

Human Trafficking, The Rights of Victims and Government Obligations under the International Laws

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Abstract

The concept of human rights is a powerful tool. One hundred and eighty Nine countries today are members of the United Nations. These government have indeed made a commitment to human rights principles as enshrined in the United Nations Charter and in the Universal Declaration of human rights (UDHR 1948). The UDHR establishes the principle that fundamental human rights and basic freedoms are guaranteed to all persons. Trafficking in person is a serious violation of human rights; it is an issue of growing concern from the International Community. International organizations, regional bodies, and National government are all working on programmes and policies as well as creating new laws to eradicate this complex crime (human trafficking). But however it is sad to observe that most of these initiatives and actions are of criminal concern and grossly neglect the human rights of victims or the trafficked persons they protect the interest of the state rather than the interest of the victims hence trafficked persons are often revictimised again in the remedial process. This paper therefore aims to present a conceptual clarification of trafficking in persons through human rights perspectives. The definition of human trafficking under the United Nations trafficking protocol will also be examine. The paper generally calls for a greater understanding of the concept of trafficking in persons as involving human rights violations.

I.INTRODUCTION:

Human rights are founded on respect and dignity and worth of each individual regardless of race, colour, gender, language, religion, opinions, birth status or ability and therefore apply to every human being.¹

The universal declaration of Human Rights (UDHR, 1948) establishes the principle that fundamental human rights and basic freedoms are guaranteed to all persons.²

Trafficking in human beings is the very antithesis of the universal Declaration of Human Rights and represents one of the most comprehensive challenges to human rights in the world today, for it involves the very denial of the humanity of its victims.³ Human rights are universal, inalienable and indivisible.⁴ Examples of human rights which victims of trafficking are usually denied of are: the right to life the right to freedom from discrimination, right to dignity, freedom from cruel, degrading and in human treatment etc.

Human trafficking is the third largest and fastest growing criminal industry in the world and one of the most urgent human rights issues today⁵. Trafficking in human beings is a clear violation of universal human rights to life, liberty and freedom from slavery in all its forms. Trafficking in persons is a crime against humanity it is an intolerable violation of human rights.⁶ And a criminal act.

The complex crime of human trafficking is abhorrent of the noble principles upon which international legal instruments on human rights were founded⁷.

II:THE DEFINITION HUMAN TRAFFICKING UNDER THE UNITED NATIONS TRAFFICKING PROTOCOL.

The International community has in the trafficking in person's protocol, agreed on the definition of trafficking. In persons article 3, sub paragraph (a) of the trafficking in persons protocol.⁸ Defines the crime as follows:

¹ Gbadamosi, O. *International Perspectives and Nigerian Laws on Human Trafficking*. Network for Justice and Democracy. All Nations Press. Benin city (2006) page 38.

² Article II of the Universal Declaration of Human rights (1948)

³ Harold Koli, Former United States Assistant secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights and Labour in his testimony before the United states House Committee on International Relations, Washington DC. 14, September 1999.

⁴ Gbadamosi, Ibid page 39.

⁵ According to United Nations Children Education Foundation(UNICEF), 80% of young woman engaged in prostitution in Italy are Nigerians. Nigerian girls and women make up about 70% of 70,000 African women whop are victims of Human trafficking.

⁶ The supreme court held in SAUDE V. ABDULLAHI (1989) 4 NWELR part 116. Page 387; that, fundamental rights are important and they are not just mere rights, they are fundamental. They belong to the citizen. These rights have always existed even before orderliness prescribed rules for the manner they are to be sought

⁷ Gbadamosi, Ibid

⁸ United Nations protocol to prevent, suppress and punish trafficking in person (2000) available at:

- (a) Trafficking in persons shall mean the recruitment, transportation, transfer harboring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation shall include at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs.

