

## **General Assembly resolution: Trafficking in women and girls**

1. Measures to address trafficking in women and girls, as per resolution 73/146, including on the increased efforts to ensure prosecution of traffickers and improve protection of victims.

As measures to protect the victims of human trafficking, the Government of Japan exchanges information and collaborates with embassies in Tokyo of the home countries of human trafficking victims, Women's Consulting Offices and other parties, and implements programs for enabling human trafficking victims to return home or be rehabilitated into society. It does so by ensuring collaboration between related governmental bodies in responding to reports from NGOs and the general public on foreign nationals suspected to be the victims of human trafficking, understanding the realities of such cases, and by offering financial aid to the International Organization for Migration (IOM) to enable human trafficking victims from abroad to readily return home if they so desire. The government has also created posters and leaflets about measures to combat human trafficking in order to provide information about where to report human trafficking and who to consult for people who may be unaware that they are the victims of human trafficking or unable to seek help. Such materials also deliver the message that human trafficking is a crime close to everyday life in Japan too, with the aim of raising public awareness toward eliminating human trafficking and calling for the public's cooperation. Furthermore, Japan strives for capacity building of criminal justice practitioners who are responsible for investigation, prosecution and adjudication of human trafficking offenses.

2. Information on economic costs, drivers and consequences of trafficking in women and girls.

Thirty-nine people were arrested for trafficking crimes in 2019, of which one was a broker. In addition, there were 44 victims of trafficking crimes protected by the police, and the breakdown of nationalities were 34 from Japan, 9 from the Philippines and 1 from Brazil. The sexes of the victims were all female.

Through counter services such as dedicated police consultation phone lines and the Anonymous-Reporting Hot Line, efforts are being made to respond to consultations and reports in order to ensure that crimes related to trafficking in persons are not overlooked.

Every year, the National Police Agency prepares leaflets that are distributed to police and other law enforcement, and related organizations and groups in multiple languages to notify victims of the damage in order to protect victims quickly.

By establishing "a single point of contact" between the NPA and foreign embassies, international organizations, and NGOs concerned with trafficking in persons, the Government has built a system under which information about trafficking cases can be exchanged. Moreover, once a year, the Government hosts a "Contact Point Meeting" in which all concerned parties including representatives of various foreign embassies meet to exchange information and views on human trafficking cases.

Education on measures to combat trafficking in persons is provided during elementary courses at the Prefectural Police Academy and training courses for promotion at the National Police Academy.

When the police receive a report, they pay special consideration when questioning the person to ensure he/she does not feel any psychological pressure, such as asking questions in consultation rooms. When the person is female, a female staff will respond

to the case, and when the person is non-Japanese, a staff member who can speak his/her native language will speak with them where possible.

3. Impacts of the COVID-19 outbreak in regards to trafficking in women and girls, and measures undertaken to address those in the short, medium and long-term, particularly in the following areas:

N/A

(1) Impact on risks for trafficking in women and girls.

N/A

(2) Adaptation of service delivery to victims and survivors.

N/A