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## **Third National Conference of Trafficking Survivor Women**

(4-5 June 2014, Lalitpur Nepal)

## **Declaration**

- 1. The conference highlights the need of all stakeholders including state authorities' active engagement on creating a favorable environment to end human trafficking as it confirms the human trafficking is a grave violation of human rights and crime against humanity.
- 2. It is significantly necessary to void all existing discriminatory legal provisions to end violation of women's human rights, end of all forms of violence against women which are the obstructions to a prosperous society; along with enacting effectively all legal and policy provisions that has been formulated for gender equity.
- 3. The use of stigmatizing and degrading words against survivor women and the media current media practice of exposing individuals identity of survivors without their consent have caused additional pain and psychological torture among survivors and their family; therefore the conference call for all the state's mechanisms including civil society and media to use human rights human rights oriented and sensitive language as well as maintain confidentiality of survivors.
- 4. It is important to draw the attention of the International Community towards the changes in the dynamics of Human Trafficking, and towards controlling crime against women in the name of foreign employment. As Nepal has already ratified the UN Convention Against Transnational Organized Crimes (2000), the conference urge Nepal government to ratify it's optional protocol



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(known as Palermo Protocol)<sup>1</sup> and to revisit SAARC Convention to control trafficking of women and children in light with emerging trends. Thus, the conference call to have a discussion on the human trafficking and regional mechanisms and instruments on upcoming SAARC conference.

- 5. The conference call to guarantee easy accessible health care and facilities including psychosocial services as survivors have been found with physical health complexities and psychosocial trauma. Along with it, the conference urge for survivor friendly and dignified behavior of health practitioners towards the survivors.
- 6. It is identified that survivor friendly environment, improvement on investigation and allegation procedures as well as legal awareness is significant for enhancing survivor's access to justice. The conference call for victim witness protection provision, expedite justice delivery and long run rehabilitation support services for survivors in comprehensive and easy accessible way.
- 7. Recognizing the condition of government supported rehabilitation centers are not able to meet the minimum standards; the conference urge for allocation of adequate resources and facilities to ensure these rehabilitation centers operating with the minimum standards set by Nepal Government.
- 8. The rehabilitation center should operate with comprehensive programs not only for survivors but also dependent and affected family members facilitating for access to services including health, education, skill training,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.



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- citizenship certificates, birth registration, family reintegration and the program for social behavior change.
- 9. It is important that the media, as the fourth state, should operate in favor of the affected and against the perpetrators. Also, it is important to expose the incidents of human trafficking and it's various dimension through an investigative journalism maintaining the confidentiality of victims/vulnerable and survivors and following the media code of conduct without adversely affecting the interest of victims.
- 10. Since discrimination and stigmatization against survivors of human trafficking are still prevalent in social, cultural practices, which are hindering survivors to live a social life in dignity and equity; the conference call for stakeholders and development partners as well as non government sectors to have massive awareness and sensitization programs among all professionals sectors and personnel working in service providing agencies.