Economic Globalisation and Trafficking Of Women in the ASEAN Region : A Socio-Legal Study

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ABSTRACT

In the ASEAN region, women trafficking is problematic and challenging both for the sending and the receiving countries. The feminisation of migration results in changes in women's role in the family, society and global economies. The growing poverty due to economic crisis and the structural adjustment programs and policies affect women's ability to feed their families, provide facilities for their children education and pay for basic services, which force them to migrate abroad, sometimes through illegal ways. In consequence, women suffer sexual exploitation, debt bondage, abuse and threat in the course of generating income for their families. The economic globalization may also account for women trafficking problems in that it leads to gender and legal issues such as discriminations, exploitation, and domination and gender inequalities. A socio-legal approach undertaken in this study draws data from the root causes, and underlines an understanding of the lack of education and poverty, the pull and push factors, the government roles, making of effective laws, and their implementation and enforcement in order to eliminate gender inequality and discrimination. These may be regarded as human rights and the core of the efforts towards addressing the problems of women migrant workers.

Keywords: women trafficking; feminisation of migration; legislations and economic dependence; family; society.

ABSTRAK

Di wilayah ASEAN, dagangan wanita merupakan suatu masalah dan cabaran bagi negara penghantar dan negara penerima. Feminisasi migrasi menyebabkan perubahan dalam peranan yang dimainkan wanita dalam keluarga, masyarakat dan ekonomi global. Peningkatan dalam kadar kemiskinan yang disebabkan krisis ekonomi dan perubahan program serta polisi oleh kerajaan memberi kesan kepada keupayaan wanita untuk menjana pendapatan keluarga, menyediakan fasiliti bagi pembelajaran anak-anak mereka dan membayar bagi khidmat asas sehingga memaksa mereka untuk berhijrah ke seberang laut walaupun kadangkala dengan cara yang salah. Akibatnya, wanita menderita kerana eksploitasi seksual, ikatan hutang, penganiayaan dan ancaman semasa mencari pendapatan untuk keluarga mereka. Globalisasi ekonomi juga turut menyumbang ke arah menzahirkan penglibatan wanita dalam masalah dagangan yang membawa kepada isu-isu gender dan perundangan seperti diskriminasi, eksploitasi, dominasi dan

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ketidaksamarataan gender. Pendekatan analisis sosio-perundangan yang digunakan menghasilkan data daripada sumber asal untuk memahami kaitan kurangnya pendidikan dan kemiskinan, faktor penolak dan penarik, peranan kerajaan, pengubalan perundangan yang berkesan, dan perlaksanaan serta penguatkuasaan bagi menghapuskan ketidaksamarataan gender dan diskriminasi. Ini merupakan hak asasi manusia dan merupakan asas kepada usaha untuk menangani masalah pekerja migran wanita.

Katakunci: pemerdagangan wanita; feminisasi migrasi; perundangan dan kebergantungan ekonomi; keluarga; masyarakat.

GLOBALISATION

"Globalisation" is a key-word for today's economic growth. Globalisation simply means a degree of interdependence that goes far beyond simple explanation of international trade, the main indication of the internationalization of the economy in the past. It includes integration of production across national boundaries with significant increases in international investment by multinational enterprises.¹ The production of automobiles for example "Proton Saga", the national product of Malaysia automobiles industry, is produced at a global level, whereby some of the cars component parts are imported from Japan.

Globalisation is not just in production and supply relationships. It is also affecting the service sector. Globalisation has profound social and political implication. It can create a major problem or threat of exclusion for a large portion of the world's population, severe problem of unemployment, wage and income disparities or even, political instability. It makes more and more difficult to deal with economic policy or corporate behavior on a purely national basis. The gap between the rich and poor is widening all over the world.

At present, globalisation is also seen in the eye of migrations. The circulation of human capital is inevitable and it shapes the relations between the more developed countries and the less developed ones. Immigration is being perceived as a danger rather than an asset because of prejudices and fears that security of the receiving countries may be at stake and jeopardize. However, it is foreseeable that free trade, capital flows and migrations can result in a new economic international order.² In early 21st century, it is estimated that some 150 million people migrated from their homeland. Some were refugees or permanent migrant and others are temporary migrant (regular and undocumented migrants).³ People migrate for the need to find work, the fear of persecution, the horrors of war or disaster, or just because they want to find new place to live. They make arrangement or seek help from others such as recruitment firms, employment agencies, state representatives such as embassies and consulates, migrant organizations or personal contacts to realize their goal. The growth of the economics of the

¹ A New Partnership for a New Century: Sustainable Global Development in a Global Age,WTO News,23 March 1998. www.wto.org/english/news_e/sprr_e/global_e.htm.

² Alessandro Silj, Globalisation and Migration, http://worldroom.tamu.edu/Workshops/Migration06/Global Migration/ Global%20Migration%20articles/Globalization%20and%20Migration%202001.pdf2001, Jun 2001,1-20, at. pg 2.

³ International Labor Office, Trafficking in Human Beings-New Approaches to Combating the Problem, 1st.ed., May 2003, pg1-52, at.pg.1-2.

industrialised countries, in a world where globalisation is ruled by competition, cannot be sustained only by domestic labor. Thus migrant workers form sources for instantaneous labor force.

In the ASEAN region people migrate to countries that offer them greater economic opportunities, which are not available in their country of origin. Remittances brought to sending country benefit the family of the migrant, and the business of the family, if they have one; in the medium and long term they can encourage other members of the family or friends and acquaintances to follow suit and emigrate, not only by showing how much better off in terms of earnings and life style the person who migrates can be, but also, in particular, by providing the financial means to pay for the travel of those who are eager or tempted to try.⁴ Official recorded remittances worldwide, including those recruited through government endorsed migration programs exceeded \$232 billion (2005), with developing countries receiving \$167 billion. Those remittances sent through informal channels could add another 50 percent form all sources.⁵

Globalisations in the ASEAN region involve a number of components that operates according to the roles and needs of the involved associations, such as;

- (a) The growth of foreign direct investment (FDI) which provides a greater role of multinational enterprises, accompanied by the increasing importance of imports and exports for virtually all countries.
- (b) The globalization of products and services.
- (c) Formation of regional free trade zone and common market such as AFTA, NAFTA and etc.
- (d) Formation of transnational entities such as ASEAN, APEC, European Communities (EC).
- (e) Neo-liberal economic and political reforms such as ASEAN and APEC etc.⁶

In order to ensure the effectiveness of the economic globalisation processes, the following measures are under taken;

- (a) Deregulation and liberalisation- a general withdrawal of all government/public "interventions" that might affect the free trade zone and market.⁷
- (b) Privatization- to increase the role of private sector in providing all types of goods and services and achieving efficiency and etc.⁸
- (c) Liberalization and migration- Ease foreign investment permit foreign banks, companies to own key enterprises.⁹

⁴ Ibid,pg.4.