It is to be noted that the trafficking protocol provides the first clear and internationally agreed upon definition of human trafficking. And at the same time, it defines the key elements of trafficking in persons as follows:

- The act of recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring, or receipt of persons
- By means of the threat or use of force, coercion, abduction, fraud, deception abuse of power or vulnerability.....
- For the purpose of exploitation, which includes exploiting the prostitution of others, sexual exploitation, forced labour, slavery of organs. ¹

The above definition of human trafficking, generally, is a key element of the protocol. By providing an internationally agreed definition, the protocol standardizes the approach to fight human trafficking. The definition can help ensure that legislative, enforcement and administrative measures at the national level are consistent from country to country,. Moreover this definition, provides a common basis for statistical and research purposes.²

Section 50, of the trafficking in persons (prohibition) Law Enforcement and Administration Act, (2003) of Nigeria defines Human Trafficking as including:

.....all acts and attempted acts involved in the recruitment, transportation within or across Nigerian borders, purchase, sale, transfer, receipt or harbouring of persons involving in the use of deception, coercion or debt bondage for the purpose of placing or holding the person whether for or not in involuntary servitude, domestic, sexual in force or bonded labour or in slavery like conditions.

It is of great significance to note that the above definition is drawn largely from the definition in Article 3 of the United Nations Protocol to prevent, suppress and punish trafficking in persons especially women and children³. But it can be observed that the Nigerian definition is unique in the sense that it also envisages attempted acts involved in human trafficking and captures the situation of human trafficking within Nigeria's borders i.e. internal trafficking.⁴

III: THE RIGHTS OF VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Gross abuses of fundamental human rights are committed against the victims during the course of trafficking. Victims of human trafficking are transported against their wish to unfamiliar places where they are culturally, linguistically or even physically isolated and denied legal identity or access to justice. Such dislocation increases trafficked women's marginalization and therefore increases the risks of abuse, violence, exploitation, domination or discrimination both by traffickers and by state officials such as the police, the courts and immigration officials.⁵

The trafficked victims lack the opportunity to lodge complaints against the gross violations of their fundamental human rights, seek damages collect their properties and apply for asylum. ⁶ As a consequence of the abuses suffered, the victims of human trafficking become socially and economically handicapped to

<http://www.unodc.org/crime>.

¹ Article 3 of the United Nations Trafficking Protocol.

² Implementation of (ECOWAS) Plan of Action Against trafficking in person (UNODC) available at: <http://www.unodc.org/documents/hmt>. visited 12/06/15.

³ The trafficking Protocol was adopted by the United Nations resolution, A/RES/55/25, of 15th November 2000 and came into force on 25th of December 2003, Nigeria signed and deposited the instrument of ratification on 13th December, 2000.

⁴ Nigeria is a source, transit and destination country for trafficked persons. The government of Nigeria cannot provide accurate, reliable estimate of the number of person trafficked annually, but available anecdotal information suggest the magnitude of the problem may be quite large.

⁵ Gbadamosi, opcit, page

⁶ Kempadon. K. *Trafficking and prostitution reconsidered: New perspectives on migration, sex work and Human rights*. Canadian Journal of sociology and Law. Parading Publishers (2007). P.6..

contribute meaningfully for his/her self-development and the society a large ¹. Trafficked person or the victims are exposed to arrest, detention and deportation. An unfortunate aspect of their plight is that the destination countries are unwillingly to recognize that they are victims of the heinous crimes of trafficking, rather the destination countries treat them as illegal migrants.²

Once a victim of human trafficking has been identified, he or she should be provided access to variety of protective services. The most critical of these, grounded in international standards of human rights protection, may be identified as the following rights victims of trafficking are entitled to:

- (a) The right to safety
- (b) The right to privacy
- (c) The right to information
- (d) The right to legal representation
- (e) The right to be heard in court
- (f) The right to compensation for damages
- (g) The right to assistance and seek for residence
- (h) The right to return.

(a). The Right to Safety:

The victims of trafficking should be entitled to the right to safety. Because of the association for the crime of trafficking in persons with organized crime or the cultural sensitivity of the crime, victims of trafficking face serious safety concerns. Traffickers may target victims of trafficking to intimidate and threaten them. Ultimately preventing them to testify in court.

In this regard the trafficking protocol provides:

Each state party shall endeavour to provide for the physical safety of victims of trafficking in persons while they are within its territory.³

Likewise, the OHCHR⁴ Recommended principles and guidelines provides that states should ensure that:

.....Trafficked persons are effectively protected from harm, threats or intimidation by traffickers and associated persons. To this end, there should be no public disclosure of the identity of trafficking victims and their privacy should be respected and protected to the extent possible, while taking into account the right of any accused person to a fair trial.⁵

In this regard, states in their national laws are encouraged to strive to enact provisions ensuring that victims of trafficking are provided with the appropriate measures of security and personal safety.

