



APPEAL

- The victims of human trafficking usually have difficulties in escaping from the strict control of the traffickers.
- Report to the police immediately if you see any suspicious case of trafficking in persons.
- Human trafficking activities, in general, are transnational in nature and an international cooperation is indispensable for combating them. Therefore, the United Nations has enacted a series of conventions, namely "The United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime", "Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children and Child Prostitution and Child Pornography", etc. These conventions are applicable to the MSAR, which undertakes the obligation of performance.



Report Human Trafficking Hotline (24 hours)
2888-9911

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Victim Assistance Hotline
2888-9922



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Combating Trafficking in Persons



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Upon receiving a report or a request for assistance, the identity of the victims will be kept strictly confidential!

Law no. 6/2008 – "Combating the Crime of Trafficking in Persons" has come into effect.

General Purposes of Trafficking in Persons

- Sexual exploitation, such as forced prostitution and child pornography;
- Forced labour, e.g. forcing victims to work like slaves;
- Organ harvesting;
- Illegal adoption of children.

The Consequence of Adult Trafficking

– a penalty of up to 12 years' imprisonment

Whoever, practicing trafficking in persons and by the following means, offers, delivers, induces, recruits, transports, transfers, harbours or receives person for the purposes of sexual exploitation, forced labour or organ harvesting, could be punished with a penalty of up to 12 years' imprisonment:

- Violence, abduction or serious threatening means;
- Trickery or fraud;
- With abuse of authority (e.g. authority resulting from a hierarchical or family relationship);
- Taking advantage of psychic incapacity or any situation of vulnerability of the victim (e.g. mental deficiency, extreme economic difficulty or sickness);
- With consent of the person who has control on the victim.



The Consequence of Trafficking of Minors

– a penalty of up to 20 years' imprisonment

Whoever, practicing trafficking of minors and by any means, offers, delivers, induces, recruits, transports, transfers, harbours or receives victim for the purposes of sexual exploitation, forced labour or organ harvesting, could be punished with a penalty of up to 15 years' imprisonment.

If the victim is under age 14, or the human trafficker acts as a way of life or has lucrative intention, the applicable penalty can be aggravated by one-third in its limits and the maximum penalty shall be up to 20 years' imprisonment.

The Consequence of Illegal Adoption of Children

– a penalty of up to 5 years' imprisonment

The following situations are regarded as illegal adoption:

- Whoever, through offering or receiving benefits, gets or alienates a minor for the purpose of adoption;
- Whoever, through offering or receiving benefits, obtains or gives consent for the adoption of minor.

Human trafficking with the aim of illegal adoption could lead to a penalty of up to 5 years' imprisonment.

Whoever, having knowledge of the practice of human trafficking activities, exploits the victim or uses his/her organs, could be punished with a penalty of up to 5 years' imprisonment.

Whoever retains, damages or destroys the victim's identification or travel documents could be punished with a penalty of up to 5 years' imprisonment.



Victims' Protection Measures

- The Macao Special Administrative Region (MSAR) Government shall take all the necessary measures for protection and assistance of the victim.
- Create a confidential and gratuitous protection program to the victim to assure his/her temporary shelter and to guarantee his/her physical security as well as adequate psychological, medical, social, economic and legal assistance.
- The legal proceedings for human trafficking, namely the hearing, shall not be open to the public.
- Mass media is not allowed to disclose victim's identity by any means before or after the hearing.
- Whenever the life or the physical integrity of the victim, of his/her family members or of the witnesses of the crime of trafficking in persons is in danger, the competent entities should immediately take all the adequate measures to guarantee their protection and assistance.
- If the victim is non-resident of the MSAR, the competent entities should put in action the cooperation mechanisms necessary to guarantee their protection and assistance in the country or territory of origin.

Some Rights of the Victim

- Obtain legal consultation and judicial assistance;
- Claim for civil indemnification;
- Stay in the MSAR during the legal proceedings;
- Get social assistance from the Social Welfare Bureau of the MSAR Government in case the victim has economic difficulty, namely to help him/her to return to the country or territory of origin;
- Obtain gratuitous psychological, medical and medicine assistance from the Health Bureau of the MSAR Government.

* The terms used in this leaflet are simplified for easier understanding. For the exact legal terms and details, please refer to the corresponding law.