⁵ World Bank, 'Migration Can Deliver Welfare Gains, Reduce Poverty, Global Economic Prospects 2006 at http://web.worldbank.org/WEBSITE/EXTERNAL/NEWS/0.contentMDK.html.

⁶ Lina, ASEAN'S Strategic Role in a Dynamic Global Economy, ASEAN, 22 August 2006. http://www.asean-society.org/asean/%E2%80%9Casean%E2%80%99s-strategic-role-in-a-dynamic-global-econ omy%E2%80%9D/ accessed on 25 June, 2009.

⁷ Deregulation and Liberalisation Initiatives of the APEC Member Economies, <u>http://www.apec.org/apec/</u> publications/all_publications/committee_on_trade.MedialibDownload.v1.html?url=/etc/medialib/apec_media_li <u>brary/downloads/committees/cti/pubs/1995.Par.0001.File.v1.1</u>,accessed on 25th June,2009.

⁸ B.Martin, Privatization of municipal services: Potential, limitations and challenges for the social partners, <u>http://www.ilo.org/public/english/dialogue/sector/papers/munserv/partners.pdf</u>, accessed on 25th June 2009.

⁹ ADBInstitute, IOM & Chulalongkon University, Services Trade Liberalisation and Labor Migration Policies in ASEAN: Towards the ASEAN Economic Community-Post Event Statement,: http://www.adbi.org.

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ASEAN WOMEN'S MULTIPLE ROLES

Globalisation has not affected all countries in the same way because of differing levels of modernization, industrialization, technological capacity, countries or states within the same country have felt the impacts of globalization quite differently. For example in ASEAN regions such as Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and Myanmar in terms of how they have benefited from globalisation and what they have lost in globalisation are very different.

In fact the latest Human Development Project report shows that over the last ten years, despite more wealth in the world than ever before, there are many more poor people than ever before, and also the gap between the rich and the poor becomes wider than ever before. By the end of the 1990's the share in global income of the richest fifth of the world's people was 74 times the share of the poorest fifth of the world's people.¹⁰

Economic globalisation on women ought to be analyzed in the light of women's multiple roles as productive and reproductive labor in their families as well as their contribution towards community and welfare. In many ASEAN countries women are seemingly more traditional. This is due to culture and family customs and practices. In view of this, if basic education is privatized or if families cannot afford the rising costs of education, it is more often girls will drop out from schools than boys because of the beliefs that boys need formal education more than girls to prepare for their future roles.¹¹ This will lead to the implications for the type of employment that women are able to find when women move into labor market.

Increases in the prices of food and fuel recently, will definitely have great impact on women. Women are generally expected to perform more housework than men and in poor families they are expected to take care of their families and also to free up their time to find wage labor.

Trade liberalization has also shown different impact on women and men. Women seem to take this opportunity to obtain or secure better prospect in wage labor. Many of them chose to migrate to improve their standard of livings and some are lured into prostitution and slavery through trafficking. They often face low wages and poor working conditions. Women are forced or coerced by family, friends, recruitment agents or agencies, and in extreme cases forcibly removed by abduction. Some are duped by misinformation or lies, or pushed by need or desperation to seek out recruiters themselves. At this stage, they may be lured into financial negotiation and a loan. Once trapped in debt, women migrant becomes extremely vulnerable to threats and manipulation. From then onwards, women victims will be at the mercy of the traffickers.¹²

¹⁰ Women and Globalisation-Some Key Issues. Presentation at the Conference: Strategies of the Thai Women's Movement in the 21st century, Bangkok, March 28-29, 2000 ,p. 1-3.

¹¹ Burma Shadow Report, <u>http://www.Womenofburma.Org/Report/Thecedawshadow Report.Doc. Access On</u> 25th June 2009.

¹² Asean Regional Forum Annual Security Outlook -Overview On The Regional Security Situation, 2007 <u>http://www.aseanregionalforum.org/;</u> accessed on 25 th June 2009.

They will be forced to work in low-skilled work to pay back their debts. Usually, they worked without any contract of employment, insurance, and access to health or social security services, but because of fear of disclosure, violence or reprisals. Often the demarcation between migration and trafficking is fluid, with women moving from states of voluntary migration for legitimate work to conditions of exploitation. Victims may be handed over to recruiters in other countries who then arbitrarily move some of them into brothels and some into the work they had been promised by the original recruiters¹³ such as in the estate, agriculture, construction work, domestic service, food processing or labor-intensive manufacturing.

Migration policies applied in the sending (origin) and the receiving (destination) will have great influence on the efficiency of migration processes. When the migration channels are closed or become too difficult, then this will intensify the trafficking activities.¹⁴

MEANING AND REASONS FOR TRAFFICKING

Prior to the mid sixteenth century, laymen regard 'Trafficking' as just a simple label attached to various phenomenon and a complex series of states and events that individually may or may not be harmful or wrong. It does not suggestion of any wrongdoing. It merely refers to 'going back and forth' or 'exchange' that suggest what traders do. In early seventeenth century, trafficking had already become differentiated from trading by the suggestion that it involved the sale of illicit or disreputable goods such as drugs and weapons across boarders. In the 19th century, this contraband also included human beings, traded as merchandise into a life of service and slavery. In the twentieth century into exploitation in labor and the commercial sex trade,¹⁵ Even then, the understanding on this phenomenon grows and still cause confusion between trafficking and other forms of people movement such as irregular migration, human smuggling and forced labors.¹⁶

The United Nations Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children (2000) (well known as The Palermo Protocol), a supplement to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organised Crime

¹³ Rohani Abdul Rahim, An Interpretation On The Malaysian Anti-Trafficking In Persons Act,2007 (Act 670) and Its foreseeable Impact On The Indonesian Women Migrant Labor., paper presented in International Conference in Women in Public Sector, at Universitas Gadjah Mada, Yogjakarta Indonesia., 16-17 July 2008.; See; S.Jones, *Making Money Off Migrants: The Indonesian Exodus to Malaysia*. Hong Kong: Asia Ltd.,2000.pg..67.
¹⁴ Ibid.ILO.