This is important especially in cases where victims agree to cooperate with authorities in the prosecution of case of human trafficking, so that they are certain to receive adequate state protection from possible reprisal from traffickers.

(b). The Right of Privacy

Victims of human trafficking are entitled to the right of privacy. The trafficking protocol requires that measures must be taken by the states to protect the privacy and identity of victims such protection includes the confidentiality of legal proceedings to the extent that this is possible under domestic laws.⁶ Procedural laws may then require amendment to ensure that courts have the authority to shield the identity or identities or otherwise protect the privacy of victims in appropriate cases.⁷

(c). The Right to Information

Victims of Human trafficking are entitle to the right of information, accordingly, the trafficking protocol provides that states parties should make available to victims of trafficking information on relevant court and a administrative proceedings and counselling and information, in particular as regards their legal rights, in a language that the victims of trafficking in persons can understand.⁸

Victims of human trafficking need information in a language that they understand about the justice process

¹ Nigeria-Italy: Trafficking, Transactional actions and victimization voodoo Bondage. Available at:<http://www.wurn.com.p.16>.last visited 16/01/2016

² Curtol, F., victims of human trafficking in Italy and Nigeria: A judicial perspective international review of victimology. Vol. II issue one (2009) page 141, United Kingdom, available at <http://www.ncjre.gov.opp>.visited on the 14/06/2015.

³ United Nations Trafficking in person Protocol, Article 6.

⁴ Office of the United Nations High commissioner for Human Rights.

⁵ See article 6 (6) of the (OHCHR) see, also section 50, of the Trafficking in person provision Act of Nigeria. (2003) as amended.

⁶ See Article, 6 (2) of the United Nations Trafficking protocol.

⁷ See section 36(b) of the 1999 constitution see also, section 47, of the NAPTIP Act(2015).

⁸Article 6, of the United Nations Trafficking protocol.

and their own rights and responsibilities as participants in criminal proceedings.¹ Access to information is an important starting point for the participation of victims of trafficking in the criminal process. It is of great significance to note that, the most extensive list of rights is of no practical use of victims if they are not informed of those rights. Information helps to prepare and familiarize victims with the criminal proceedings and to ease their psychological stress and anxiety. It is also a means of empowerment and enables victims to participate actively in the case and enforce their rights.

(d). The Right to Legal Representation

Victims of human trafficking are entitled to be granted the right to legal representation. The OHCHR recommended principles and guidelines provides that:

States should provide trafficked persons or the victims with legal and other assistance in relation to any criminal, civil or other actions against traffickers/exploiters.²

Victims are often deterred from participating in various legal proceedings because of the fact that simple, accessible and timely legal advice or services is not available to them. Legal advice therefore should be made available as part of the integrated support offered by the state's victims assistance programme. Because many victims of human trafficking are fearful of government and bureaucratic authorities, the provision of legal assistance and representation is generally essential in this regard.³

The task of legal counsels is to inform the victims about their legal rights and roles in criminal proceedings and to accompany them throughout the process. They assist victims in expressing their views and enforcing their procedural rights. Legal counseling also prepares victims for the criminal proceedings and can as well reduce the risk of imposing further traumatizing experiences on the victims. It increases the chance of sound and coherent witness statements and contributes to the successful prosecution of the traffickers⁴.

(e). The Right to be Heard in Court

The trafficking protocol states that, state parties should provide victims of human trafficking with "assistance to enable their views and concerns to be presented and considered at appropriate stages of criminal proceedings against offenders."⁵ For that purpose, victims of trafficking should be provided with information on relevant court and administrative proceedings and allowed to present concerns which could include either written submissions or oral statements. This is to be done in a manner not prejudicial to the rights of the defense⁶.

