

REPUBLIC



OF CYPRUS

87(I) of 2007

**THE COMBATING OF TRAFFICKING AND THE
EXPLOITATION
OF HUMAN BEINGS AND THE PROTECTION OF VICTIMS
LAW, 2007**

(English translation)

**Office of the Law Commissioner
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NOTE FOR THE READER

This publication of the Office of the Law Commissioner is an English translation of Law No. 87(I) of 2007 enacted in Greek.

However useful the English translation of the Law is in practice, it does not replace the original text of the Law since only the Greek text of the Law published in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Cyprus is authentic.

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No 87(I) of 2007
A LAW TO REVISE THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK GOVERNING
THE SPECIAL PROTECTION OF HUMAN BEINGS WHO ARE
VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING AND EXPLOITATION
AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

Preamble. For purposes of harmonization with the European Union acts with title–

Official Journal of the European Union OJL 203, 1.8.2002, p.1 “Council Framework Decision 2002/629/JHA of 19 July 2002 on combating trafficking in human beings,”

Official Journal of the European Union OJL 13, 20.1.2004, p.44 “Council Framework Decision 2004/68/JHA of 22 December 2003 on combating the sexual exploitation of children and child pornography;” and with the European Community act with title:

Official Journal of the European Union OJL 261, 6.8.2004, p.19 “Council Directive 2004/81/EC of 29 April 2004 on the residence permit issued to third-country nationals who are victims of trafficking in human beings or who have been the subject of an action to facilitate illegal immigration, who cooperate with the competent authorities,” and

11(III) of 2003 for the purposes of better implementation of the United Nations Convention against the Transnational Organised Crime and the Protocols thereto (Ratification) Law, 2003 and, in particular, the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, Supplementing the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organised Crime, of the Convention for the Suppression of the Trafficking in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others (Ratification) Law, 1983, of the Optional Protocol to the United Nations

57 of 1983. Convention on the Rights of the Child, on the Sale of

6(III) of 2006.

Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography (Ratification) Law, 2006, as well as the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings which was signed by the Republic in Warsaw on the 16th of May, 2005.

The House of Representatives enacts as follows:

Short title. **1.** This Law may be cited as the Combating of Trafficking and the Exploitation of Human Beings and the Protection of Victims Law, 2007.

**PART I – INTERPRETATION, SCOPE AND FIELD
OF APPLICATION**

Interpretation. **2.** In this Law, unless the context otherwise provides–

“abuse of authority” includes the case of a victim who is of kinship by blood or by affinity up to the third degree with the person committing the criminal offences referred to in this Law, or the case of a victim having any other relationship with the person who because of his position exercises authority or influence over the victim including the relationship with a guardian, teacher, employer, a person responsible of any public institution offering accommodation or in which persons are detained or taken in custody under any law or decision of the administrative or judicial authorities as well as with other persons with analogous position or attributes;

“bodily harm” means any bodily hurt, disease or disorder whether permanent or temporary;

“carrier” includes any company having the management, supervision or control of any means of transport used for the conveyance of persons or/and goods for remuneration

or/and for lease;

“child” means any person under the age of eighteen years;

“child pornography” means pornographic material that visually depicts or represents–

- (a) a real child involved or engaged in sexually explicit conduct, including lascivious exhibition of the genitals or the public area of a child; or
- (b) a real person appearing to be a child involved or engaged in the conduct mentioned in paragraph (a) of this definition; or
- (c) realistic images of a non-existent child involved or engaged in the conduct mentioned in paragraph (a) of this definition.

17(III) of
2004.

“citizen of the Union” means any person holding the nationality of a member state of the European Union and includes persons holding the nationality of a state contracting party to the Agreement on the European Economic Area, which was signed at Oporto on 2 May 1992 and ratified by the Agreement on the Participation of the Czech Republic, the Republic of Estonia, the Republic of Cyprus, the Republic of Latvia, the Republic of Lithuania, the Republic of Malta, the Republic of Hungary, the Republic of Poland, the Republic of Slovenia and the Slovak Republic in the European Economic Area and Final Act (Ratification) Law, 2004;

“coercion” includes–

- (a) threats of serious harm to or physical restraint against any person;

- (b) any scheme or plan intended to cause a person to believe that failure to perform an act would result in serious harm to or physical restraint against any person;
- (c) the abuse of authority or other forms of pressure against any person aimed at his full economic dependence or servitude;
- (d) the abuse or threatened abuse of legal or administrative procedures concerning the status of any person;

“compulsory labour or services” includes compulsory labour or services provided by the victim beyond the terms of his labour or provision of services;

“computer system” means any device or group of interconnected or related devices, one or more of which, pursuant to a programme, perform automatic processing of data;

“dependent person” means a person who is of the first and second degree of kinship with the victim and includes persons who are financially dependent on him not being relatives;

“exploitation” includes the exploitation of a person's labour or services, including forced or compulsory labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude, the removal or trading or trafficking in organs, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation including pornography and, in the case of children, includes also the worst forms of child labour within the meaning of the Convention Concerning the

^{31(III)} of
2000.

Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour (Ratification) Law, 2000;

141(I) of 2002
65(I) of 2003
76(I) of 2003
62(I) of 2004
13(I) of 2006.

“Immigration Officer” means the Director of the Civil Registry and Migration Department established under the Civil Registry Law;

“involved services” means the Law Office of the Republic, the Ministry of the Interior, the Civil Registry and Migration Department and the Asylum Service of the Ministry of the Interior, the Ministry of Justice and Public Order, the Police, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the consular authorities of the Republic abroad, the Ministry of Finance, the Labour Department, the Department of Labour Relations, the Social Insurance Services and the Social Welfare Services of the Ministry of Labour and Social Insurance, the Ministry of Health and its competent services, the Ministry of Education and Culture and its competent services;

“legal person” means any entity having legal personality recognized as such pursuant to the relevant laws of the Republic or any other relevant applicable law, except for the government services or other organizations governed by public law in the exercise of state authority and for public international organizations;

“multidisciplinary coordinating group” means the group established under section 47 of this Law;

“National Coordinator” means the Minister of the Interior

or the Director-General of the Ministry of the Interior acting as his deputy, as designated by the Council of Ministers' Decision No. 61.961 and dated 12.5.2005;

“national mechanism for identification” means the mechanism for cooperation between the involved services and non-governmental organizations for identifying the victims and fulfilling the obligations stipulated in this Law for the protection and promotion of the victims' rights;

57 of 1972
85(I) of 1997.

“non-governmental organizations” means any non-profit organizations duly registered pursuant to the Societies and Institutions Law, as amended for the time being whose aim is, by virtue of their articles of association, to be active in the areas of combating trafficking and exploitation of human beings or the protection of human rights or the rights of migrants and refugees or the labour rights and providing any supporting services free of charge;

“pornography” means the visual or audiovisual recording or representation by any means of a sexually explicit conduct with any person or with his participation and the term “pornographic material” shall be construed accordingly;

“prosecution authorities” means the Attorney-General of the Republic or/and the Police;

“serious harm” includes any bodily hurt against any person, any harm to his family and dependents, his property and reputation;

“sexual exploitation” includes–

- (a) coercing a person into prostitution or into participating in pornographic performances or

profiting from or otherwise exploiting a person for such purposes;

(b) importing or instigating or inciting or recruiting a person into prostitution or organizing or directing a person into prostitution or into participating in pornographic performances;

(c) engaging in sexual activities with a person, where–

(i) use is made of coercion, force or threats;

(ii) abuse is made of a recognized position of trust, authority or influence over the person or of guardianship or custody of persons;

“sexual exploitation of a child” shall have the meaning assigned to the term of sexual exploitation and includes engaging in sexual activities with a child when money or other forms of remuneration or consideration is given as payment in exchange for the child engaging in sexual activities;

“sexually explicit conduct” includes, among others, sexual intercourse between children or between a child and an adult whether of the same or opposite sex, oral sex, bestiality, masturbation, sadistic or masochistic behavior in the context of sexual acts;

“third-country national” means any person who is not a citizen of the Union;

“trafficking in human beings” means the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of a person, including exchange or transfer of control over that person, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of an 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;

“unaccompanied minor” means a child being a third-country national or a stateless person who arrives on the territory being under the control of the Republic, unaccompanied by an adult responsible for him, whether by law or custom and for as long as he is not effectively taken into care of such a person and includes a child who is left unaccompanied after he had entered the territory being under the control of the Government of the Republic;

“victim” means a natural person who has suffered harm, including physical and mental injury or economic loss directly caused by the commission of the offences provided for in this Law;

“violence” means any act or omission or conduct which may cause physical, sexual or mental harm to the victim.

Scope of this Law.

3. The purpose of this Law shall be the criminalization of trafficking in human beings, exploitation of human beings and child pornography, the taking of measures for the protection and support of victims of the said offences as well as the establishment of a monitoring mechanism for the implementation of the said measures.

Field of application of this Law.

4.–(1) This Law shall apply to the prevention, investigation and prosecution of the offences prescribed in Part II thereof, as well as to the protection of victims of such offences, where–

(a) Such offences are transnational in nature and involve an unlawful association within the

Cap.

