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Circular 352

Guidelines for Training Cabin Crew on Identifying and Responding to Trafficking in Persons



Approved by and published under the authority of the Secretary General

INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION



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FOREWORD

The publication you are about to read is a powerful tool which may, quite literally, help you to save someone's life. Human trafficking is a shocking crime which occurs all over the world, depriving its victims of their human rights and sometimes their lives. You can help combat the traffickers and assist their victims.

These guidelines have been drawn up to enable members of cabin crews and other transportation personnel to identify possible victims of trafficking and respond to their plight.

It is essential that we protect and help all victims of human trafficking. We also need to ensure that the perpetrators face justice. On behalf of my Office, I thank you in advance for your help with these important, and urgent, tasks.



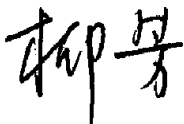
UN High Commissioner for Human Rights

Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein

ICAO is honoured to have collaborated with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on these comprehensive new guidelines to help crew members recognize and combat the trafficking of persons.

Our goal with this new tool is to ensure that civil aviation's remarkable ability to connect global citizens and societies is not abused by those with ignoble intent. ICAO and the civil aviation sector actively contribute to the achievement of fifteen of the seventeen United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted under the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, and this includes SDGs 5, 8 and 16 which draw specific attention to our shared priority to end human trafficking.

States and civil aviation authorities can contribute to this noble aim by adopting these guidelines and disseminating them to the airline operators registered in their national jurisdictions. ICAO's overall objective is to ensure cabin crew receive suitable training so that they may help save the lives and dignity of trafficked persons, and on behalf of our Organization I thank you for your active engagement in this critical issue.



Secretary General, International Civil Aviation Organization

Dr. Fang Liu

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Chapter 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND

1.1.1 Trafficking in persons refers to the process through which individuals are placed or maintained in an exploitative situation for economic gain. Trafficking is a worldwide criminal activity and can occur within a State or may involve movement across borders. Women, men and children are trafficked for a range of purposes: slavery like practices, including forced labour in factories, farms and private households; organ removal; sexual exploitation; and forced marriage. To combat trafficking in persons it is imperative that States acknowledge that one or more trafficking aspects occur in every country around the world.

1.1.2 The exploitation of individuals for profit has a long history and continues today. International efforts to address it can be traced back at least a century. A fundamental shift is taking place in how the international community thinks about human exploitation. The change in the States' response to the issue of trafficking now includes prevention, protection, investigation and prosecution, and has at its core a human rights based approach.

1.1.3 While prevention is the ultimate goal, raising awareness throughout the world is an important effort in combating trafficking and all forms of exploitation. Cabin crew training on identifying and responding to trafficking in persons is aimed at raising awareness within the international aviation community. Using a layered approach to address the trafficking in persons requires the involvement and training of multiple stakeholders, such as flight crew members and all aviation personnel (e.g. airport security, security on board and passenger handling agents).

1.2 PURPOSE

1.2.1 This circular is based on the human rights based approach developed by the Office of the United Nations (UN) High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). The OHCHR addresses the different aspects that should be taken into account by States and other stakeholders when developing their strategies to prevent, protect, investigate and prosecute cases involving trafficking in persons.

1.2.2 As a specialized agency of the United Nations, the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) recognized the important role that aviation plays in addressing the problem of trafficking in persons, and worked in collaboration with the OHCHR to develop this guidance material.

1.2.3 In 2010, the United Nations General Assembly adopted Resolution 64/293, endorsing the *United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons*¹. The Global Plan of Action urged all responsible UN entities to coordinate their efforts to effectively fight trafficking in persons and to protect the human rights of victims, including through the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons (ICAT)² of which ICAO is a member. The Global Plan of Action encouraged States to adopt national action plans to combat trafficking in persons, including

1. [The Global Plan of Action To Combat Trafficking In Persons](#)

2. [ICAT](#)