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# THE WOMEN'S LEGAL RIGHTS INITIATIVE

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON  
“DEVELOPMENT OF ANTI-TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS  
LEGISLATION”, MOZAMBIQUE**

April 3, 2006

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## **THE WOMEN'S LEGAL RIGHTS INITIATIVE**

A Task Order Under the Women in Development IQC

Contract No. GEW-I-00-02-00016-00

The author's views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the United States Agency for International Development or the United States Government.



REPÚBLICA DE MOÇAMBIQUE  
MINISTÉRIO DA JUSTIÇA

**Memorandum of Understanding**

“Development of Anti-trafficking in Persons Legislation”

Between:

*Ministry of Justice, Mozambique, represented by Dr. Paulo ASSUBUJI, Director of Studies, Legislation and Advisory Cabinet, Ministry of Justice*

And

*Women's Legal Rights Initiative (WLR) / Washington, DC represented by Ms. Mary Theisen*

The countries of Southern Africa host human trafficking activities ranging from global crimes syndicates to local trade in persons across land border. The region's young women and children are particularly vulnerable to being victimized by this modern form of slavery. Within Mozambique, women and girls are trafficked into South Africa to serve primarily as concubines. Mozambique remains fertile ground for traffickers seeking to recruit those individuals made most vulnerable by war, poverty, unemployment and general lack of opportunity.

In December 2000, Mozambique signed the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crimes and its supplemental Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children (hereinafter “UN Trafficking Protocol”). Mozambique is in the process of ratifying these treaties and depositing them with the United Nations. In the interim, the Ministry of Justice seeks to develop domestic anti-trafficking legislation to specifically criminalize trafficking in persons, and provide for the protection and rehabilitation of victims, and prevention initiatives.

Meanwhile, the Government of Mozambique intends to produce domestic anti-trafficking legislation in order to reinforce punitive measures for trafficking in persons and provide protection and rehabilitation of victims as well as prevention initiatives.

USAID/Mozambique and the Women's Legal Rights Initiative/Mozambique (WLR) are committed to assisting the Ministry of Justice in the development and dissemination of draft anti-

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TIPs legislation. WLR is ready and willing to provide the necessary and reasonable technical, logistical and financial assistance to an organized effort to develop anti-TIPs legislation. WLR's ultimate objective is to strengthen and promote the rights of Mozambican victims of trafficking and facilitate the eventual prosecution of perpetrators, prevention of the trade and protection and rehabilitation of the victims.

### **Article 1 Objective**

The purpose of this MOU is to commit the parties to this project to develop TIPs legislation and to delineate the respective responsibilities with respect to its implementation.

### **Article 2 Responsibilities of Parties**

1. WLR/Mozambique agrees to undertake the following activities:

- a) In cooperation with Rede Came, provide logistical and technical support as needed to the consultants to draft the legislation, through the provision of an expert in legislation and comparative AT laws.
- b) In cooperation with Rede Came, provide all logistical support for the for three public hearings at which the TIPs Drafting Team and the Ministry of Justice will present and cultivate support for the draft, to take place in Maputo, Beira and Nampula. WLR will provide logistical support for the transportation and reasonable accommodations, and for the logistics of conducting the hearings at local venues (space rental, materials, coffee breaks, lunches, etc.) and preparing the list of potential participants interested in taking part of the process.

2. The Ministry of Justice of Mozambique agrees to undertake the following activities:

- a) Contract with a team of consultants to prepare draft legislation to combat trafficking in persons in Mozambique. The provisions of such draft legislation will be consistent with the United Nations Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children (hereinafter "UN Trafficking Protocol"), which the government of Mozambique signed on December 15, 2000. The draft legislation will include measures to criminalize trafficking, provide for assistance to and protection of victims of trafficking, and provide for the prevention of trafficking.
- b) Promote the free flow of information amongst the ministries, governmental offices, and civil society and the Parliament on matters concerning the draft TIPs legislation;
- c) Promote public hearings to present and discuss the TIPs legislation draft in Maputo, Beira and Nampula; and

d) Advocate before other ministries and governmental bodies as necessary on the adoption of TIPs legislation.

**Article 3  
Entry into Force**

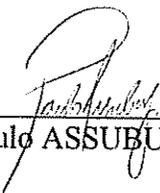
This Morandum of Understanding will take effect April 1, 2006.

**Article 4  
Modification**

This Memorandum of Understanding may be modified if agreed to in writing by the parties.

Signed in Maputo on April 3, 2006.

**For the Ministry of Justice of Mozambique:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Paulo ASSUBUJI

3/04/06  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**For Women's Legal Rights Initiative/ Washington, DC:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mary THEISEN

April 3, 2006  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date