154. meaning of section 63B of the Criminal Code;
- 3 of 1962
43 of 1963
41 of 1964
69 of 1964
70 of 1965
5 of 1967
- (b) such offences are transnational in nature not involving an unlawful association within the meaning hereinabove; or
- 58 of 1967
44 of 1972
92 of 1972
29 of 1973
59 of 1974
3 of 1975
- (c) such offences are not transnational in nature irrespective of whether the involvement of an unlawful association exists or not.
- 13 of 1979
10 of 1981
46 of 1982
86 of 1983
186 of 1986
111 of 1989
- (2) The provisions of sections 20 to 25 of the Criminal Code shall be applicable to the punishment of the instigation of, aiding or attempt to commit the offences provided for in this Law.
- 236 of 1991
6(I) of 1994
3(I) of 1996
99(I) of 1996
36(I) of 1997
40(I) of 1998
45(I) of 1998
15(I) of 1999
37(I) of 1999
38(I) of 1999
129(I) of 1999
30(I) of 2000
43(I) of 2000
77(I) of 2000
162(I) of 2000
169(I) of 2000
181(I) of 2000
27(I) of 2001
12(I) of 2002
85(I) of 2002
144(I) of 2002
145(I) of 2002
25(I) of 2003
48(I) of 2003
84(I) of 2003
164(I) of 2003
124(I) of 2004
31(I) of 2005
18(I) of 2006
130(I) of 2006.
- (3) For the purpose of proof of the offences provided for in this Law, no corroborating evidence shall be required.

PART II – CRIMINAL OFFENCES

Trafficking in human beings.

5. Any person who recruits, transports, transfers, harbours

or receives a person, exchanges or transfers the control over that person, for the purpose of exploitation by means of—

- (a) threats,
- (b) use of force or other forms of coercion,
- (c) abduction,
- (d) fraud or deception,
- (e) abuse of power or a position of vulnerability which is such that the said person has no real and acceptable alternative but to submit to the abuse involved,
- (f) giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person,

shall be guilty of a felony and shall be liable on conviction to imprisonment not exceeding fifteen years.

Trafficking in children.

6. Any person who recruits, transports, transfers, harbours, or receives a child, exchanges or transfers the control over that child for the purpose of exploitation, shall be guilty of a felony and shall be liable on conviction to imprisonment not exceeding twenty years.

Trafficking and exploitation of human vitals.

7.—(1) Any person who recruits, transports, transfers, harbours or receives a person, exchanges or transfers the control over that person, for the purpose of exploitation or sale of its vitals, shall be guilty of a felony and shall be liable on conviction to imprisonment not exceeding twenty-five years.

(2) Any person who during the commission of the offence provided for in subsection (1) of this section causes either intentionally or by omission the death of the victim shall be guilty of a felony and shall be liable on conviction to life imprisonment.

Exploitation in labour.

8. Any person who exploits labour or services of a person including forced or compulsory labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery or servitude, by means of–

- (a) threats,
- (b) use of force or other forms of coercion,
- (c) abduction,
- (d) fraud or deception,
- (e) abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability which is such that the said person has no real and acceptable alternative but to submit to the abuse involved,
- (f) giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person,

shall be guilty of a felony and shall be liable on conviction to imprisonment not exceeding six years and when the conduct involves a minor, shall be liable to imprisonment not exceeding ten years.

Sexual exploitation of adult persons.

9. Any person who sexually exploits or procures a person to be a prostitute by means of–

- (a) threats,
- (b) use of force or other forms of coercion,
- (c) abduction,

- (d) fraud or deception,
- (e) abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability which is such that the said person has no real and acceptable alternative but to submit to the abuse involved,
- (f) giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person,

shall be guilty of a felony and shall be liable on conviction to imprisonment not exceeding ten years.

Sexual exploitation of children.

10. Any person who sexually exploits or procures a child to be a prostitute shall be guilty of a felony and shall be liable on conviction to imprisonment not exceeding twenty years.

Child pornography.

11.—(1) Any person who—

- (a) produces of child pornography;
- (b) distributes, disseminates, or transmits by any means or system of child pornography, including the computer system;
- (c) supplies, provides information as to the availability or makes available by any means or system of child pornography including the computer system;
- (d) acquires or possesses of child pornography, whether by computer system or not;
- (e) causes any child whether by computer system or not to participate into child prostitution,

shall commit an offence and shall be liable on conviction to imprisonment not exceeding ten years or to a fine not exceeding forty two thousand seventy one hundred and fifteen euros* or to both such penalties.

(2) Acts provided for in subsection (1) of this section shall not constitute an offence in the case of paragraphs (a) and (b) provided that the production and possession of images of children having reached the age of sexual consent is made with their consent and solely for their own private use:

Provided that, even where the existence of consent has been established, it shall not be considered valid if for example superior age, maturity, position, status, experience or the victim's dependency on the person having committed the offences referred to in subsection (1), has been abused in achieving the consent.

Aggravating
circumstances.

