

**May 13-14, 2013:**

**High Level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Global Plan of Action to  
Combat Trafficking in Persons**

Executive Summary

Human trafficking or modern-day slavery is a global enterprise that has a projected industry worth \$500 billion or the equivalent of the 23<sup>rd</sup> largest country in GDP earning. This is a summarized report of my field attendance at this world event. The meeting is carried out in two sessions per day with the world's leaders convening at the General Assembly hall providing a brief updates of each of their respective country about the progress they made, and the afternoon session is held in the smaller and intimate room called Trusteeship Council. The afternoon session is the most interesting and intense with two panels of speaker setup covering subjects about a global action plan and strategies for best practices. The program is covered in four languages namely Arabic, English, Spanish and French out of the six official ones in UN. Needless to say, I was filled with awe at the passion of the leaders and NGOs to really tackle this important issue that has a far-reaching effect on everybody. I am glad that we as ORCD is seeing this vision to create a framework and be ready when called upon.

The general consensus of the UN members are the 4 'Ps' called prevention, protection, prosecution and provision. The targeted recipients are the women and children. The definition of human trafficking includes not only forced labor and slavery with sexual exploitation but includes harvesting human organs and forced surrogate mothering. It is a dangerous time of our history as sophisticated and organized crimes find fertile grounds and legal vacuum to feed their activities about human trafficking. They are very dangerous because of the reverberating effects of social uprooting, market distortion of economy with cheap resources and labor, a great public health nuisance and unbalancing social developments or progresses. The main causation or mechanism for human trafficking is structural poverty caused by uncertain economic, marginalization, unemployment, migration policy, and unfair trading. The consequences are gender inequality, sexism, sex exploitation, social exclusion and all senses of poverty. The action to combat human trafficking has begun, and already many countries are forming all sorts of collaborations at national, regional and international levels. The officials are creating many policies to guide framework for all civil and private organizations starting from top down and bottom up. How can we ORCD conceptualize and begins constructing a framework to meet this global call-for-action?

ORCD can play an important role for the UN and is a major player for combating human trafficking at a grassroots level. ORCD can be the disruptive force to break this vicious supply chain of 'goods'. We are the local actors and this is where it all began. We would need to identify local actors that are closer to the victims and hear their voices. The voices of victims started at their homes. We would create, build and identify initiatives centering on eradicating human poverty to allow them choice of love, humanity, happiness and good health. We need to empower our women and children starting at home and the community by giving them education, health and employment. We must protect their environment

against unfair social agents, climatic changes, and civil or law enforcement. This can be carried out using awareness, community training and media. We need to form local partnerships with many similar goal-oriented organizations for-profit and non-profit to fight this heinous crime of humanity. The time has come and it is now. Let us rise to choose humanity over consumption, and love over labor.

I concluded here with a report filed by UNODC about human trafficking:

[http://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/glotip/Trafficking\\_in\\_Persons\\_2012\\_web.pdf](http://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/glotip/Trafficking_in_Persons_2012_web.pdf)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chun Wong', written in a cursive style.

Chun Wong

Liaison Officer and International Advisory Board of ORCD Global