¹⁵ International Labor Office, Trafficking in Human Beings-New Approaches to Combating the Problem, 1st.ed.,May 2003,pg1-52,at.pg.1.

¹⁶ Trafficking, is a crime against an individual. Smuggling of migrants is generally a crime against the government, as a breach of immigration laws. Trafficking involves exploitation that can continue well after the victim has arrived at their destination. Migrant smuggling generally ends once a person has arrived at their destination. Trafficking can occur within a country (internal or domestic trafficking), and between countries (international trafficking).2 In contrast, migrant smuggling is always transnational; UNODC, 2006 Trafficking in Persons: Global Patterns, Vienna.

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include the following definition of trafficking:

- (a) "Trafficking in persons" shall mean the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation shall "include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labor or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs;
- (b) The consent of a victim of trafficking in persons to the intended exploitation set forth in subparagraph(a) of this article shall be irrelevant where any of the means set forth in subparagraph (a) have been used;
- (c) The recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of a child for the purpose of exploitation shall be considered "trafficking in persons" even if this does not involve any of the means set forth in subparagraph (a) of this article;
- (d) "Child" shall mean any person under eighteen years of age.¹⁷

Thus, trafficking can be defined in wide array of meanings that are in relation to the processes and ways they were trafficked, the means to conduct such and its purposes. Although the Protocol relates to situations of cross-border trafficking only and presumes the involvement of organized crime, in practice the definition is used more broadly to include the act "recruitment, transportation transfer, harboring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent person, for the purpose of exploitation.

In the ASEAN Declaration Against Trafficking in Persons Particularly Women and Children, the Heads of States and Governments¹⁸, recognizes that;

The immorality and inhumanity of this common concern elicits the need to strengthen legislative, law enforcement and judicial responses to ensure deterrent action is taken against persons involved in individual or syndicated activities of trafficking in persons, particularly women and children. ¹⁷ The UN Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organised Crime (2000),:<u>http://www.uncjin.org/Documents/Conventions/conventions.html</u>, esource@awid.org, p.2.

¹⁸ Brunei Darussalam, the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Republic of Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, the Union of Myanmar, the Republic of the Philippines, the Republic of Singapore, the Kingdom of Thailand, the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, members of the Association of the Southeast Asian Nations; ASEAN Declaration Against Trafficking in Persons Particularly Women and Children, http://www. asean______declaration_against_trafficking_in_persons_particular_1.doc.; The Bangkok Declaration on Irregular/undocumented migration, at International Symposium on Migration, "Towards Regional Cooperation on Irregular/Undocumented Migration", 21-23 April 1999, http://www.the_bangkok_declaration.doc.

The instrument also declared to undertake concerted efforts to effectively address an emerging regional problem, through the following measures:

- 1. To establish a regional focal network to prevent and combat trafficking in persons, particularly women and children, in the ASEAN region;
- 2. To adopt measures to protect the integrity of their respective passports, official travel documents, identity and other official travel documents from fraud;
- 3. To undertake regular exchange of views, information sharing on relevant migratory flows, trends and pattern, strengthening of border controls and monitoring mechanisms, and the enactment of applicable and necessary legislations;
- 4. To intensify cooperation among our respective immigration and other laws enforcement authorities;
- 5. To distinguish victims of trafficking in persons from the perpetrators, and identify the countries of origin and nationalities of such victims and thereafter ensure that such victims are treated humanely and provided with such essential medical and other forms of assistance deemed appropriate by the respective receiving/ recipient country, including prompt repatriation to their respective countries of origin;
- 6. To undertake actions to respect and safeguard the dignity and human rights of genuine victims of trafficking in persons;
- 7. To undertake coercive actions/measures against individual and/or syndicate engaged in trafficking in persons and shall offer one another the widest possible assistance to punish such activities; and
- 8. To take measures to strengthen regional and international cooperation to prevent and combat trafficking in persons.¹⁹

There are many reasons as to why women are being trafficked within and from ASEAN region. Among the evident reasons being that;

(a) Poor Education and Knowledge

This is one of the prime obstacles in which globalization affects women in terms of employments, services and the informal sector. Nowadays around 1.2 billion people in the world live in unacceptable conditions and poverty, and 70% of them are women.²⁰ In 1990, their percentage increased especially in developing countries such as some countries in ASEAN. Poverty has affected the family. As a whole it affects women more due to work and distribution of economic opportunities and independence.

¹⁹ The Bangkok Declaration on Irregular/undocumented migrations.

²⁰ Oloka-Onyango and Deepika Udagama, The realisation of economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Globalisation and its impact on the full employment of human rights, preliminary report, 15th June 2000.

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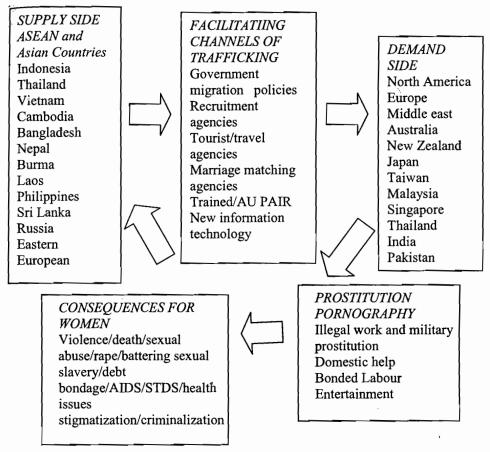


Diagram 1.0: Trafficking Of Women Worldwide

The above diagram mapped the flow of supply and demand of women being trafficked from the developing countries to developed countries. Similar flows happened to ASEAN countries. Some of the existing government migration policies, agencies roles, tourism, travel and visitation facilities, and technology and marriage agencies provide channels for trafficking purposes. Women migrants were exploited in various organized legal and illegal work which then resulted in violence, slavery, debt bondage, health problems and further victimisation.

