

## Press Release

### **IOM Turkmenistan continues to build law enforcement capacity on combating human trafficking through the provision of trainings**

**Ashgabat, Turkmenistan, August 7, 2018** – At the beginning of August, International Organization for Migration/UN Migration Agency (IOM) organized two back to back three day trainings on Identification and Protection of Victims of Trafficking (VoTs), Considering the Psychological Needs of VoTs and the Human Rights of Victims. The first training for prosecutors and representatives of law enforcement agencies has been organized in Mary and the second training of trainers (ToT) for teachers of high military institutes and high educational establishments of law enforcement agencies has been organized in Ashgabat within the IOM Combating Human Trafficking Project, funded by US Department of State's Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL).



Training on Identification and Protection of Victims of Trafficking (VoTs), Considering the Psychological Needs of VoTs and the Human Rights of Victims, Mary, July – 1 August, 2018

The purpose of the trainings was to strengthen capacity of law enforcement agencies on identification and protection of VoTs, considering the psychological needs and human rights of victims as well as to improve capacity of teachers to train students on identification and protection of victims of trafficking.

IOM experienced expert from Belarus familiarized participants with international standards and national legislation in the area of combating human trafficking, the applicable international standards and guidance (Standard Operating Procedures) on identification of victims of trafficking.

Participants from different agencies worked together in small groups to enhance their knowledge and skills to identify victims of trafficking, to protect their rights and refer them for assistance to social services and other service providers as well as to build relationships across professional groups. During the training, participants also received hand-outs and draft of Standard Operating Procedures on Identification of Victims of Trafficking, developed by the national working group on combating human trafficking. These hand-out materials will equip them with the special skills needed for the early identification and support to the victims of trafficking for all kinds of exploitation, whether related or not to organized crime.



ToT training held in Ashgabat, 2 - 4 August 2018

TOT was an excellent opportunity for trainers to strengthen their knowledge and skills on identification and protection of victims of trafficking, considering the psychological needs and human rights of victims. The teachers/trainers were also equipped with adult teaching techniques that are extremely important for the effective dissemination of knowledge and skills to the students in their respective educational establishments using the training manual developed within this project. These trainings complemented previous and ongoing IOM activities in Turkmenistan within the framework of the project, which are implemented in cooperation with national authorities.

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