

TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS BY AIR AT EIA

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DEFINITION

Recruiting, transporting, transferring, harboring of persons by use of threat, force, abduction, fraud, deception and abuse of power or position for sexual exploitation, forced labour, organ harvest etc.

UCAA as a regulatory company has full responsibility of whatever happens at the airport.

It with other government agencies as below;

- ▶ ISO(International Security Organization)
- ▶ ESO(External Security Organization)
- ▶ IMMIGRATION
- ▶ AVPOL(Aviation Police)
- ▶ INTERPOL(International Police)
- ▶ CMI(Chieftaincy of Military Intelligence)

ROLES:

- **PROFILING:** Close attention is paid to an individual or passenger to notice any suspicious behaviour.
- **OBSERVATION:** An individual is seen acting suspicious at that particular time and concerned agencies are informed.
- **ACCESS CONTROL:** At the entry points, documents are verified in accordance to flights and destination of the passenger.
- **CCTV SURVEILLANCE:** Cameras are installed in different parts to monitor and track the movements and behaviours of individuals.
- **ENFORCEMENT OF GOV'T REGULATIONS:** For example; guidelines on recruitment of Uganda migrant workers abroad(2015)-MOL and SD.
- **SUBCOMMITTEE OF JOINT SECURITY:** This is a committee that puts emphasis on fighting against trafficking in persons by air at the airport.
- **GOVERNMENT ADVISE ON MOU:** This is done with the outside world in regard to external labour(Jordan, Saudi Arabia, UAE).
- **AUDITS:** Offenders are got and their passports are confiscated.

CHALLENGES

- **INSIDER PERSONS:** These include all airport workers who connive with the traffickers to fulfill their missions.
- **POOR PAY:** Airport workers earning little salary are forced to involve themselves into crimes like trafficking to survive.
- **POOR COORDINATION:** Agencies and stakeholder do not work together to fight trafficking, like sharing of information.
- **INADEQUATE TRAINING AND AWARENESS:** Most of the officers at the front lack knowledge on how to detect traffickers and victims of trafficking.
- **LIMITED RESOURCES:** The committee lacks enough resources to effectively handle cases up to their logical conclusion.

CHALLENGES

- CORRUPTION AT SNOE BALL BASIS
- VICTIMS ARE WILLING TO BE TRAFFICKED. This makes it difficult to track them.
- SLOW COURT PROCESSES:
- MOU NOT RESPECTED. This is between Uganda and other countries(MOL and SD)
- FORGED DOCUMENTATION. Its not easy to identify forged documents
- RAMPANT UNEMPLOYMENT: Making many vulnerable to crime.

OPPORTUNITIES

- TRAININGS AND AWARENESS: To equip the officers with enough knowledge and skills.
- DAILY OR FREQUENT UPDATES: Updates on issues of trafficking be provided for quick action.
- SENSITISATION. This should be done to all airport workers about the dangers of involving themselves into trafficking.
- ROTATIONAL DEPLOYMENT: This can be done among all agencies and staff working at the airport in order to fight insider threat.
- FOCAL COORDINATION OFFICE: All workers and agencies should know where to report in case a violation occurs.
- ARREST AND DEREGISTRATION: This must be followed and enforced on all offenders.

OPPORTUNITIES

- ACTION BY MOL and S D: Min. of Labour and Social Dev't is advised to make follow up, monitor and evaluate the MOU with the outside countries.
- INVESTMENT IN TRAFFICKING: There is need to have a deliberate effort in the fight against trafficking.

In a nutshell, UCAA plays the above mentioned roles working with other agencies at the airport to fight against trafficking in of persons by air. However, there are bottlenecks encountered which can be straightened as mentioned above.