(b) Supply

Abundance of cheap labor from neighboring countries provides ever ready labor supply for potential developed countries. For the laborers they have personal reasons to leave their country of origin, such as to escape their economic circumstances and increase their financial means. Uneven economic developments among ASEAN regions are visible not far away. This reality is said to naturally prompt people to seek better economic opportunities and livelihoods by crossing borders.²¹

Some other reasons that cause women to be trafficked globally are among others;

- (i) The Devaluation of women and discrimination practices.²²
- (ii) The perceived responsibility of women to support families.²³
- (iii) Lack of educational, employment and vocational opportunities.²⁴
- (iv) Globalization where the rich take advantages of the poor.²⁵
- (v) Lack of law and enforcement eg. AFTA whereby free trade zone allows free movements and attracts negative forces to the countries.²⁶

(c) Demand

Demand for sex tourists, pedophiles and the migrant labor force have attracted people from and outside the ASEAN regions. International promotion for the sex industry through the application of information technology has also contributed indirectly to trafficking of women. The trafficking and exploitation of women and girls (and sometimes also boys) to countries where demand for sexual services is high, and where the malleability of vulnerable women makes it easier for exploiters to control them and profit from their labor, has been recognized for some time. Indeed trafficking is often seen as synonymous with exploitation in prostitution.²⁷

THE LAW AND PROTECTION

Debate on trafficking is now stressed heavily on law enforcement, crime prevention and national security. These caused for stricter border controls, sanctions on migrants and readily deported when migration is made against the immigration laws. There is a need to review the available government and non-governmental agencies. Labor Ministry, as well as relevant Ministries should take responsibility to implement anti-trafficking measures. Law enforcement should include labor regulatory and inspection mechanisms; workers and employers should be included in policy discussions.²⁸

²¹ S.Cameron,Trafficking and Related Labour Exploitation in the ASEAN, International Council on Social Welfare(ICSW),region,November 2007,<u>www.icsw.org</u>.

²² K Bales, Ending Slavery: How We Free Today's Slaves, University of California Press, 2008.

 ²³ J O.Davidson,Is Trafficking in Human Beings Demand Driven? A Multi-Country Pilot Study, IOM,2004,pg 32
 ²⁴ Sub-Regional Inter-Ministerial Consultation on Human Trafficking-Cambodia Country Paper, http://www.no-trafficking.org/content/web/05reading_rooms/ Cambodia/cambodia_country_paper_final.doc.

²⁵ M.S.Lucas, Does Globalisation Cause Inequity Among Rich and Poor Nations? Mac 2007, mises.org /journals/scholar/lucus1.pdf.

²⁶ An APEC Trade Agenda? The Political Economy of a Free Trade Area of the Asia Pacific, <u>www.ncapec.</u> org/reports/APEC-Trade-Agenda-FTAAP.pdf.

²⁷ ILO,pg.5.

²⁸ ILO,pg.11.

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In Malaysia, the Anti-Trafficking In Persons Act, 2007(MATIP) (Act 670) provide some extensive provisions in relation to the MATIP Council establishment and their functions and power, the offences related there to, the victims and the traffickers, the power of investigation and arrest, the relates procedures and the cost incurred, acts that obstruct enforcement, the care and protection for victims and trafficking caused by body corporate. The Magistrates provide "Protection Order" to allow the Protection officer to determine "a trafficked person" as defined by this Act (Sec.50); and upon revocation of a Protection Order or expiry of the period specified in a Protection Order, the Protection Officer may release the person to immigration officer or make an order that such trafficked person be placed in the place of refuge for any further period as the Magistrate deems fit. The victims shall not be liable to criminal prosecution because of his illegal entry, his period of unlawful residence, his procurement or possession of any fraudulent travel or identity document which he obtained, or with which he was supplied, for the purpose of entering the receiving country, where such acts are the direct consequence of trafficking in persons (Sec.25). The informers name and address will not be disclosed (Sec.26). Any house, building or place, or any part thereof may be Gazetted by the Minister, to be a place of refuge for the care and protection of trafficked persons and may also declare that such place of refuge ceases to be a place of refuge. He may also direct the separation of different categories of trafficked persons, among others, according to age and gender either at the same place of refuge or at different places of refuge (Sec.42). Protection offices may be appointed to (a) have control over and responsibility for the care and protection of the trafficked person at the place of refuge; (b) carry out an enquiry and cause to be prepared a report of the trafficked person as required under this Act; (c) have the power to supervise the trafficked person upon order by the Magistrate or direction by the Minister; and (d) have such other powers, duties and functions as the Minister may prescribe(Sec.43).²⁹

Enforcement officers may take a person into temporary custody(Sec.44) and for medical examination or treatment(Sec 45 & 46), Authorization for hospitalization of a Child (Sec.47), have control over, and responsibility for, the security and protection of victims (Sec.48). Parent, guardian or relative may, at any time, make an application to the Magistrate's Court to commit that person into the custody of the parent, guardian or relative (Sec.53). When Protection Order or expiry of the period specified in a Protection Order, the Protection Officer should release that person (Sec.54), Minister has power to remove trafficked person from one place of refuge to another (Sec.57) and Restriction on media reporting and publication (Sec.58).³⁰

When implementing enforcement Officers such as the police, immigration officer, customs and officer of the Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency shall declare his office and shall produce to the person against whom he is acting any authority card which has been issued to him (Sec.27). They shall have all the powers to investigate (Sec.28), to arrest (Sec.29), to search and seizure with a warrant authorizing entrance into the premises or conveyance, to seize or remove from the premises or conveyance, any moveable, property, book, record, report or document, or any human organ that is reasonably believed to furnish evidence of the commission of such offence; and (Sec.30).

²⁹ Rohani Abdul Rahim, An Interpretation On The Malaysian Anti-Trafficking In Persons Act,2007(Akta 670) and Its foreseeable Impact On The Indonesian Women Migrant Labor, in Siti Hariti,(editor) *Women in Public Sector*, 2008, Universitas Gadjah Mada, Indonesia.

³⁰ Rohani Abdul Rahim, An Interpretation On The Malaysian Anti-Trafficking In Persons Act,2007(Akta 670) and Its foreseeable Impact On The Indonesian Women Migrant Labor, in Nabila- *Jurnal Pusat Studi Wanita*, Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta, Vol.XIII,No.1,February 2009,ISSN:1410-6248.