(f). The Right to Compensation for Damages

Victims of human trafficking have a right to receive compensation for the physical or mental harm suffered at the hands of the traffickers. Receiving compensation is important for victims of human trafficking not only because of the financial component but because it has a symbolic meaning, expressing an official acknowledgement that something illicit has been done to them and constituting a first step to overcoming the trauma inflicted by the abuses they suffered at the hands of the traffickers.⁷ In this regard the trafficking protocol provides:

Each state party shall ensure that its domestic legal system containing measures that offer victims of trafficking in persons the possibility of obtaining compensation for damaged suffered.⁸

Likewise, the OHCHR⁹ Recommended principles and guidelines stress that:

Trafficked persons as victims of human rights violations, have an international legal right to adequate and appropriate remedies. This right is often not effectively available to trafficked persons as they frequently lack information

¹ Section 63 (a-b) of the Trafficking in persons (prohibition) enforcement and administration Act, 2015. Which provides that, a victims of human trafficking shall be provided with information on relevant court and administrative proceedings as well as assistance to enable the victims views an concerns to be presented and considered at appropriate stages of criminal proceedings against the traffickers.

² Office of the United Nations High commissioner for Human Rights, guideline 6 (5).

³ See section 36(5) C, of the 1999 constitution as amended, see also section 62(c) of the NAPTIP Act (2015) which provides that, all victims are entitled to counselling and information as regarded their legal rights in a language that they can understand.

⁴ Appropriate legal responses to combating Trafficking in persons in Afghanistan: manual for parliamentarians. Published by United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) July, (2009)...page 63. Available at www.unodc.org visited 12/06/2015.

Witness protection generally is crucial to ensure successful prosecution of human Traffickers because even where there is specific legislation against trafficking in persons that includes a clear definition of the crime based upon distinct elements and strict penalty against traffickers. Without the testimony of t he victim to identify the traffickers and attest to the crime successful prosecution are difficult in court.

⁵ United Nations Trafficking Protocol Article 6 (6).

⁶ See section 63 (a-c) of the NAPTIP Act op cit.

⁷ Appropriate legal Responses to combating Trafficking in persons. available at www.unodc.org.

⁸ Trafficking protocol, Article 6 (6).

⁹ Office of the United Nations High commissioner for Human Rights Guideline. 9

on the possibilities and process for obtaining remedies, including compensation, for trafficking and related exploitation. In order to overcome this problem, legal and other material assistance should be provided to trafficked persons to enable them to realize their right to adequate and appropriate remedies.

It is of great significance to note that five basic models on victim compensation¹. May be utilized by the legislator in enacting appropriate civil compensation provisions, including mandatory restitution, confiscation of assets and creation of a state fund to assist victims of trafficking, civil action, and punitive damages.

(g). The Right to Assistance

Victims of human trafficking are entitled to the right of assistance in the form of medical, psychological, legal and social aid. In this regard the United Nations Trafficking Protocol provides:

Each state party shall consider implementing measures to provide for the physical, psychological and social recovery of victims of trafficking in persons.²

The trafficking protocol further states that the victims have the right to be granted:

(a) Appropriate housing (b) counseling and information. In particular as regards their legal rights, in a language that the victims of trafficking in person can understand; (c) medical, psychological and material assistance; and (d) employment, educational and training opportunities.³

The most critical factor in the area of assistance and support programme is that they should be both comprehensive and integrated. Assistance in medical psychological, legal services, accommodation, education and training will not exist satisfactorily in isolation. To plan and provide services in a coordinated and collaborative manner is in the best interest of victim.⁴

(h). The Right to Seek Residence

The victims of human trafficking should be entitled to the right to seek residency in the country of destination. The explosion and immediate repatriation of victims of trafficking does not encourage them to give evidence or testify against traffickers and goes against their basic rights as victims.⁵ Victims of human trafficking very often do not have a regular residence status in the state of destination, either because they have arrived illegally or because their residence permit has expired. However, the immediate return of the victims to their home countries may be unsatisfactory both for the victims and for the law enforcement authorities endeavoring to combat human trafficking.⁶

For the victims, it means that they or even their family or friends in the country of origin might be vulnerable to reprisals by the traffickers. For the law enforcement, if the victims continue to live clandestinely in the country or are removed immediately, they cannot give information to effectively combat trafficking. The more confident victim are that their rights and interest will be protected, the more likely they are to provide better information⁷.

In this regard the trafficking protocol provides:

State parties shall consider adopting legislative or other appropriate measures that permit victims of trafficking in persons to remain in its territory, temporarily or permanently, in appropriate cases. In implementing the provision contained in paragraph 1 of this article, each state party shall give appropriate consideration to humanitarian and compassionate factors⁸.

