



THE PRESIDENT  
OF THE  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1 May 2009

Excellency,

In keeping with the priorities of the sixty-third session outlined in my inaugural address, and at the request of Member States, in partnership with the members of UN GIFT<sup>1</sup>, I am convening an interactive thematic dialogue on human trafficking entitled: “*Taking collective action to end human trafficking*” to be held in the Trusteeship Council Chamber on Wednesday, 13 May 2009.

The dialogue will use as a point of departure the forthcoming Background paper of the Secretary-General on “Improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons”. This paper, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 63/194 of 18 December 2008, summarizes the views of a broad and diverse group of Member States, international organizations, and civil society stakeholders on a wide range of specific measures to ensure the full and effective implementation of all legal instruments relevant to trafficking in persons.

It is worth mentioning that the Background paper also summarizes the responses by a significant number of Member States concerning the possible adoption of a Global Plan of Action on preventing trafficking in persons, prosecuting traffickers, and protecting and assisting victims of trafficking.

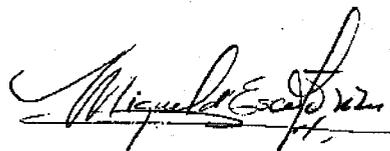
This one-day dialogue will build upon the significant gains achieved over the past two to three years and is intended to stimulate discussion on the need for and potential advantages of a Global Plan of Action. By examining regional efforts already underway and best practices, as well as identifying the elements considered crucial for success, Member States will be able to draw upon emerging trends and data, information I am certain will enrich General Assembly discussion of this vital issue.

All Permanent Representatives and  
Permanent Observers to the United Nations  
New York

The various panels will examine the existing UN legal framework, including the major gaps or constraints UN agencies and governments encounter on the ground and the efforts underway to improve international standards, data collection and analysis. By building upon existing practices in various regions, panelists will suggest ways to move forward collectively.

The day's speakers will include leading officials from UN GIFT, civil society representatives (including former victims/activists, child rights advocates), and prominent officials from various Member States working at various levels. The panels will provide Member States a unique opportunity to hear key voices and engage a range of practitioners/actors involved in efforts to end human trafficking at the global, regional and national levels. The Background paper and a more detailed description of the panels, including biographies of the day's speakers will be submitted shortly.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Miguel d'Escoto Brockmann

cc: Representatives of UN GIFT in New York  
Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Bahrain  
Permanent Mission of the Republic of Belarus  
Permanent Mission of the Arab Republic of Egypt  
Permanent Mission of Nicaragua  
Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Philippines