.
- C. Director General of the NIA Mo Tien-Hu led a delegate of four NIA officers to visit Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City from June 23 to 27, exchanging opinions on immigration issues with Vietnamese counterparts.
- D. Director General of the NIA Mo Tien-Hu led a delegate of five NIA officers to participate in the third Taiwan - Indonesia bilateral meeting on immigration cooperation and visited Jakarta and Bali from August 3 to 7, exchanging opinions on immigration issues with Indonesian counterparts.
- E. Director General of the NIA Mo Tien-Hu led a delegate of six NIA officers to participate in the Fifth Taiwan - Japan Immigration and Border Management Conference and visited Tokyo and Osaka from November 23 to 28, talking about information exchanges of border control and possible cooperation with Japanese counterparts.
- F. Director of International Affairs and Law Enforcement Division, the NIA Chen Su-Lan joined a delegate to visit Europe from June 6 to 13, visiting the interior departments, police departments, immigration departments and anti-terrorism departments of both Belgium and Germany and exploring more opportunities for international cooperation.
- G. Nabil Hannoun, spokes man of Directorate of General Security, Lebanon visited the NIA and exchanged opinions Deputy Director General Chang Chi on immigration and refugee issues and discussed the possibility to sign the MOU on immigration and prevention of human trafficking.



Director General Mo of the NIA sent a gift to the head of Bureau of Border Control,
Ministry of Public Security, Vietnam



Director General Mo of the NIA sent a gift to the vice head of Bureau of Foreign Affairs,
Ministry of Public Security, Vietnam



Witnessed by Director General Mo of the NIA, both representatives from the Taipei Economic and Trade Office and the Indonesian Economic and Trade Office signed an agreement in the third Taiwan - Indonesia bilateral meeting on immigration cooperation.



Director General Mo of the NIA talked about immigration cooperation and human flow management with the head of South Jakarta Immigration Office and exchanged gifts.

4.1.2 NGO-initiated or government funded exchanges

The Taipei Women's Rescue Foundation, the ECPAT-Taiwan, and the Good Shepherd Social Welfare Services have gained tremendous insights after years of protecting human trafficking victims. Besides launching long-term initiatives in Taiwan, these organizations also actively participated in international exchanges in 2015. They are:

Taipei Women's Rescue Foundation

- A. The foundation sent representatives to join the 104th International Labor Conference held in Geneva, Switzerland in June and took part in the 29th general meeting of UN human rights council as visitors. It held an international conference on human trafficking and forced labor on June 16 in Geneva that focused on the situation of migrant workers in Taiwan and let attendees know more about Taiwan's female TIP victims.



Taking part in the 104th International Labor Conference held in Geneva in June

- B. The foundation received Constance Thomas, former director of ILO, Andrew Wallis, CEO of the British NGO - Unseen and Roger Plant, former head of the Special Action Program to Combat Forced Labor, ILO on July 31, exchanging ideas on the human trafficking issue.

Good Shepherd Social Welfare Services

- A. Its representatives took part in the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development co-organized by the ESCAP and APRCEM from May 15 to 23, exchanging ideas on the rights of immigrants and migrant workers in Asia, prevention of cross-border human trafficking and international cooperation, as well as the influence of UN's initiative – Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) on regional prevention of human trafficking and protection of the rights of immigrants and migrant workers.
- B. Its representatives visited Cambodia and local organizations, including the Cambodian Child's Dream Organization (CCDO) and the Attitude Center for Education (ACE) from July 12 to 22 for exchanges of anti-TIP education and

- possibility for future cooperation.
- C. Invited by the Holy See, the representatives of the foundation took part in the international conference on encouraging young people to fight against human trafficking organized by the Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences from November 4 to 12. Pope Francis invited social workers from different countries to talk about combating commercial sex and human trafficking, sharing successful experiences in prevention of human trafficking, TIP victim recovery and rescue work. The foundation gave a talk on the topic: Fight against Human Trafficking: Good Shepherd in-and-out of Taiwan. Why should youth be involved.
 - D. The foundation sent representatives to Cambodia from November 16 to 21 and co-organized a meeting on legal cases of human trafficking with local organizations, focusing on challenges of prevention of human trafficking in both countries and directions in the future. It also worked with local organizations to host a training workshop, sharing its experiences in raising awareness of the TIP issue. It also helped come up with an anti-TIP strategy that could work in Cambodia in the hope through international cooperation of this kind could keep women, children and fishing workers from being exploited and protect their human rights.
 - E. The foundation sent representatives to Jakarta from November 22 to 27 to exchange ideas with various NGOs, including the Good Shepherd Asia Pacific - Indonesia, the Association for Movements for Justice and Peace, the ECPAT Indonesia and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) Indonesia on prevention of human trafficking, future direction and networking of resources. The representatives also visited the shelters for TIP victims in Jakarta and got to know their resources and services and how to work with them in the future.