Several countries, in this circumstances have adopted measures to provide a temporary or permanent

¹ Section 65(1-3) of the trafficking in persons prohibition (2015) of Nigeria, in this regards provides, a trafficked person, irrespective of his immigration statutes is entitled to compensation, restitution and recovery for economic, physical and psychological damages which shall be assessed and paid out of forfeited assets of the convicted offender. Sub section 2, of the same section further provides that, where an offender is convicted of an offence under the Act, the court may order the offender to pay compensation to the victim. In addition to any other punishment ordered by the court.

Sub section 3, says that, a trafficked person or the victim has the right to institute civil action against a trafficker and any other person including a public officer who may have exploited or abused his person provided that the amount awarded by the criminal court shall be taken into consideration in the determination of the amount of compensation to be awarded in the civil suit.

² Trafficking Protocol Article 6 (3).

³ Ibid

⁴ The IOM handbook on Direct Assistance for victims of Trafficking. International organization for migration. Geneva, Switzerland. (2007) page 2. Available at <http://www.IOM.int>. visited 11/09/2015.

⁵ Assistance for the implementation of the ECOWAS plan of action against Trafficking in person (UNODC) available at: www.unodc.org. page 65. visited 10/10/15

⁶ Ibid

⁷ Ibid

⁸ See, Article 7 of the United Nations Trafficking Protocol

residence for victims of human trafficking.¹ Generally indications shows that adoptions of these measures by states lead to victims coming forward to testify against traffickers and Non governmental organizations (NGOs) encouraging, victims to whom they provide services to report incidents to the government. Some countries have made such a residency status contingent upon the victim testifying in court and more broadly cooperating with the authorities in the prosecution of the traffickers. However, it is more in line with a human rights-based approach to combating trafficking to provide the victim such a status without it being contingent on the victim's cooperation with authorities.

(i). The Right to Return

Trafficked persons should have the right to seek residence in the country to which they have been trafficked. They should also have the right to a dignified return to their country of origin.

The United Nations Trafficking Protocol provides that States of which victims of trafficking are nationals or residents, should facilitate and accept, with due regard for the safety of that person, the return of that person without undue or unreasonable delay. The protocol further provides that repatriation of victims shall be preferably voluntary² and victims should be provided with all necessary assistance to ensure a dignified return².

Upon a request of the receiving state, states of origin must verify whether the victim is a national or had the right to permanent residence at the time of entering the receiving state if the person has no proper, documentation, the state of origin must also issue the necessary travel or other documents to enable the person to travel and to reenter its territory³.

States are generally obligated to guarantee that any return is with due regard both for the safety of the returnee and for the status of any legal proceedings related to the fact that the person is a victim of human trafficking⁴.

It is important to note that the returned victims may still be traumatized and suffering from medical and psychological problems as a result of the experience and still fear retribution from the traffickers. The essential elements to address these issues may be regulated through international or bilateral treaties between countries of origin and countries of destination⁵.

IV:HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS COMMITTED BY GOVERNMENTS

Human rights of trafficked persons are extensively violated by governments or its agencies. In this regard it is a common misunderstanding that traffickers harm victims and governments rescue and protect them.⁶

Although trafficked persons suffer serious criminal violations at the hands of traffickers, more often than not, once they are released from the slavery like exploitation or forced labour conditions, they are subject to serious human rights violations, at the hands of the government as we can see in sarah case:

One day while shopping in a local market Sarah, a 17 year old Nigerian girl met a man who claimed to represent a programme that sponsored Nigerian girls to study in Europe. He was very friendly and gave her many details about the programme she thought it was an opportunity she could not pass up and despite her father's concerns decided to go with the man to what she thought was a school in Italy. Sarah was eventually taken to Italy via Hungary and Austria. When they finally reached their destination they were not at a school but at a brother the man took away her passport and sold her to a madam for U.S \$10,000.00

Sarah was forced to work as a prostitute for one and half years under threat of violence if she did not meet her daily earnings, she has to turn over all of her earnings to the madam. One night, while working on the street the police demanded to see sarah's papers. The madam has not given her the correct visa, so she was detained and told she would be deported on the next flight out to Nigeria. The police made no effort to find out if sarah was a victim of trafficking nor did they offer her any support or protection against potential harm from her traffickers. When she reached Nigeria sarah was again detained, interviewed and finger printed, she underwent a mandatory HIV/AIDS test and the police in Nigeria did not check to see if she was a victim of trafficking nor did

¹ Azerbaijan-Law on fight Against Human Trafficking (2005) and the, Philippines-Anti-Trafficking Act (2003).