Search and seizure without warrant (Sec.31) can be conducted when there are reasonable grounds to do so. The officers were also allowed to access to computerized data(Sec 32); prepare a list of the things seized (Sec.33); shall prepare a list of the things seized and immediately, power to examine persons (Sec.34), taking statements (Sec.35); Forfeiture of conveyance, moveable property, etc,(Sec 36), Admissibility of documentary evidence by officers(Sec.60), Admissibility of translation documents(Sec.61). Any person who obstructs, impedes, interferes or fails to comply with any lawful demand of an enforcement officer in the performance of his functions under this Act commits an offence (Sec.39).³¹

Such extensive provisions need serious attention and implementations to ensure its' effectiveness.³² Malaysia faces complex migration issues from undocumented or 'illegal', irregular and smuggled immigrants that form part of the illegal foreign worker, which then resulted in a threat to the country security. They are estimated to range from 1 to 1.2 million (2007) and regulated by Immigration Act 1959/63, the Passport Act,1966, the Employment Act 1955, the Penal Code, the Workmen Compensation Act 1952 and the Anti-Trafficking In Persons Act, 2007. There are problems on the infiltration by criminals or insurgents to transmission of human, animal, or plant diseases, and include also economic costs, social tensions, and violent disturbances in criminal and terrorist networks. Malaysia also realizes that there is a need for more close corporation and comprehensive responses from ASEAN countries in order to curb "modern-day slavery".³³

The importance of the legal standards in dealing with trafficking of women and abuse of migrant women serves as an authoritative framework for crimininalising acts of abuse and exploitation of trafficked and migrant women. The states are mandated to enforce conventions and laws through the justice system. The Multilateral Conventions³⁴ and Regional Treaties, Dialogue and Consultative Processes, Plans of Action listed³⁵ give enforcement strength to the regional domestic laws³⁶ for the ASEAN countries. However, the extent of their applications and their impacts on the struggle to curb trafficking of women in the ASEAN region particularly, are yet to be realised. Right approach to decrease demands of trafficked victims used for abusive practices may allow for more valuable and productive labor for destination countries development in the near future.

³¹ Rohani Abdul Rahim, 2008 & 2009.

³² Rohani Abdul Rahim, 2008 & 2009.

³³ Rohani Abdul Rahim (2008) Buruh Migran di Malaysia:TKI, paper presented in the International Seminar on Comparative Study On Some Specific Legal Aspects in Malaysia and Indonesia, Faculty of Law, Diponegoro University on June 26th 2008, Semarang.

³⁴ Convention and the Suppression of trafficking and Exploitation of the Prostitution of others 1949; Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW);International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of all Migrant Workers and their Families ;Convention on the Rights of the Child; Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in persons Especially Women and Children supplementing the UN Convention on transnational Organised Crime (2000);Protocol Against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air supplementing the UN Convention on Transnational Organized Crime (2000) ; ILO Conventions on Migrant Workerss

³⁵ SAARC Convention; Asia Pacific Consultations Process on refugees, Displaced Persons and Migrants (APC); Asian Initiative Against Trafficking (ARIAT); ESCAP Regional Plan Against Trafficking; Bangkok Declaration on Irregular Migrations; Council of Europe and European Union Declaration on program of Action Against Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling; Budapest Process; Puebla Process (North and South America); Migration Dialogue for South Africa (MIDSA); Intergovernmental Consultation on Asylum, Refugees and Migration (IGC) and Asia Europe Dialogues.

³⁶ Anti Trafficking Laws (Thailand, US, Philippines, Korea and Malaysia 2007); National Immigration Laws; National Anti-prostitution Laws; National Juvenile Justice Laws; Bilateral Agreements on Migration Trafficking.

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LACK OF LAW ENFORCEMENT TO CURB TRAFFICKING OF WOMEN IN ASEAN REGION

The Government's Role

As incidence of trafficking continues to rise across the regions, governments as well as international agencies are increasingly called upon to address the issue. As often the controller of the state media and means of public communication in the country as well as the head of the law enforcement apparatus, the government is undoubtedly the most important institution in the prevention of trafficking. It is also likely the main provider of primary and secondary education through which important information on trafficking risks and prevention messages could be institutionalised. The government also maintains crucial linkages with the legislative branch, which are critical to the existence and quality of the legal means by and legal framework in which the law enforcement and the judicial branch operate. Therefore the government plays a critical, though not necessarily exclusive, role in the battle against trafficking in persons in any country.

Despite the general acceptance of the importance of trafficking, the issue has not received the attention it fully deserves at the political level in many countries. An important challenge is to raise the consciousness of the trafficking issue and achieve the political will at the highest levels of their respective governments. Governments need to expand and quicken their pace of international and regional cooperation from regional "initiatives" to more active cooperation with tangible results in the prevention of human trafficking. Given the political will achieved, governments can more effectively address the problem of corruption which is an important obstacle in the prevention of human trafficking. Governments with the cooperation of the legislatures should seek to develop effective legislative and regulatory measures where none already existing to curb corrupt practices and establish standards of good governance.

In addressing the root causes, governments can as a matter of national priority exert greater efforts in pursuing economic development policy and programmes, with specific aims to reduce poverty in a sustainable manner among most vulnerable groups of populations, particularly women. Governments can also ensure and provide equal participation for women in their societies and communities, particularly in terms of education, employment and economic opportunities. Sustainable employment and fair treatment of women would go a long way in alleviating the trafficking problem. Greater importance should also be attached to proper welfare of women especially those in most vulnerable situations.

In the prevention of human trafficking, the governments of destination countries shall also address as a priority, the demand for illegal sexual services and cheap labor. This can be achieved through various means including public and education campaigns, and a coherent labor migration policy and regulations as well as its' implementations. The legislature is another important institution that provides necessary legal framework and legal tools for the rest of a national government structure and civil society in the battle against human trafficking. A country's ineffective and lack thereof of specific anti-human trafficking legislatures can be a key indicator of ineffective counter-trafficking programme and an important cause for persistence and rise in trafficking incidence. Lack of effective legal tools is one of the serious obstacles to achieving effective law enforcement and prosecuting efforts against trafficking.³⁷

The legislature has an important role and responsibility in introducing laws and incorporate penalties into national legislation for specific trafficking crimes and related offenses, where none already existed or existed in inadequate fashion. The legislature should also take into account to impose more severe penalties where trafficking incidences cause harm or grievous harm. National legislation should ensure rights of trafficked victims to seek and secure compensation for the damages and harm they have suffered.

Looking beyond the domestic context, an important role and a challenge for the legislature of the Asia-Pacific countries is to address the gap of legal definitions and standards in the region. Disparities in national legal framework are relevant to counter-trafficking that allow traffickers to exploit the loop holes in the legislations and conduct their illicit trade.