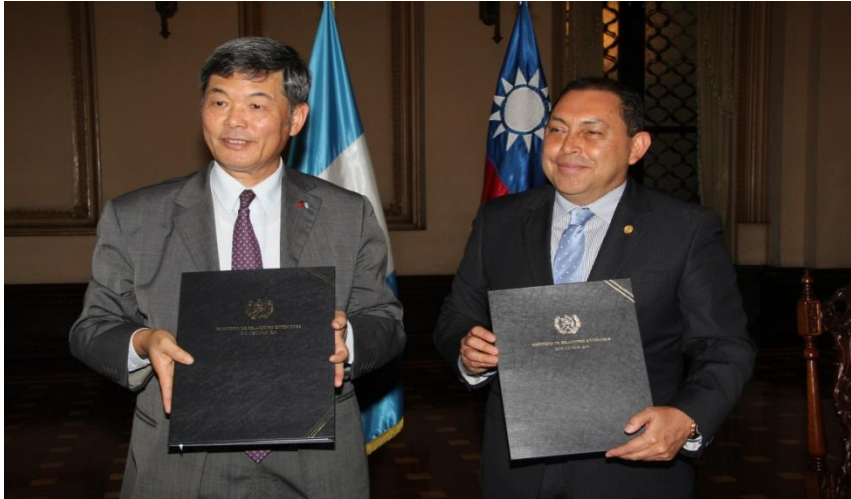
ECPAT-Taiwan

- A. The foundation and the ECPAT Japan held a meeting for exchanges of experiences on anti-TIP prevention work from September 29 to October 3. Taiwan's law enforcement officers and representatives of NGOs were invited to talk about human trafficking in the world and Taiwan's contributions, investigation, prosecution and sentencing of human trafficking (child sexual exploitation) cases in Taiwan, TIP victim protection mechanism, and how cross-agency communication works as reference information for Japan to incorporate into legalization of the anti-TIP law.
- B. The head of Attitude Center for Education (ACE), Cambodia visited Taiwan on October 12 and exchanged opinions on prevention of human trafficking with young educators and school representatives. The foundation sent representatives to join the conference held by the Good Shepherd Social Welfare Services on human trafficking in Taiwan now and prevention campaigns for young people. Representatives of the Caritas Taiwan also joined the conference and talked about the latest development of human trafficking in Taiwan, how to further raise awareness of younger generation to keep them away from any exploitation.

4.2 Partnering with international community

Taiwan has signed MOUs on cooperation to prevent cross-border crimes and human trafficking with Guatemala on February 17, Swaziland on April 8 and Nauru on June 8. The MOFA invited the delegate of National Association of Attorneys General (NAAG) of the US to visit Taiwan. In their visit to the Presidential House, they also

exchanged experiences in combating human trafficking with President Ma. Both representatives of Taiwan and Vietnam agreed to strengthen management of brokerage firms to minimize the number of runaway foreign workers during the fourth Taiwan - Vietnam ministerial meeting on labor affairs. The MOFA has also turned the draft of MOU on cooperation of labor affairs drafted by the MOL to the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Vietnam for further discussion with its Vietnamese counterpart. By making sure that prevention of human trafficking is also covered by the MOU on police cooperation between Taiwan and South Africa, Taiwan will have more exchanges and cooperation with South African to fulfill our duty in eradicating human trafficking.



Taiwan ambassador to Guatemala signed the MOU on prevention of human trafficking with the interior minister of Guatemala



Taiwan's interior minister signed the MOU on prevention of human trafficking with the head of Immigration and Passport Section, Justice Department of Nauru.

