



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

13 September 2017

Excellency,

Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 71/287 of 4 May 2017 related to modalities, format and organization of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the appraisal of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons that is scheduled for 27-28 September 2017, I have the honour to enclose herewith a draft programme of the meeting as well as concept notes for the interactive panel discussions.

Let me seize this opportunity to encourage all Member States to participate at the highest level possible in order to renew commitment and political will to take decisive action to end human trafficking.

Further information related to the high-level meeting will also be available on the website of the President of the General Assembly.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Lajčák', written in a cursive style.

Miroslav Lajčák

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

Concept Note for the Interactive Panel Discussion 1

“The Global Plan of Action and effective partnerships for the prevention and prosecution of trafficking in persons: achievements, gaps and challenges, also taking into consideration the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals”

New York, September 27, 2017

3:00pm-4:30 pm

I. Background

In accordance with GA resolution 71/287 on the “modalities, format and organization of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the appraisal of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons,” a High-Level Meeting will be convened on 27-28 September 2017 to appraise progress achieved in the implementation of the Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons (resolution 64/293), in order to assess achievements, gaps and challenges, including in the implementation of the relevant instruments.

Two interactive panel discussions will be held on 27 September 2017, each to be chaired by a Member State at the invitation of the President of the General Assembly at its seventy-first session. Interactive panel discussion 1 of the High-Level Meeting, will address the theme *“The Global Plan of Action and effective partnerships for the prevention and prosecution of trafficking in persons: achievements, gaps and challenges, also taking into consideration the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.”*

II. Objective

The interactive panel discussion will provide relevant stakeholders with an opportunity to contribute to the appraisal on the progress achieved in the implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons, including the existing gaps and challenges.

The interactive panel should inform Member States on existing partnerships for the prevention, and prosecution of perpetrators of trafficking in persons. Panelists will examine how the SDGs and the Global Plan of Action are mutually reinforcing in addressing the root causes of trafficking, as well as filling gaps in prosecution and prevention of trafficking in persons. The panel will consider the root causes of trafficking in persons including social, economic, cultural, and political factors, as well as gender and age specificities, poverty, abuse, and other issues that contribute to making people vulnerable to trafficking. The panel will also address the gaps and challenges in tackling the “demand” side and addressing this as a key aspect of prevention. The panel will reflect upon how to address the impunity gap in the wake of overall low prosecution and conviction rates. The panel will also take into account the link to the New York Declaration and ongoing processes towards the Global Compact for safe, orderly and regular migration and the Refugee Compact – including the need for more safe, regular and legal pathways to seek protection and to migrate.

III. Questions

1. In what ways is the work towards implementing the 2030 Agenda reinforcing counter-trafficking efforts? Which age- and gender specific considerations are to be taken into account? How can UN entities and international organizations, including through ICAT, further support Member States to achieve all anti-trafficking related SDGs?

2. What role does the provision of safe, regular and legal pathways play in the prevention of trafficking?
3. How do human rights, age- and gender approaches, feature in offering pathways for the most vulnerable?
4. What good practices and lessons learnt can be identified, both at national and international level, in the promotion and implementation of comprehensive responses to prevent trafficking?
5. How can we enhance the capacity of law enforcement and criminal justice systems to identify, investigate and prosecute cases of trafficking in persons, analyse financial flows and detect and dismantle criminal networks?
6. What good practices and lessons learnt can be shared to tackle the demand side of trafficking at national and regional level?

IV. Format

The panel will be chaired by a Member State at the invitation of the President of the General Assembly after consultations with regional groups. The panel will include Member States, observers, representatives of United Nations organizations and entities, representatives of international regional and sub-regional organizations, civil society, academic institutions, the private sector and the media.

The chairs of the panel will provide an opening statement of 5 minutes each and will be followed by a 5-minute presentation from the panelists. The floor will then be opened for discussions with interventions from Member States, observers, UN system and other stakeholders who will deliver interventions of no more than 3 minutes each.

V. Outcome

The outcome will be a summary of the discussions to be presented by the Chair at the closing plenary meeting.

Concept Note for the Interactive panel discussion 2

“The Global Plan of Action and effective partnerships for the protection of and assistance to victims, including through the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, also taking into consideration the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals”

New York, 27 September 2017 from 4.30 to 6 p.m.

I. Background

In accordance with GA resolution 71/287 on the “modalities, format and organization of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the appraisal of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons”, A high level meeting will be convened on 27-28 September 2017 to appraise progress achieved in the implementation of the Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons (resolution 64/293), in order to assess achievements, gaps, and challenges, including the implementation of relevant instruments .