Though most governments in the region have signed the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime and its supplementing trafficking protocol, only a few have ratified this key international legal instrument. In order to achieve a common legislative platform and a basis for closer cooperation, the ratification of the above-mentioned instrument should be a top priority for governments and legislatures in the region. For similar reasons and to achieve uniformity in its operations worldwide, IOM in December 2000 adopted the definition of trafficking in persons as prescribed in the fore-mentioned trafficking protocol.³⁸ Most governments in the Asia-Pacific have however signed and become parties to other relevant international legal instruments, namely the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women(CEDAW). The CEDAW Convention is a human rights treaty for women that is based on three core principles: equality, non-discrimination and State obligation. The UN General Assembly adopted the CEDAW Convention on 19th December 1979 and it came into force as a treaty on 3rd September 1981; thirty days after the twentieth member nation became a States party to it. It is monitored by the CEDAW Committee which operates out of the United Nation in New York. It is also one of the most highly ratified international human rights and supported by at least 186 state parties.³⁹ This includes Malaysia (5 July 1995); Singapore (5 October 1995), Thailand (9 August 1985), Viet Nam (17 February 1982), Philippines (5 August 1981) and Indonesia (13 September 1984).⁴⁰ These countries also place some reservations or/and declarations on the implementation of CEDAW.

These countries also place some reservations or/and declarations on the *implementation of CEDAW*. This can be seen in the following Table.

³⁷ June J.H. Lee, Research Officer, Research and Publications Unit, and Tance Sangrat, Project Officer, Counter-Trafficking Service Area, IOM, Geneva.

³⁸ IOM Project Tracking Unit, 22 July 2003

³⁹ As at 5 May 2009.

⁴⁰ IWRAW Asia Pacific, States Parties to CEDAW, http://www.iwraw-ap.org/convention/parties.htm

| States Parties | Reservations/Declarations | |
|---------------------------------|--|--|
| Malaysia ⁴¹ | 5(a), 7(b), 9(2), 11, 16 (1a), 16(1c), 16(1f), 16(1g), 16(2) | |
| Indonesia ⁴² | 29(1) | |
| Thailand ⁴³ | Subject to principles of the National Constitution, 16, 29(1) | |
| Philippines | - | |
| Singapore ⁴⁴ | 2, 11(1), 16, 29(1) | |
| Brunei Darussalam ⁴⁵ | General reservation, 9(2), 29(1) | |
| Viet Nam ⁴⁶ | 29(1) | |

Table 1.0: Reservations and/or Declaration Entered by ASEAN States Parties

⁴³ The Royal Thai Government wishes to express its understanding that the purposes of the Convention are to eliminate discrimination against women and to accord to every person, men and women alike, equality before the law, and are in accordance with the principles prescribed by the Constitution of the Kingdom of Thailand.

3. The Royal Thai Government does not consider itself bound by the provisions of [...] article 16 and article 29, paragraph 1, of the Convention.

⁴⁴ (1) In the context of Singapore's multi-racial and multi-religious society and the need to respect the freedom of minorities to practise their religious and personal laws, the Republic of Singapore reserves the right not to apply the provisions of articles 2 and 16 where compliance with these provisions would be contrary to their religious or personal laws.

(2) [...]

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(3) Singapore interprets article 11, paragraph 1 in the light of the provisions of article 4, paragraph 2 as not precluding prohibitions, restrictions or conditions on the employment of women in certain areas, or on work done by them where this is considered necessary or desirable to protect the health and safety of women or the human foetus, including such prohibitions, restrictions or conditions imposed in consequence of other international obligations of Singapore and considers that legislation in respect of article 11 is unnecessary for the minority of women who do not fall within the ambit of Singapore's employment legislation.

(4) The Republic of Singapore declares, in pursuance of article 29, paragraph 2 of the Convention that it will not be bound by the provisions of article 29, paragraph 1.

⁴⁵ "The Government of Brunei Darussalam expresses its reservations regarding those provisions of the said Convention that may be contrary to the Constitution of Brunei Darussalam and to the beliefs and principles of Islam, the official religion of Brunei Darussalam and, without prejudice to the generality of the said reservations, expresses its reservations regarding paragraph 2 of Article 9 and paragraph 1 of Article 29 of the Convention."

⁴⁶ In implementing this Convention, the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam will not be bound by the provisions of paragraph 1 article 29.

⁴¹The Government of Malaysia declares that Malaysia's accession is subject to the understanding that the provisions of the Convention do not conflict with the provisions of the Islamic Sharia' law and the Federal Constitution of Malaysia. With regards thereto, further, the Government of Malaysia does not consider itself bound by the provisions of articles 5 (a) and 7 (b) of the aforesaid Convention. In relation to article 11, Malaysia interprets the provisions of this article as a reference to the prohibition of discrimination on the basis of equality between men and women only.

⁴² The Government of the Republic of Indonesia does not consider itself bound by the provisions of article 29, paragraph 1 of this Convention and takes the position that any dispute relating to the interpretation or application of the Convention may only be submitted to arbitration or to the International Court of Justice with the agreement of all the parties to the dispute."

| Myanmar(Burma)47 | 29 |
|------------------|----|
| Lao PDR | - |
| Cambodia | - |

Sources: IWRAW Asia Pacific, Reservations and/or Declarations Entered by States Parties, http://www.iwraw-ap.org/convention/convention_text.htm, as at April 2009. The states parties may enter reservation and the CEDAW Convention permitted this under Article 28. Sometimes declarations were made to carry same effect as reservations. However, there are limits to Article 28(2) that precludes any reservation that is incompatible with the object and purpose of the CEDAW Convention. And, reservations are meant to be temporary so that States parties take steps to overcome the problems in their implementation.

c. The Role Of Law Enforcement Agencies In The Prevention Of Trafficking

Law enforcement agencies and officials are usually those who confront the trafficking incidence at the operational level and who have to shoulder often unfair accountability with regard to the trafficking problems. They are the only institution that handles the entire human trafficking chain, namely, victims and potential victims, recruiters, transporters, clients, and other intermediaries. By mandate, law enforcement agencies operate entirely within the legal framework provided by the legislature and are directly responsible in carrying out the government's policy and enforcing the regulations. For their operational role, law enforcement agencies and officials often receive capacity building in their efforts against human trafficking, including prevention and awareness raising activities. Awareness raising and international cooperation in intelligence sharing among law enforcement services of different countries and with international law enforcement agencies, are some of the most important element in trafficking prevention.

