

UN Voluntary Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery

Expert Panel on “Revealing the Child Faces of Modern Slavery”



2 December 2016 – International Day for the Abolition of Slavery

With the support of:



Australian Government



Permanent Mission
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Geneva



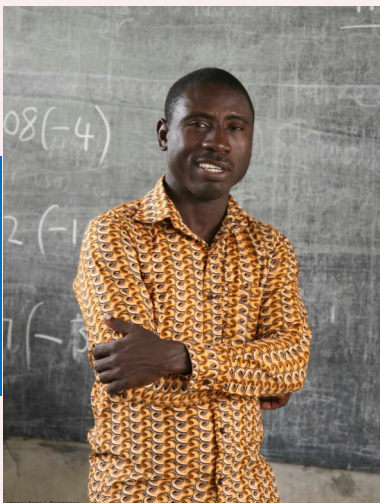
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For more than **20 years**, the United Nations Voluntary Funds on Contemporary Forms of Slavery (the Slavery Fund) has helped restore human rights and dignity of **tens of thousands of children, women and men** around the world. This year, the Fund marks its **25th anniversary** since its establishment by the General Assembly. This commemorative year provides a timely opportunity for renewed and increased support to this mechanism and the cause of victims.

On the occasion of the **International Day for the Abolition of Slavery**, on 2 December 2016, the Slavery Fund will convene an Expert Panel on **“Revealing the Child Faces of Modern Slavery”** with the participation of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, the UN Special Rapporteur on Contemporary Forms of Slavery, the Fund’s Trustees, and experts from selected projects supported by the Fund, at the United Nations’ Headquarters in Geneva.

* The organization of the panel and the printing of this booklet were made possible thanks to the financial support of Australia and the Federal Republic of Germany

“Modern slavery is a crime. People who perpetrate, condone or facilitate it must be brought to justice. Victims and survivors have a right to remedies and reparations.”



James Kofi Annan
Founder and President
Challenging Heights, Ghana

Mr. James Kofi Annan is the founder and President of *Challenging Heights*, Ghana. A former victim of modern slavery, Mr. Annan was trafficked for the purpose of labour exploitation in the fishing industry at the age of 6 and managed to escape at the age of 13. After having made a career as bank manager, today he is working to rescue, rehabilitate and reintegrate child victims of slavery. He holds a first Degree in Psychology, and a Master's Degree in Communication and Media Studies. James is also the Board Chair of *Family for Every Children*, an international alliance of practitioners headquartered in London. Mr. Annan also practices part-time journalism. Mr. Annan and *Challenging Heights* have won 13 international awards and two national awards.

The Slavery Fund has been supporting since 2013 the life-changing work of Mr. Annan and his organization providing assistance to child victims of slavery through holistic services, including educational and vocational training.





Loretta Bondi
Director of International Projects
BeFree Social Cooperative, Italy

Ms. Loretta Bondi is Director of International Projects of *BeFree Social Cooperative*, working on violence against women, trafficking in persons and discrimination. Previously, she served at the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, including as speechwriter for the High Commissioner. She also directed the Cooperative Security Programme at the Center for Transatlantic Relations of the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies and held senior advocacy positions with international non-governmental organizations. In her earlier career, she was a journalist for leading Italian publications, such as *Corriere della Sera*, *l'Espresso* and *l'Europeo*, as well as a broadcaster for RAI.

Since 2016, the support of the Slavery Fund has allowed *BeFree Social Cooperative* to help an increasing number of female victims of trafficking for the purpose of commercial sexual exploitation by providing them with legal and psychological assistance.





Ashif Shaikh
Founder and Convenor
Jan Sahas, India

Mr. Ashif Shaikh is an Indian social activist renowned for his ground-breaking work towards the eradication of the practice of manual scavenging, as well as on the empowerment of Dalit, especially Muslim Dalit women, and other socially excluded communities in India. In 2000, together with partner activists, he founded *Jan Sahas*, which quickly became a leading human rights organization with a unique local community engagement and with the capacity to reach out to thousands of victims. Mr. Shaikh is also member of the Committee on the Amendment to the Manual Scavenging Prohibition Act 1993, and member of the Central Monitoring Committee of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. In recognition of his work, Mr. Shaikh has received a number of awards and distinctions.

The Slavery Fund has been supporting *Jan Sahas* since 2012. The Fund's financial support has helped the organization strengthen its operational capabilities for the provision of rehabilitation services to women and girls.





Katy Robjant
Consultant Clinical Psychologist
Vivo International, Germany – DR Congo

Dr. Katy Robjant is a consultant clinical psychologist specialised in the treatment of PTSD and other trauma-related disorders in child victims of modern slavery, asylum seekers and refugees. She has a number of research publications in this area. She has worked within specialist PTSD services in the UK National Health Service, the charity sector, and also in conflict and post conflict settings in the DRC, Sri Lanka, Uganda, Ukraine and Rwanda. She has given expert evidence in the UK and in Strasbourg in both criminal and civil court proceedings and to parliament. She is a member of the British Psychological Society Presidential Taskforce on Asylum Seekers and Refugees and a member of VIVO International, with whom she conducts trainings in delivering Narrative Exposure Therapy. She is currently managing a project in Eastern DRC increasing the capacity of local health structures and NGOs in treating PTSD in victims of Sexual and Gender Based Violence and former combatants, including former child soldiers.





Urmila Bhoola

Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery
United Nations

Ms. Urmila Bhoola is an international human rights lawyer and former Judge of the Labour Court of South Africa. Her judicial appointment followed twenty years of work as a labour and human rights lawyer in South Africa. She has received many awards for her human rights and gender equality work. She has also been a technical advisor to the International Labour Organisation on labour rights in the Asia Pacific region and was Chief Legal Drafter of the South Africa's Employment Equity Act, designed to redress disadvantages caused by apartheid. She has also served as a part time Member of the Competition Tribunal of South Africa, and was a visiting Senior Lecturer at the Law School of the University of the Witwatersrand. She is former Executive Director of International Women's Rights Action Watch (Asia Pacific). In 2014 she was appointed UN Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences.



Since 1991, the United Nations Voluntary Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery has supported more than 400 organizations worldwide directly assisting victims of modern slavery. Over 24,000 victims are assisted with grants in 2016. More than a third of these victims are children.



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For more information: www.ohchr.org/slaveryfund