

Malta Action Plan on Combating Trafficking in Persons

January 2015- December 2016

Introduction

The present Action Plan follows upon Malta's second Action Plan on Combating Trafficking in Persons, which covered the period 1st quarter 2013 to fourth quarter 2014.

The implementation of the second Action Plan was overseen by the **Anti-Human Trafficking Monitoring Committee**, a committee appointed by the Prime Minister and chaired by **Malta's Anti-Human Trafficking Coordinator**.

The monitoring structure and objectives of that Action Plan are being retained for the present Action Plan.

The second Action Plan comprised a total of **10 actions** with a specific deadline, with their status of implementation as at end 2014 being as follows:

- 9 actions implemented and
- 1 action not implemented.

This measure has therefore been incorporated into the present Action Plan, a measure to be implemented during or by a specific timeframe.

Ongoing Actions

Seven of the Actions contemplated by the present Action Plan are to be implemented on an ongoing basis during the course of 2015 and 2016. These Actions are:

- The regular convening of the **Human Trafficking Monitoring Committee** and the **Stakeholder Task Force on Trafficking in Human Beings**;
- The submission of a progress report to the Prime Minister, once every 6 months;
- Enhancement of the Administrative Capacity of the authorities involved in victim identification, victim support or the apprehension/prosecution of offenders;
- The fostering of awareness among persons vulnerable to human trafficking;
- Liaison with EU and international bodies addressing human trafficking issues, including the EU Anti-Trafficking Coordinator and the Council of Europe's Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (GRETA);
- Participation in international conferences and events, including meetings hosted by the EU Anti-Trafficking Coordinator; and,

- Upholding and strengthening ongoing Police efforts towards the identification of new crime trends and risks. Reviewing Police *modus operandi* as necessary in order to better address changing situations.

The implementation of these measures, as well as the other measures contemplated by this Action Plan, would also contribute towards the ongoing implementation by Malta of the objectives of *The EU Strategy towards the Eradication of Trafficking in Human Beings 2012-2016* and *Directive 2011/36/EU on preventing and combating trafficking in human beings and protecting its victims, and replacing Council Framework Decision 2002/629/EC*.

The remaining actions are subject to specific timeframes and are featured in the table hereunder.

ACTIONS	TARGET DEADLINE	RESPONSIBLE PARTIES	STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION
2015			
<p>Focused training sessions relating to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - trafficking for the purpose of labour exploitation, with a view to improving capacity for the identification of this crime; - training relating to the extraction of intelligence; and, - training for diplomatic and consular personnel; possibly held through the utilisation of video-conferencing facilities. 	1 st – 2 nd quarter 2015	Ministry for Home Affairs and National Security	
<p>Fostering awareness among stakeholders and potential victims, including through the distribution of information material relating to rights enjoyed by workers in Malta, such as minimum wage, vacation leave and sick leave.</p> <p>Stakeholders in the migration sphere would be alerted to the potential for exploitation among beneficiaries of international protection and asylum seekers.</p>	2 nd - 3 rd quarter 2015	Ministry for Home Affairs and National Security	
<p>Review of available statistical data relating to recognised human trafficking cases as well as potential cases with a view to better disaggregate such data in accordance with established best practices.</p>	2 nd -3 rd quarter 2015	Ministry for Home Affairs and National Security, with the cooperation of Police Force, Aġenzija Appoġġ and ETC.	

ACTIONS	TARGET DEADLINE	RESPONSIBLE PARTIES	STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION
Mentoring and training of service providers in relation to the identification and the provision of assistance to victims of trafficking, including training on the implementation of the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs).	3 rd quarter 2015	Ministry for Home Affairs and National Security	
Focused training for Health and other personnel working in Detention Centres	3 rd quarter 2015	Ministry for Home Affairs and National Security	
2016			
Review of Human Trafficking indicators in the light of recent developments and case-load Training leading to the development of guidelines specific to children.	1 st - 2 nd quarter 2016	Stakeholder Taskforce	
Research among minors and women in Open Reception Centres with a view to obtaining information concerning their plans for the future, as well as about their current situation, i.e. -about their current situation, especially vis-à-vis employment and/or training/education; -about their social life in Malta; and, -about their contacts in other European countries, including family members and friends.	2 nd -3 rd quarter 2016	Ministry for Home Affairs and National Security	

ACTIONS	TARGET DEADLINE	RESPONSIBLE PARTIES	STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION
Final report on the implementation of the Action Plan.	4 th quarter 2016	Monitoring Committee in collaboration with all stakeholders.	