More personnel and resources should be allocated to this end in not only deepening but also expanding such cooperation with countries and organisations where none or little activities previously existed. This includes exchange of intelligence and information in criminal investigations, mutual legal assistance, and direct contacts between competent law enforcement services and judicial authorities. Coordination networks of police and judicial authorities should be strengthened or established where none previously existed, with trafficking crime as integral part of their cooperation. Specialized, joint investigative teams of investigators and prosecutors should be set up within and between countries at least on a case by case basis.

Governments should also consider the possibility of enhancing bilateral and multilateral exchange of operational trafficking investigators on a long term basis as a response to on-going trafficking activities in one or more countries or regionally, where and when the mode of operation of traffickers requires such cooperation.

⁴⁷ Article 29 "[The Government of Myanmar] does not consider itself bound by the provision set forth in the said article."

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In many Asia-Pacific countries, law enforcement services and judicial institutions should develop and expand their mode of operation to include intelligence-based investigative techniques that are capable of identifying, investigating and successfully prosecuting traffickers without reliance on the testimony of victims. They should also involve the use of DNA evidence in their investigation and prosecution of trafficking cases when possible. Certain law enforcement services and judicial institutions in Asia-Pacific countries should develop capabilities and technologies when appropriate with regard to the utilization of advanced information technology in their combat against human trafficking.

Law enforcement agencies can also play an important role in the prevention of trafficking by participating in a public information campaign, providing warning to traffickers of the possible penalties as well as potential victims and the general public on the risks of human trafficking. The law enforcement can also educate the public on how it could be of assistance to the victims and authorities when confronted with the possible trafficking incidence.

d. The Role Of Education And Data Collection In The Prevention Of Trafficking

Education alleviates many social problems across cultures and countries. With regard to prevention of trafficking, education addresses the root causes by serving dual purposes for potential victims: providing greater opportunity for learning of life and occupational skills (vocational education), and of risks and dangers of human trafficking. With its captured audience of young people in origin, transit, and destination countries, education can serve as an effective tool in an awareness-raising campaign. Education also offers a sustainable means to provide potential victims and potential customers of sex industry an opportunity to learn about the exploitation of the victims and possible legal and health risks for those involved. And in addition to a public awareness campaign, education can also offer information on safe and legal channels for migration and employment abroad. Education in short is a crucial tool in the prevention of all child exploitation, including trafficking.⁴⁸

Many governments need to allocate greater resources to the sustainable development of their young people. Education points the way as a long-term national development strategy. To combat various social ills, including human trafficking, education entails not only the basic primary and secondary education, but also vocational and practical skills with which students can earn a decent living.

In some countries, education, together with other sustained measures, can also act as an agent for long term social change in areas where social prejudice and discrimination are rife and a contributing factor to trafficking. Education should not only be used to create better employment opportunities, but also to enhance greater understanding on gender issues and social values and norms. This requires a political and long-term commitment and must be given a priority along with other preventive measures.

⁴⁸ Somerset, C. et. al. (2003: 11), 'End Child Exploitation: Stop the Traffic', UNICEF, http://www.end childrenexploitationl.org.uk, accessed 18. July .2003.

However. implementing an effective awareness campaign or anv counter-trafficking programmes also require a comprehensive understanding especially the scope of the problem as well as of the understanding of the public about trafficking Therefore, collecting reliable data is the essential first step to developing effective and targeted prevention measures on trafficking in human beings. Data is critically needed that categorize the male, female, and child victims of trafficking and other elements of the trafficking incidence. Additionally, improving research and analysis is also vital, including that on the character and scale of trafficking and the trafficking and exploitation mechanisms deployed by the organized criminal groups. Promoting more research and exchange of information on trafficking is another strategy that cannot be ignored in serious efforts to address the major and complex issues associated with trafficking.

The overarching aim of newly commissioned studies has to be more in depth analysis of the root causes, supply and demand, trafficking networks and the economic consequences of the various kinds of trafficking in human beings. The information gained will not only be extremely useful for prevention agenda of counter-trafficking but also prosecution and protection as well. These efforts can obviously be undertaken comprehensively by educational institutions of higher learning across the regions in a well-coordinated and collaborative cooperation.

e. The Root Causes Of Trafficking.

There have been many studies on causes of human trafficking. It is generally agreed that trafficking is a result of a combination of causes and factors. While it would clearly be mistaken if poverty were to be singled out as the only major cause of trafficking, however, the fact that many trafficked victims, lured by prosperity and comfortable life, come from impoverished areas, indicates a strong connection between trafficking and economic development or lack thereof. A common perception is that the economic factor generally plays a major role as the root causes of trafficking; while other factors such as social norms, inadequate local laws and regulations, political conflicts, dysfunctional families, globalisation (advancement of information technology and transportation) and lack of education and information are often cited as contributing though important factors.

While much has been done on the supply side of trafficking, it seems not enough on the demand side. Human trafficking is also caused by the demand for sexual services and cheap labor. Cultural practices and individual sexual preferences aided by advancement in technologies and income disparities, both within developing countries and between developing and developed countries give rise to continuing demand for such services and exploitation. Efforts at limiting the supply without accompanying programmes to lower the demand will only cause the price to inflate and not much progress made on the total volume of the trade in terms of financial value or number of victims. Governments and relevant agencies must also address this gap in a more sustainable manner with short and long-term programmes and measures.

One of the challenges this poses for the national and international anti-trafficking efforts has been how to develop a common understanding of this complex phenomenon and to mobilize resources at addressing the root causes. This requires long term investment and thus has not been simple in terms of funds generating purposes where prosecution and protection agendas of trafficking tend to receive greater public and political attention. Economic Globalisation and Trafficking Of Women in the ASEAN Region : A Socio-Legal Study

Nevertheless governments and international agencies need to combat human trafficking at its root causes, be it economic disparities and/or social norms. The scale of the problem in many origin and destination countries requires that comprehensive economic and social development programmes be instituted with a special consideration to climinating the root causes of the supply of and demand for human trafficking.

f. Presentation Of Best Practices

A good practice in a locality or a region may not be suitable to another. An important challenge to adopting and replicating good practices is an ability to visualize an application of an idea or concept in one's own or another cultural and geographical context with different conditions and limitations. Such a process requires considerable understanding of and extensive experiences in the issue and perhaps extensive consultation with stakeholders. A successful mass information campaign with a particular set of activities in one country does not necessarily guarantee its successful replication at the regional level where means of communication and nature of trafficking problems can vary greatly from one country to another.

g. Public Awareness Campaign

Public awareness campaign plays an important role in providing information to emigrants regarding regular migration and rights of migrants as well as warning to potential victims of trafficking of risks and consequences of trafficking. Public awareness campaign can help prevent trafficking thus relieving the workload of law enforcement officials and those involved in return and reintegration processes. A campaign relies on a number of formal and informal media channels, including active participation of educational institutions and law enforcement agencies.

