NATIONAL AGENCY FOR THE PROHIBITION OF TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS (NAPTIP)

NIGERIA COUNTRY REPORT ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING 2019

...Ensuring A Human Trafficking Free Nation
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FOREWORD

The United Nations Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons defines human trafficking as ‘the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation.

The phenomenon of trafficking in persons is on the widespread and Nigeria occupies a central position as a country of origin, transit and destination for victims of trafficking in the West African sub-region.

Human Trafficking or Trafficking in Persons is a complex and dynamic global phenomenon involving the trade in human beings for the purpose of exploitation. While it is a transnational crime, crossing national borders and jurisdictions, it can also occur internally, within each country.

The crime of human trafficking is best understood as a combination of activities culminating in the exploitation of the human person. In response to the problem and in line with its international obligations, Nigeria in 2001 signed and ratified the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime (UNCTOC). The Protocol was subsequently domesticated Nigeria which led to the enactment of the Traffic in Persons (Prohibition) Law Enforcement and Administration Act 2003 as Amended in 2005. The Act was repealed and reacted as the Trafficking in Persons (Prohibition) Enforcement and Administration Act 2015.

Trafficking in Persons has acquired shocking new dimensions with the recent news coming from Libya that clearly show how promising young men and women of Nigerian origin are amongst other Africans trapped in Libya and more recently in Republic of Niger enroute Europe are being auctioned as slaves for as low as $400 (N144,000) per person in Libya and are confronted daily with despicable treatment from their traffickers as a result of their irregular status.

The Country Report is the result of a comprehensive research by the National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons to articulate the reality of human trafficking in our society, its trends and partners as well as Government and stakeholder efforts in addressing human trafficking in Nigeria.