**Network or Public Organizations “Umed” for combating trafficking in persons and providing assistance for labor migrants rights protection. The network functions through the support of International Organization for Migration – Office in Tajikistan**

We are providing some comments and generalizations regarding the vision of Civil Society Organizations working in the field of protecting the rights of migrants and providing assistance to vulnerable migrants in the current situation in support of victims of human trafficking.

Labor migration is one of the main areas of employment for the working population of the Republic of Tajikistan. Most often, young people go to work in the Russian Federation, Kazakhstan, to countries like Korea, Turkey, Poland. Labor migration and the exploitation of labor are one of the main types of modern slavery. Labor migrants sometimes become objects of exploitation abroad. After returning to their homeland, they fall into various difficult situations and become vulnerable. Many vulnerable labor migrants are most likely potential victims[[1]](#footnote-2) of trafficking. Sometimes illegal employment, recruitment for the purpose of economic exploitation, both abroad and within the country, is observed in relation to certain categories of persons. In this context, the exploitation of women and girls is one of the important points on which anti-trafficking actors and international institutions should pay attention.

“Trafficking in Persons (TIP) is a global challenge, from which no country is immune. While transnational cases have been at the centre of attention of national and inter-national stakeholders for nearly two decades, internal trafficking – also referred to as domestic trafficking – has only received attention more recently.1 The 2016 UNODC Global Report on Trafficking in Persons, published in December 2016, highlights that nowadays countries are clearly detecting more trafficking cases that are domestic, that is, carried out within a country’s borders”[[2]](#footnote-3)

-It is necessary for the countries participating in the convention to develop and adopt (improve) an effective referral mechanism in providing assistance to vulnerable migrants and trafficking in persons victims, based on the urgency and sensitivity of the situation;

- To form a support fund for vulnerable migrants and trafficking in persons victims, from state budgets and non-budget units, to develop a provision for the assistance mechanism.

-Create an emergency care commission for vulnerable migrants and trafficking in persons victims, with the participation of civil society, strengthen partnerships between various relevant entities of the state and the public.

- Allocate resources to ensure that human rights and human rights non-governmental organizations are well informed, adequately consulted and play an active role in the initial and subsequent development of anti-trafficking strategies and the ongoing implementation of the UN Convention and the Trafficking in Persons Protocol.

- To attach particular importance to the protection of their health, to form working conditions taking into account the COVID -19 pandemic.

- Combating stereotyped attitudes and discrimination against women migrants by providing training for those charged with providing assistance and protection services to women migrants, including relevant labor authorities, public and private employment agencies and employers and relevant public servants including police, border guards, immigration, embassy and consular authorities, labor inspectors, social workers and health workers.

-Providing and expanding the effective access of girls to higher education

and vocational training, including but not limited to special fellowships.

- Monitoring and implementation of effective measures against all types of exploitation and human rights violations in vulnerable sectors of the economy, both shadow and official, taking into account all types of exploitation, from easy forms of exploitation to the most severe ones. Raise public awareness of the rights of workers, the obligations of employers and labor standards to which every worker is entitled.

Provide support to the centers (and raise awareness about them) in which workers can receive information, advice and legal assistance regarding their labor complaints. Develop and distribute booklets on rights, obligations and assistance - similar to those designed for workers vulnerable to crimes related to trafficking abroad, adapting them to Tajik law and mechanisms.

-Increasing women's access to local labor markets. Work with communities at the local level to raise their awareness of what benefits and community benefits for women in the labor market strength.

- Introduce adequate legal sanctions against employers engaged in inappropriate employment and labor practices;

-to create a mechanism for monitoring the implementation of these laws;

-Promote the self-organization and integration of women migrant workers into unregulated or uncontrolled labor sectors.

- Maintaining a network of public organizations specialized in combating trafficking in persons, sexual violence, violence against women and labor exploitation, in order to provide victims with the opportunity to defend their rights in court and access to justice, including the right to compensation. Ensuring the provision of free legal aid to victims of violent crime and vulnerable victims.

1. *Law of the Republic of Tajikistan on Counteracting Trafficking in Persons and Providing Support to Victims of Trafficking in Persons,* Basic concepts: potential victims of trafficking in persons - vagrants and begging, orphans and children left without parental care, street children, people dependent on alcohol, narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances, as well as other people in a socially dangerous or vulnerable situation contributing to the commission of crimes and other offenses in the sphere of human trafficking in relation to them [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. Research on Internal Trafficking in Persons. Prepared by Astrid Ganterer

Dushanbe, 2017, International Organization for Migration [↑](#footnote-ref-3)