5. Innovative Campaigns

National Police Agency

To further raise awareness of the anti-TIP issue, the NPA goes out of its way in launching various innovative campaigns as follows:

- A. The Yunlin County Police Department held anti-TIP events during the 2015 Yunlin International Puppet Theater Festival in October, distributing anti-TIP pamphlets and giveaways and attended by 500 persons.
- B. The Hsinchu Police Department launched a street dance competition and anti-TIP campaign at the Big City Mall in July, attracting more than 500 persons. Another event echoing the UN blue heart campaign was held in the same month that distributed anti-TIP pamphlets, giveaways and blue heart balloons, attracting more than 100 persons.
- C. The Keelung Police Department posted anti-TIP information through its fan page in November of 2015 in the hope to reach more people in a fun and interactive way. It collected 64 likes.

National Immigration Agency

- A. Six years after the HTPCA came into effect, amendments are necessary in response to diverse forms of human trafficking and changing trends. The NIA formed a special team in 2013. It has accomplished a study that went through the crime of human trafficking in Taiwan from the perspective of rulings and legal cases. The team started to work on compensation of TIP victims since May in 2015, hoping to incorporate the research findings into amendments of the HTPCA.
- B. To better protect TIP victims, the NIA held meetings with the NGOs that run the shelters on a regular basis since 2015. The aim is to make communication smoother and protective measures more complete.
- C. A special event co-organized by the NIA and the MGF Sourcing Far East to raise anti-TIP awareness of the public was held at the Taiwan Taoyuan International Airport on November 20 and attended by 100 persons in the hope to raise awareness of TIP and other human rights issues.

Ministry of Labor

- A. Check up living condition of foreign fishing workers: Given foreign fishing workers constantly working on the sea and living on the fishing vessel, it is rather difficult for local governments to provide services and check up their living condition. The MOL now tries to include the deep-sea fishing workers in its plan aiming to take care of foreigners living in Taiwan. It is hoped that foreign fishing workers could be better taken care of and employers would fulfill their management responsibility.
- B. Prevent foreign workers and employers from being exploited by brokers: A wage reference guide for foreign fishing workers that specifies how employers should pay, bilingual pay slip, related regulation and rules for brokerage firms to pay on employers' behalf was announced on July 30 and sent to fishing vessel owner groups and Taiwan's brokerage firms in the hope to help foreign fishing workers fully paid for the period they work.
- C. Protect labor rights of domestic workers and home helpers:
 - (i) Considering commodity prices going up every year, to sustain labor rights of

foreign domestic workers and take economic burden of Taiwan's employers into account as well, the MOL has held a multilateral meeting with Taiwan's source countries of labors, including Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam on August 28 in 2015. According to the results, the wage specified in the new labor contract of domestic worker received by employment offices in source countries since September 1 in 2015 was raised from NT\$15,840 to NT\$17,000, serving as the benchmark for follow-up check up.

- (ii) According to Article 48-1 newly added to the Employment Services Act and effective on October 9 in 2015, the employers who hire foreign care givers or domestic workers for the first time shall join the orientations held by the MOL before their application is approved. In doing so, the employers could better prepare themselves and fully aware of what it will be like after hiring a foreign worker and related regulations (customs and cultures of the foreign worker's home country, things they should be careful and examples of violation against the law). It is hoped that employers and foreign workers could work well together and minimize the possibility of violation of law.

IV. Future work

The government's 2015 agenda includes the following:

1. Prosecution

- 1.1 The judicial police continue to carry out the anti-slavery plan that focuses on law enforcement on organizing crime committed by at least three people and syndicated crimes to track down crime masterminds, fake spouses and other suspects. The judicial police also conduct ex parte checks on locations the TIP syndicates usually nest or where foreign laborers are likely to work at. Law enforcement on high-risk places aims to stamp out TIP crimes and shows the government's determination to fight against human trafficking.
- 1.2 Facilitating cooperating with other countries - the government endeavors to enhance cross-border law enforcement operations with other countries based on agreements, such as the Cross-Strait Agreement on Joint Crackdown of Crimes and Judicial Assistance, the Preventing and Combating Serious Crime (PCSC) agreement, as well as the MOU on Dissemination and Exchange of Information Relating to Human Smuggling and Trafficking between Taiwan and the United States that aim to foster exchanges of information and cross-border prosecutorial and judicial assistance and cooperation to eradicate TIP crimes.
- 1.3 Beefing up prosecution and law enforcement prowess - the MOJ continues to urge prosecutorial units to devote more time to trafficking cases and to submit monthly reports comprising achievements of TIP cases and number of criminal charges and convictions made in accordance to current regulations or legal precedents.
- 1.4 Safeguarding the rights of foreign fishing workers - to protect the rights of deep-sea fishing workers and mitigate labor exploitation, the MOJ has helped the Fisheries Agency of the COA to draft a standard procedure for disputes or problems that arise due to violation against the HTPCA for foreign fishing workers hired abroad. Should there be any criminal cases investigated and then recognized by competent authorities, they shall be transferred to the district court prosecutors office in the jurisdiction of port of registry.