The effectiveness of a typical information campaign lies in its credibility. Public information campaigns would be more credible by providing balanced information to migrants or potential trafficking victims. From IOM's experience, campaigns should try to balance the "negative" with the "positive" as overly negative message can quickly become counter productive.⁴⁹ It is also more effective to employ an information campaign together with a number of other measures aimed at addressing the trafficking problem. Information can greatly increase the impact of other preventive intervention, law enforcement, and return and reintegration work.⁵⁰

A challenge for implementing public awareness campaigns is the ability to instill and retain the realization of the trafficking scourge in the psychic of the general public and particularly the potential victims. Despite the fact that the message may get lost over time and space, there is an on-going need for the campaigns to be repetitious due to changes in targeted populations. There will continue to be a need for public awareness campaigns as long as the root causes, whatever they maybe, continue to drive victims to the trafficking rings.

⁴⁹ IOM, IOM Mass Information Campaigns: Overview.

⁵⁰ IOM, IOM Mass Information Campaigns: Overview

Given the scope of the problem, is there a need for a regional-wide m_{ass} information campaign to encourage national public debates and mobilize societies and communities against human trafficking? Should such a major campaign be subdivided to focus on specific populations and sub-regions? Should destination and transit countries come together and help finance such an undertaking, which may be needed not only in origin countries but also in destination countries – i.e. a campaign against illegal sex industry? It is obvious that efficient transportation facilities make human trafficking more wide spread than ever and no more regional in nature . Information sharing on the mobility of victims should be made known to sending, receiving and transit countries in order to facilitate monitoring and breaking of the chains of trafficking movements before they become permanent. Sex industry should not be allowed in any anti-human trafficking countries. Adoption of legislatures on anti-human trafficking should be reflected in its' implementation and enforcements.

| Prevention | Protection | Assistance |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Government | Domestic & legal | Facilitate prosecution of |
| regulations | framework | cases |
| Research, data | Implement legislation on | Livelihood assistance |
| collection on | trafficking | programs for survivors |
| trafficking cases | | |
| Increased economic | Training of law | Counseling and healing |
| opportunities for | enforcement agencies | of survivors |
| women at home | | |
| Awareness | Education, campaign, | Training programme, |
| | dissemination of | Legal literacy |
| | information on trafficking | |
| Gender orientation of | Consciousness raising | Religious and moral |
| young women and | | consciousness |
| men | | |

Table 1.1 : Strategies In Prevention, Protection And Support for Victimised Women

The above table simplifies the preventive measures, its means and assistance that can be provided to trafficked victims. Regulations can be established by developing domestic legal framework. This helps facilitates prosecution cases when trafficking is identified. Trafficking cases should be brought to court and such cases must be recorded to ensure law enforcement. Livelihood assistance program should be introduced to help survivors deal with their everyday life.

CONCLUSION

Governments, NGOs (non-governmental organisations), and international organizations have responded to the human trafficking phenomenon with varying degrees of successes and shortcomings. Many national and several regional initiatives have been introduced

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and subsequently fallen by the way side, but some persist and indicate promising prospects. Despite the lack of systematic and comprehensive data collected, it is also clear that increasing numbers of victims have fallen into the hands of traffickers across the Asia-Pacific. Many have been rescued and assisted; still many have escaped or returned on their own.

From a perspective of viewing trafficking as a process, prevention is one of the most important areas of programme/activities in the struggle against human trafficking. A reason for this is that prevention activities intervene in the process primarily before the acts of trafficking take place and inflict damage or casualty on the victims or potential victims. Prevention efforts are thus useful and valuable in a sense that they would at least potentially save material costs as well as human costs in the battle against trafficking. It is thus necessary to perceive trafficking prevention as an ongoing part and parcel of a comprehensive counter-trafficking programme - be it in terms of public awareness campaigns, or as part of education, law enforcement, legislation and regulations, or implementation of a national anti-trafficking policy. For Malaysia, MATIP, 2007 provide a new strength for efforts to fight against trafficking in persons. Although, there are many that have been done, but there are still many that can be done to help out with the prevention of anti-trafficking against persons. Efficient cross-boarder control and the fight against the use of forged documents or forging act on personal data in important documents such as passport, identification cards and permits can be strategize to halt trafficking in persons⁵¹ among ASEAN countries. It seems that globalization will pursue its course anyway and anyhow but it should not be used to strategize the victimization of others, particularly women. Economic globalisation should indicate a positive approach towards providing people with peace and harmony instead of taking advantage on the weaker parties and the developing countries.

Significant amount of resources has been mobilised in the fight against human trafficking, but there is still much to be done in all areas and many more important challenges that need to be overcome. All parties concerned can and certainly should do more in the prevention of human trafficking. The phenomenon of globalisation adds greater complexities to this quest, particularly in the economic arena, but also within the context of culture and politics. Trafficking of women has been the "oldest and ugliest evil" trade in the world. Economic globalisation has certainly add great impact to it when women and other marginalised communities suffered disproportionately from free trade agreement. When communities become less stable, it is the women who become victimized by the global economic system. For that reason, economic policy made by the government and the ASEAN member countries must be gender sensitize to prevent victimisation of women *via* Trafficking in Persons.

⁵¹ Rohani Abdul Rahim et.al, Pemalsuan Dokumen: Isu dan Perlaksanaan Perundangan Migrasi, paper presented in International Conference on Cororate Law 2009- Contemporary Roles and Challenges, 1-3 June 2009, Universitas Airlangga, Surabaya, Indonesia & College of Law, Government & International Studies, Universiti Utara Malaysia, KBRI & Bank Rakyat.

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