Two interactive panel discussions will be held on 27 September 2017, each to be chaired by a Member State at the invitation of the President of the General Assembly at its seventy-first session. Interactive panel discussion 2 will address the theme “*The Global Plan of Action and effective partnerships for the protection of and assistance to victims, including through the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, also taking into consideration the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals*”.

II. Objective

To promote interactive and substantive discussions on the above named theme, including to assess achievements, gaps and challenges from the different and unique perspective of relevant stakeholders, such as Member States, observers, representatives of United Nations organizations and entities, and representatives of international, regional and sub-regional organizations, as well as civil society, including non-governmental organizations, academic institutions, the private sector and the media.

III. Questions

1. What good practices and lessons learnt can be identified in the promotion and implementation of comprehensive and coordinated responses, including partnerships, at the national, regional and international levels, to protect and assist victims of trafficking?
2. How can the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children increase its strategic support to organisations that provide direct assistance and protection to victims of trafficking, including access to remedies?
3. How can we incorporate a human rights based approach to addressing trafficking in persons?
4. At national level, are national referral mechanisms the best approach to assisting and protecting victims of trafficking? What challenges do they face? How can we improve

them and ensure that they identify, protect and find solutions for all victims of trafficking, including refugees or migrants?

5. How can UN entities and international organisations, including through ICAT, further support Member States to achieve all anti-trafficking related SDGs, including through designing and implementing effective responses to protect and assist trafficking victims, in a manner that 'leaves no one behind'?

IV. Format

The panel will be chaired by a Member State at the invitation of the President of the General Assembly after consultations with regional groups. The panel will include Member States, observers, representatives of United Nations organizations and entities, representatives of international regional and sub-regional organizations, civil society, academic institutions, the private sector and the media.

The chairs of the panel will provide an opening statement of 5 minutes each, to be followed by a 5-minute presentation from the panellists. The floor will then be opened for discussions with interventions from Member States, observers, UN system and other stakeholders who will deliver interventions of no more than 3 minutes each.

V. Outcome

The outcome will be a summary of the discussions to be presented by the Chair at the closing plenary meeting.

Provisional Programme

High Level Meeting of the General Assembly for the appraisal of the UN Global Plan of Action to combat human trafficking

27-28 September 2017

<p>10-11 AM GA Hall</p>	<p>Wednesday 27 September 2017</p> <p>Opening Segment</p> <p>H.E. Mr. Miroslav Lajcák, President of the General Assembly H.E. Mr. António Guterres, Secretary General Mr. Yury Fedotov, Under Secretary General, Executive Director of UNODC Ms. Maria Grazia Giammarinaro, Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on trafficking in persons, especially women and children (TBC) Ms. Mira Sorvino, UNODC Goodwill Ambassador for the global fight against human trafficking Ms. Grizelda Grootboom, Civil society representative and victim of human trafficking</p>
<p>11Am-1PM 3PM-6PM GA Hall</p>	<p>Plenary meeting</p>
<p>3-4:30PM Trusteeship Council</p>	<p>Panel Discussion 1</p> <p><i>The Global Plan of Action and effective partnerships for the prevention and prosecution of trafficking in persons: achievements, gaps and challenges, also taking into consideration the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals</i></p> <p>Chair: H.E Mr. Marc Pecsteen de Buytswerve, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Belgium to the United Nations</p> <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms. Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, Under Secretary General, Executive Director of UN Women - Mr. Moussa Oumarou, Director of the Governance and Tripartism Department, International Labour Organization - Ms. Carmen Carmen Martinez, Legal Regional Director, Women's Link Worldwide
<p>4:30-6:00 PM Trusteeship Council</p>	<p>Panel Discussion 2</p> <p><i>The Global Plan of Action and effective partnerships for the protection of and assistance to victims, including through the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, also taking into consideration the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals</i></p> <p>Chair: H.E. Ms. Alya Ahmed Saif Al-Thani, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Qatar to the United Nations</p>

	<p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms. Benita Ferrero-Waldner, Chair of the UN Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons - Mr. Andrew Gilmour, Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights, Head of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in New York. - Ms. Joy Ezeilo, Executive Director of Women Aid Collective
	Thursday 28 September 2017
10AM-1PM 3-6PM GA Hall	Plenary Meeting
6PM	<p>Closing segment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Summaries of the Chairs of two Panel discussions - Final remarks by the President of the General Assembly