2. Protection

- 2.1 Law enforcement agencies are required to have interpreting service and social-worker accompaniment in place at judicial interviews, keeping the victims well-informed, and respecting their decisions as to whether or not accepting protection over placement service and/or testifying in court.
- 2.2 Judicial police and shelter staff are required to inform the victims of Taiwan's judicial proceedings, and to keep the victims abreast of the investigation progress. This boosts their willingness to stay in Taiwan and testify in court.
- 2.3 The NIA and the MOL continue to team up with NGOs to improve services at shelters that are responsible for victims' safety assessment and protection, and provide a wide range of services, including individual counseling, accompaniment to court, accompaniment to hospital, legal aid, interpretation, language and skill

education, and access of welfare resources. It is hoped victims can recover from both physical and psychological trauma and able to make their own career plans. Working with partnering employers, shelters help residents who are willing to work and make money find a job either outside or in the shelters. It is an important step for victims to rebuild their life.

- 2.4 To keep TIP victims abreast of the investigation progress, mitigate their anxiety during the legal proceedings and thereby protect their basic human rights, proactive measures are to be developed that could be instrumental for related agencies to extend stay permit, locate job opportunities or repatriate victims back to their home countries.

3. Prevention

- 3.1 Amendment of the HTPCA - to harmonize the pace of investigations and law enforcement and expand protection for TIP victims, the NIA will draft amendments of the HTPCA and submit to the Executive Yuan (the cabinet) for further review by the end of 2016.

3.2 Broadening campaigns and trainings about prevention

- 3.2.1 Various media campaigns will continue in 2016 to inform the general public (students of different age groups included), foreigners in Taiwan, employers, brokers, as well as front-line civil servants about the TIP issue, relevant laws and victim protection services. An informed and vigilant society helps curb trafficking in persons. Specific campaigns will also be launched for different target groups in the aim for employers and foreign workers to know better about the regulations and their rights; for those who work in the tourism industry, entertainment industry and the public to understand the importance to end sexual exploitation (cyber child pornography and child sex tourism); for ship owners to provide a safe working and living environment for foreign fishing workers and prevent any kinds of labor exploitation.
- 3.2.2 To ensure that local governments continue to work on prevention of human trafficking, the NIA will continue the field assessment for anti-TIP efforts and innovative measures regarding prosecution, protection, prevention and partnership in 2016. The results will be uploaded to the NIA's website for the public to see the government's achievements in combating human trafficking.
- 3.2.3 On-the-job training in actual cases for the front-line personnel and staff in various fields will continue in 2016 and case study and proficiency and skill enhancing classes will also be incorporated into the training for law enforcement personnel, focusing on investigation and protection of Taiwan's TIP victims, signs of labor exploitation and difficulties in uncovering such case.

3.3 Reviewing the migrant worker regime

- 3.3.1 Promoting direct hiring - the direct-hiring and cross-border recruitment system was launched to connect with worker databases in labor export countries and allow employers to select workers or to re-hire existing workers. This system allows direct dealings between employers and employees, thus cutting out the middlemen and avoiding the brokerage fees that in many cases have become the root cause of exploitation. The MLO will continue to encourage origin countries of foreign laborers to utilize the system through bi-lateral communications. Thailand, for

instance has adopted the system that could safeguard the employment rights of foreign laborers. The MLO is also working on a simplified online platform to streamline paperwork requirements. It aims to foster efficiency of administrative process, provide user-friendly services and increase incentives for employers to recruit foreign laborers directly.

