CENTRAL ASIAN NATIONAL SOCIETIES: ADDRESSING TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS
To improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity.
International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement

- National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies “National Societies”
- International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies “International Federation”
- International Committee of the Red Cross “ICRC”
Seven Fundamental Principles of the Movement

Humanity
Impartiality
Neutrality
Independence
Voluntary service
Unity
Universality
Reduce the number of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.
Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.
Promote respect for diversity and human dignity, and reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion.
National Societies act as auxiliaries to the public authorities of their own countries in the humanitarian field.

They provide a range of services including disaster relief, health and social programmes, and assistance to people affected by war.
Promote awareness of international humanitarian law and advocate internationally through the Federation and with the International Committee of the Red Cross.

Build and mobilize their network of volunteers through a nationwide branch structure, which can reach communities at greatest risk. NS programmes and services address both immediate and long-term needs of the beneficiaries.
Trafficking in Human Beings is one of the largest forms of international crimes. Main causes for trafficking lay in impoverishment, lack of opportunities, gender discrimination, social and political violence, and demand for services. Victims are subjected to deception, exploitation and abuse, tend to not identify themselves for reasons of stigma, criminalisation. Trafficking affects all countries, countries of origin, transit and destination.

Addressing vulnerability related to trafficking in human beings has been a RC focus at policy level for many years. The Red Cross/Red Crescent “Berlin Plan of Action on migration” echoes the call for action stated in the UN Palermo Protocol. 2007 Istanbul commitments reconfirm these priorities. Red Cross has strengths in providing protection, prevention and advocacy.

The problem is growing and requires growing awareness
Based on conclusions of Working Group on Migration, the 7th European Conference came up with following commitments:

- National Societies will remind their governments about their international obligations; convince governments that the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies have the right to provide humanitarian assistance without being criminalised or penalised
- Develop policy, plan of action and follow up
- Advocate and raise awareness
- Cooperate, coordinate and build networking between NS in countries of origin, transit and destination, strengthen partnerships within and outside RC
Identified Human Trafficking as a major challenge within the general subject of Migration,

Governments acknowledged the role of National Societies, the IFRC and the ICRC in providing humanitarian assistance, protection, advocacy and integration and reintegration services for persons negatively affected by migration,

There is a particular priority for persons affected by all forms of trafficking and exploitation, in particular where women and children are concerned,

While we in the Movement acknowledge the role of government in such cases, Red Cross and Red Crescent experience will be a significant contributor to governments as they do their work.
We see Trafficking as a challenge which no single government, agency, international organisation or other entity can address alone.

It is vital that Governments and others involved build partnerships which can effectively meet this challenge.

The Federation is working with other organisations, including the UN Office on Drugs and Crime, OSCE, Council of Europe, European Union, Interpol, ECPAT and a wide range of others.

We particularly appreciate the support we have received from UNHCR and IOM.

Our own Societies in other parts of the world are proactively addressing the challenge: a good European example is the meeting hosted by the Italian Red Cross for Mediterranean National Societies in February 2008.

Details can be provided upon request.
Europe zone is creating an anti-trafficking network, building on important work initiated by the Danish Red Cross, to support development of anti-trafficking operational model in Europe. Existing network in Europe supports RC societies in addressing vulnerability related to human trafficking, references, links and information.

Several European RC/RC Societies have good practices to learn and build on. Activities focus on prevention awareness and protection, shelter, regional hotlines, peer education.

NS in Central Asia are not involved directly in anti-trafficking activities, although for many years have been targeting general public and law enforcement agencies with IHL programs throughout the region. Being part of Europe Zone, CANS will benefit from this emerging initiative.
Kazakhstan
- An estimated 2,000 Kazakh women in South Korean sex industry (2002)
- Ministry of Internal Affairs data for repatriations in Greece (25), UAE (21), Turkey (16) and Israel (3) 1999 records. In 2001 law enforcement registered **40 times this number**.

Kyrgyzstan
- IOM estimate that 4,000 women and girls a year are trafficked for sexual exploitation, **10% of whom are minors**

Tajikistan
- Ministry of National Security estimates that 900 women who may have been involved in sex trade left before 2000
- Ministry of Interior estimated that based on the number of prosecutions in 2000, **350 women were forced/trafficked within the country**
- In 2003 IOM registered **405 cases of trafficking in persons (labour exploitation)**, in 2004 – 41 case was registered. IOM assisted **200 women in 2000 and 646 in 2002**

Uzbekistan
- Thai NGO reported increased presence (2,695) of Uzbek women in 1999 which doubled in 2000 (5,017). Identified in Bangkok detention – 86 (2002), 228 detained in 2002
- **High proportion of imprisoned for prostitution is reported among Uzbek women, and increased number of trafficked to Israel**
National Societies in Central Asia

Guided by the Mission and Vision of the RCRC Movement and its Fundamental Principles

Play an auxiliary role to their governments in humanitarian field

Have the trust and recognition of the populations in their countries, access to vulnerable communities

Represent the network of 44 branches and around 200,000 volunteers

Work in cooperation and partnership with IO, NGO and national and local governments
### National Societies in Central Asia: current reality

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<th><strong>Strengths</strong></th>
<th><strong>Needs</strong></th>
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<td>- National Societies in Central Asia have the mandate and mission to address vulnerabilities.</td>
<td>- Need more specific skills and knowledge to address the issue.</td>
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<td>- National Societies in Central Asia have the comparative advantage to access vulnerable groups and communities through their network of branches and volunteers.</td>
<td>- Establish a dialogue with the governments to obtain access to implement its mission.</td>
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<td>- National Societies in Central Asia have strong volunteer base experienced in peer education.</td>
<td>- Build coordination and partnership with IO and NGOs at regional and national levels.</td>
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<td>- Resources and capacities in place.</td>
<td>- Have common approach to policy development at global and national levels.</td>
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