

**(A/RES/73/146) - Trafficking in women and girls**

<b>Area of Focus</b>	<b>Inputs/ Comments</b>
<p>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</p>	<p>In January 2020, a <b>National Committee on Trafficking in Persons</b> was established to steer the government's effort in combatting human trafficking. This committee is chaired by the Permanent Secretary at the Prime Minister's Office, and is served by a Working Group that is led by the Royal Brunei Police Force (RBPF).</p> <p>A new <b>Anti-Trafficking in Persons Order</b> was enforced in <b>July 2019</b>, to strengthen Brunei Darussalam's existing legislation against human trafficking.</p> <p>This legislative is applicable to all forms of human trafficking, including the trafficking of women and girls. The legislation also prescribes heavier penalties for cases involving children, which includes trafficking of girls.</p> <p>The new law further expands power of investigation that also includes enhanced penalties for aggravated cases of human trafficking, criminalizing participation in organized criminal groups, laundering of proceeds of crime as well as obstruction of justice.</p> <p>Enforcement agencies involved in detecting potential cases of TIP such as the Royal Brunei Police Force (RBPF), Department of Labour (DOL) and the Department of Immigration and National Registration adopt a proactive approach in screening cases through inter-agency coordination to further improve detection rate of TIP cases.</p> <p>RBPF also conducts enforcement operations to detect and deter illegal activities which may lead to sex or labour trafficking cases. Furthermore, RBPF coordinates with several foreign embassies in Brunei Darussalam to assist with improving the protection of their nationals that have been identified as victims of TIP.</p> <p>To eradicate labour exploitation, registered recruitment agencies are monitored to ensure that the quality of their service is up to the standards outlined by the Government. The procedures to process foreign worker recruitment are more stringent and limited to only authorised and duly licensed employment/recruitment agencies, which allows for efficient regulating and monitoring. Working conditions and nature of the job are also closely monitored by DOL.</p>
<p>Information on economic costs, drivers and consequences of trafficking in women and girls.</p>	<p>Brunei Darussalam pays close attention to economic costs and drivers of trafficking in women and girls as well as the consequences it may bring. The threat of illegal migration and unemployment are closely monitored to minimize the risk of vulnerable groups being exploited by traffickers. This includes monitoring economic migration into the country is done in accordance to the Government's procedure and requirements.</p>

<p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Impact in risks for trafficking in women and girls</li> <li>• Adaptation of service delivery to victims and survivors</li> </ul>	<p>Due to the recent pandemic, law enforcement that are involved with detection and investigation of TIP cases are equipped with the necessary protection such as sanitation materials and protective equipment during screening as well as handling of potential TIP victims.</p> <p>All identified victims of TIP that are tested positive of COVID-19 will be placed in the National Isolation Centre (NIC) for treatment. Upon finishing their treatment, recovered victims will be put in government shelter until case is concluded.</p>
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***(A/RES/73/149) - Intensifying global efforts for the elimination of female genital mutilation***

Female genital mutilation can be charged under section 320 of the Penal Code (Chapter 22) as an offence of causing grievous hurt, which is punishable with imprisonment for a term not exceeding 10 years and whipping. Under section 320, "grievous hurt" includes privation of any member, and any hurt which endangers life, or which causes the sufferer to be during the space of 20 days in severe bodily pain, or unable to follow his ordinary pursuits.