3.3.2 Aggravating punishments on illegal brokerage - the MOL has amended Article 45 of the Employment Service Act to mitigate illegal brokerage. The punishment of violation is aggravated to the fine from NT\$300,000 (approx. US\$10,000) to NT\$1.5 million (approx. US\$50,000), and jail term under five year, detention or the fine under NT\$2.4 million (approx. US\$80,000) for the second-time violation in five years. The punishments on the other hand will be based by the number of persons involved instead of the number of cases in the hope to further uproot illegal brokerage.

3.3.3 Formalizing domestic (in-home) workers' employment - the draft of Domestic Worker Employment Act has been accomplished, yet its corresponding measures are still under development that are supposed to be practical and able to take care of the rights of both employers and employees. The deliberation therefore should be circumspect and harmonize different voices from various parties. Before the act could come into effect, the MOL will firstly try to incorporate important terms and conditions of employment, such as wages and working hours into a standard form contract to protect the rights of laborers.

3.3.4 Fostering communication with home countries of foreign laborers - the MOL will continue to urge various export countries of laborers to review the standards of brokerage fees and make sure brokerage firms abide by the rules. Brokerage firms in Taiwan will also go through stricter evaluation to prevent foreign workers from being exploited and charged with excessive fees.

3.3.5 Safeguarding the rights of foreign fishing workers - foreign fishing workers are important labor sources of Taiwan's fishing industry and thus play an important role in deep-sea fishing business. The COA has drafted a standard procedure and its follow-up steps for disputes and problems that arise due to violation of the HTPCA for foreign fishing workers hired overseas in the hope to protect the rights of foreign fishing workers. Taiwanese fishing workers are encouraged to think in the shoes of foreign workers and tolerate cultural differences. The competent authority will also take the cases of labor exploitation or human trafficking seriously after reviewing related evidence. They are also obliged to transfer the cases to the legal institutions in order to eradicate any possible crimes. On the other hand, the COA will continue to review fishing worker management regulations and measures and see if there are needs for adjustments.

4. Partnership

4.1 Organizing international workshops – after years of well-attended events, the NIA will continue to host international workshops, inviting speakers from the public sector and civil society to analyze actual cases and practical issues with respect to victim identification and protection measures. Judges, prosecutors, judicial police forces, officials and NGOs also send representatives to engage in discourse.

- 4.2 Pursuing bilateral immigration agreements - the global fight to stamp out cross-border human trafficking requires the international community to make concerted efforts in a timely and effective manner. The NIA has immigration attachés stationed around the globe. They are ideally positioned to deal with officials in source countries with respect to signing bilateral MOUs on cooperation on immigration affairs.
- 4.3. Collecting and assessing information - staff of Taiwan's diplomatic missions in foreign countries will continue to collect and assess information of anti-TIP policies and regulations that can be leveraged into regulatory improvements and adjustments in Taiwan. When nationals of Taiwan are found involved in labor or sexual exploitation overseas, Taiwan's diplomatic missions should provide timely help and keep tracking updating the latest development.
- 4.4. Participating in international conferences - Taiwan should seize the chance to take part in international meetings not only to learn from other countries' experiences and build relationship for further exchanges and cooperation, but also shares Taiwan's anti-TIP efforts with the international community.
- 4.5. Facilitating cross-border investigation cooperation - a system should be built to foster exchanges of crime information and law enforcement assistance in the hope to maximize the achievements of cross-border investigation on TIP cases.

V. Conclusion

The cabinet-level anti-TIP task force has been effective in coordinating resources from the public sector, and in advancing partnerships with NGOs and civil society in general, helping Taiwan to be highly recognized in the world for its efforts in combating human trafficking and has been rated as the tier-one country in the US State Department's TIP report for six consecutive years. Nevertheless, due to different pace of economic development in Asian Pacific countries and the ever wider gap between the poor and the rich, human trafficking remains a very serious problem. The task force pledges to continue to expand its efforts toward combating human trafficking by coordinating resources from both public and private sectors, amending the HTPCA, doing whatever it could to prevent such shameful crimes from happening, raising public awareness, enhancing compensation, protection of victims as well as law enforcement, indictment and conviction against human traffickers, so as to keep Taiwan on the tier-one country list. The Republic of China, Taiwan will not cease pursuing international partnerships to jointly safeguard peace and stability of Asia Pacific.