



UNITED NATIONS NATIONS UNIES

U.N. IN ACTION

Week of 9 June 2003
Programme No. 861
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SEX TRAFFICKING IN CAMBODIA

VIDEO

UNICEF MOVIE "THE VICTIM"
(21")

AUDIO

NARRATION

A re-enactment of a kidnapping somewhere in Cambodia. Young girls being abducted and forced into prostitution. The movie, produced by UNICEF and the government, is part of the fight against sex slavery coordinated by the UN Inter-Agency Project on Human Trafficking in the Mekong Sub-Region.

RIVER RESTAURANTS (12")

An unknown number of minors end up in numerous brothels scattered throughout Cambodia. Most often the girls are lured into prostitution with offers of well-paying jobs.

GIRLS SITTING IN BROTHEL
(13")

The liberation of sex slaves depends on the willingness of the authorities to mount rescue operations and prosecute the traffickers and brothel owners, who are the biggest profiteers in this inhuman trade.

OVERHEAD SHOT OF COOKING

The two girls preparing rice cakes to sell in the

(11")

street have been rescued from the brothels by the police responding to a tip from a French NGO, AFESIP: Acting for Women in Distress.

MORE COOKING (17")

At the NGO's rehabilitation centre in Phnom Penh, they received psychological counselling, skills training and a small cash grant to start their own business and a new life. Sex trafficking victim, Suon Tean.

TEAN:

SUON TEAN ON CAMERA (9")

"I don't have time anymore to think about my past – now I concentrate on the business."

SUON TEAN SELLING CAKES IN
THE STREET/GYM AT CENTRE
(18")

NARRATION

With the assistance of the UN, AFESIP cares for over one hundred former prostitutes in three rehabilitation centres. AFESIP investigates every abduction case and sends the evidence to the courts. Pierre Legros is the regional coordinator of AFESIP.

PIERRE LEGROS ON CAMERA
(18")

LEGROS:

"The country is poor and the poor people are willing to sell their daughters into prostitution. In the meantime, there is an increase in tourism and increase in pimping activities as the Mafia and local police get more and more involved in the business."

GIRLS COMING FROM SCHOOL
(10")

NARRATION

At AFESIP's farm project outside Phnom Penh the heartless nature of sex slavery is tragically

clear. Many of the victims here belong in elementary school.

GIRLS CLIMBING STAIRS (12")

The UN Inter-Agency Project is mapping the trafficking patterns and publishing the information on its website. A deeper knowledge of the sex scene in Cambodia is strengthening the advocacy against forced prostitution.

FARMING/PLANTING RICE (12")

Grants from the UN Foundation, created by the media entrepreneur Ted Turner, contribute to the struggle, which the Cambodian government agrees has just begun. Minister for Veterans and Women's Affairs, Mu Sochua.

SOCHUA:

MU SOCHUA ON CAMERA (10.5")

"To have a very strong campaign to change attitudes and behaviours, that it is not acceptable to sell or to buy children or women."

NARRATION

RESTAURANT ON THE MEKONG (21")

Concerned locals have been the eyes and ears of the fight against forced prostitution. Only by mobilizing the government, non-governmental organizations, international agencies and, above all, the local population, will Cambodia rid itself of this most shameful business.

LOGO (20")

This report was prepared by Niels von Kohl and Chaim Litewski for the United Nations.