² See Article 8, of the United Nation Trafficking Protocol

³ Gallagher, A.T. The International Law of Human Trafficking, Cambridge university press United Kingdom, November (2010) page 60.

⁴ Article 8 (2) of the United Nations Trafficking protocol

⁵ The United State Department of state office to monitor ad combat trafficking in persons observes that cooperation with other countries has contributed to the prosecution around the world of nearly 8,000 perpetrators of trafficking crimes, resulting in over 2,800 convictions in 2014. In addition, 24 countries have enacted new anti trafficking legislation and 32 countries are in the process of drafting or passing new anti trafficking legislations. The department of states funds over 100 anti trafficking programmes in some 50 countries.

Assistance includes shelters for trafficking victims, support for return and reintegration for victims, and Law enforcement training programmes.

⁶ Pearson E. A hand Book on Human Rights and Trafficking in persons. Global Alliance Against Trafficking in persons. (2007) Page 42, available at <http://www.gaatw.org>.visited 12/09/2015

they provide her or her family with any support or protection¹.

In cases like Sarah above the trafficked person is treated more like a criminal than a victim without any consideration to what the trafficked person has just been through.

Case of Dinah².

Dinah, a Cambodian woman moved to Thailand to work in a sewing factory, an agent promised her good wages and assured of the legality of work in Thailand, upon arrival in Bangkok with the agent, she was taken to a factory where she was forced to work 12 hours every day except Sunday, she was given no freedom to go outside and never received any wages.

Dinah was “rescued” during a police raid on a factory, but soon after the police station, she was arrested for her illegal status (working without a permit). Her employer was arrested for the illegality of low salary she paid the workers. But not for the abuses she inflicted upon them or illegal confinement. During investigations, Dinah was not provided with a translator which meant the investigation took longer during this time she was held in a detention centre, slept on the floor and received only 2 meals per day. At the court hearing Dinah was found guilty of working without a permit. The fine was \$US 100 but since she did not have money, she had to stay in jail for 3 months instead. Then she was sent to the detention centre for deportation. The court trial for the employer began after Dinah’s deportation, so she had no ability to participate in the proceedings.

In the above case, the trafficked person is treated more like a criminal than a victim without any consideration to what the trafficked person has just been through. Research from many international organizations³ shows that it is in this area of treatment of trafficked persons where there is an urgent need for human rights protection for victims of trafficking.

CONCLUSION

The role of government in regulating any social phenomenon in the society is paramount, governments have responsibility to provide protections to trafficked persons pursuant to the universal declaration of Human rights (UDHR), and through accession or ratifications to numerous other international and regional legal instruments.

Governments have a responsibility under the international law to act diligently to prevent human trafficking, to investigate and prosecute traffickers, to assist and protect the victims of human trafficking. The solution to the problem of trafficking in persons can only be realized if human rights of the victims are protected, respected and promoted by the governments and other stakeholders. The rights of the trafficked person’s can be protected by the governments through the provision of an effective legal remedy, legal protection, restitution and compensation to the affected victims.

Granting a reflection period followed by a temporary or permanent residence permit should be ideally provided to victims of human trafficking regardless of whether the victim is able or willing to give evidence as a witness. Such protection of the victim serves to raise his or her confidence in the state and ability to protect his or her interest, because once recovered a trafficked person with confidence in the state is more likely to make an informed decision and cooperate with authorities in the prosecution of human traffickers.

¹ Pearson, E, The need for effective witness protection in the prosecution of Traffickers: A Human Rights framework for witness protection. A paper presented at the First Pan African Conference on Human Trafficking Abuja 19th-23rd February, 2001.

² Pearson, E, Human Rights and Trafficking in person: A Handbook (Global Alliance Against Traffic in Woman) Bangkok Thailand 2002, page 63.

³ For example, the international Human Rights law Group, foundation Against Trafficking in woman Global Alliance Against Traffic in women, Asian woman’s Human rights council, La strada, women consortium of Nigeria and Women, law and Development in Africa (Nigeria).