

Recommendations

Recommendation 1

2.24 The committee recommends that member agencies of the Interdepartmental Committee on Human Trafficking and Slavery strengthen their coordination and engagement with each other, and that frontline Commonwealth agencies strengthen existing relationships with state and territory frontline agencies.

Recommendation 2

2.37 The committee recommends that the Commonwealth government funds the *National Action Plan to Combat Human Trafficking and Slavery 2015–19* so that it may be fully implemented, with a human rights-based approach to its implementation.

Recommendation 3

2.84 The committee recommends that the Commonwealth government increases the number of Australian Federal Police officers with specialised human trafficking and anti-slavery training in all states and territories.

Recommendation 4

2.85 The committee recommends that the Commonwealth government:

- expands training for frontline staff employed by the Australian Federal Police, the Department of Immigration and Border Protection and the Fair Work Ombudsman with respect to the Commonwealth offences at Divisions 270 and 271 of the *Criminal Code Act 1995*;
- works with its state and territory counterparts to ensure that state and territory police also receive adequate training with respect to the Commonwealth offences at Divisions 270 and 271 of the *Criminal Code Act 1995*; and
- ensures that this training includes reference to non-government organisations working on human trafficking, slavery and slavery-like practices so that they can refer victims for support and assistance offered through non-government organisations.

Recommendation 5

2.99 The committee recommends that the Commonwealth government commits to continuous funding of overseas anti-trafficking programs, including AATIP and the work undertaken by the International Labour Organization with respect to migrant workers in the ASEAN member states.

Recommendation 6

2.117 The committee recommends the Commonwealth government de-links access to the Support for Trafficked People Program from compliance with criminal investigations.

2.118 The committee recommends that the Commonwealth government facilitates and expedites family reunification for victims of trafficking, slavery and slavery-like offences.

Recommendation 7

2.130 The committee recommends the establishment of a national compensation scheme for victims of trafficking, slavery and slavery-like offences to be funded by proceeds of crime.

Recommendation 8

2.136 The committee recommends that the Commonwealth government considers ways in which to make the existing reparation orders available under section 21B of the *Crimes Act 1914* more accessible to victims of trafficking, slavery and slavery-like offences.

Recommendation 9

2.151 The committee recommends that the Commonwealth government considers appointing an Anti-Slavery and Trafficking Commissioner, to:

- monitor the implementation of the *National Action Plan to Combat Human Trafficking and Slavery 2015–19*;
- provide recommendations, advice and guidance to government agencies on the exercise of their functions;
- oversee the effectiveness of Commonwealth legislation and policies intended to reduce the prevalence of human trafficking, slavery and slavery-like practices and respond to corresponding offences; and
- collect and request data and information on these practices.

Recommendation 10

3.21 The committee recommends that the Commonwealth government:

- expands the pre-departure briefings and information currently available through the Seasonal Worker Program to a wider range of pre-departure countries and other categories of visa holders eligible to work in Australia, and

- introduces post-arrival briefings to ensure migrant workers are provided with relevant information from the Fair Work Ombudsman.

Recommendation 11

3.34 The committee recommends that the Commonwealth government strengthens visa protections where a visa holder has been subject to trafficking, slavery and slavery-like offences.

Recommendation 12

3.45 The committee recommends that the Commonwealth government establishes a licensing regime for labour hire companies.

Recommendation 13

4.1 The committee recommends that the Commonwealth government commission balanced and constructive research into the prevalence of sex trafficking into and within Australia.

Recommendation 14

4.20 The committee recommends that the Commonwealth government strengthens visa systems to prevent involuntary human trafficking into the sex industry in Australia.

Recommendation 15

4.26 The committee recommends that Australian governments support and fund initiatives to inform migrant sex workers about their legal rights and obligations both pre-departure and post-arrival in Australia.

Recommendation 16

4.52 The committee recommends that the Commonwealth government investigates the adequacy of current legislative provisions and criminal offences to address cybersex trafficking and makes legislative amendments as necessary where current arrangements, including the provisions of the *Criminal Code Act 1995*, are ineffectual.

Recommendation 17

5.26 The committee recommends that the Commonwealth government considers extending the application of protection orders relating to forced marriage to people over 18 years of age.

Recommendation 18

5.38 The committee recommends that the Commonwealth government continues to fund organisations and programs that engage in outreach, education and awareness-raising activities on forced marriage issues.

Recommendation 19

5.40 The committee recommends that Australian governments consider the inclusion of education on forced marriage in school curricula.

Recommendation 20

5.52 The committee recommends that information on forced marriage is consistently and routinely provided to newly arrived migrants in Australia through their engagement with government officials and agencies, as well as appropriate community groups and programs.