12. During the trial of the criminal offences, referred to in sections 5 to 11 of this Law, the following circumstances shall be deemed to be aggravating:

- (a) The commission of the criminal offence has deliberately or by gross negligence endangered the life of the victim;
- (b) the criminal offence has been committed against a victim who was "particularly vulnerable"; a victim shall be considered to have been "particularly vulnerable" when he was under the age of twelve years or he is a child with special needs;

* P.I. 312/2007 issued pursuant to section 9(1) of the Adoption of the Euro Law, 2007 [L. 33(I)/2007, as amended].

(c) the criminal offence has been committed by use of serious violence or has caused particularly serious harm to the victim; and

(d) the criminal offence has been committed within the framework of an unlawful association as prescribed in section 63B of the Criminal Code.

Detention of personal documents.

13.–(1) Any person who deliberately destroys, conceals, removes from its legal owner, detains, seizes or possesses the passport or any other travel or other identity document of any person, including the residence permit or any other documents of such a person, issued pursuant to the Aliens and Immigration Law or the Civil Registry Law, as amended or substituted for the time being–

Cap. 105.
2 of 1972
54 of 1976
50 of 1988
197 of 1989
100(I) of 1996
43(I) of 1997
14(I) of 1998
22(I) of 2001
164(I) of 2001
88(I) of 2002
220(I) of 2002
66(I) of 2003
178(I) of 2004
8(I) of 2007.

(a) within the framework of the commission of the criminal offences, referred to in this Law; or

(b) with intent to commit the criminal offences referred to in this Law; or

(c) with intent to unlawfully prevent or restrict or attempt to prevent or restrict the personal freedom of any victim pursuant to this Law,

shall be guilty of a felony and shall be liable on conviction to imprisonment not exceeding five years or to a fine not exceeding seventeen thousand and eighty six euros* or to both such penalties.

(2) It shall be a defence that the acts referred to in subsection (1) have been committed by the victim as a

* P.I. 312/2007 issued pursuant to section 9(1) of the Adoption of the Euro Law, 2007 [L. 33(I)/2007, as amended].

result of his involvement in the commission of the offences referred to in section 5 to 11 of this Law.

Keeping, etc
of a brothel.

14.–(1) Any person who knowingly,

- (a) keeps, or manages or finances or takes part in the financing of a brothel or other place used for sexual exploitation of a person or becomes an accessory to the above acts;
- (b) rents a building or any part thereof or other place for purposes of prostitution or sexual exploitation of any other person or becomes an accessory to the above acts,

shall commit an offence and shall be liable on conviction to imprisonment not exceeding five years or to a fine not exceeding seventeen thousand and eighty six euros* or to both such penalties.

(2) Any person who attempts to commit the offences referred to in subsection (1), shall commit an offence and shall be liable on conviction to imprisonment not exceeding three years or to a fine not exceeding eight thousand five hundred and forty three euros* or to both such penalties.

(3) Any person who organizes or directs other persons to commit the offences referred to in subsection (1) shall commit an offence, and shall be liable on conviction to the same penalties as the perpetrator of the offence.

(4) Any person who instigates or aids or incites another to commit the offences referred to in subsection (1) shall commit an offence and shall be liable on conviction to

* P.I. 312/2007 issued pursuant to section 9(1) of the Adoption of the Euro Law, 2007 [L. 33(I)/2007, as amended].

imprisonment not exceeding two years or to a fine not exceeding five thousand one hundred and twenty five euros* or to both such penalties.

Bribery of persons employed in the public service.

15.–(1) The promise, offering or giving to a person employed in the public service, directly or indirectly, from any person, of an undue advantage, for himself or another person or entity, in order that the officer act or refrain from acting in the exercise of his official duties, pursuant to this Law, shall constitute an offence and the said person shall be liable on conviction to imprisonment not exceeding five years or to a fine not exceeding seventeen thousand and eighty six euros* or to both such penalties.

(2) The solicitation or acceptance by a person employed in the public service, directly or indirectly, of an undue advantage for himself or another person or entity, in order that the officer act or refrain from acting in the exercise of his official duties pursuant to this Law, shall constitute an offence and shall be liable on conviction to imprisonment not exceeding five years or to a fine not exceeding seventeen thousand and eighty six euros* or to both such penalties.

(3) For the purposes of this section, the term “person employed in the public service” shall have the meaning assigned to it by section 4 of the Criminal Code.

(4) Subsections (1) and (2) of this section shall apply, mutatis mutandis, to the persons providing services either voluntarily or in payment to non-governmental

* P.I. 312/2007 issued pursuant to section 9(1) of the Adoption of the Euro Law, 2007 [L. 33(I)/2007, as amended].

organizations and who are in contact with the victim.

Exclusion of certain defences.

16. It shall not be a defence for the accused in relation to the offences provided for in this Law any of the following circumstances—

- (a) the fact that the accused was not aware of or did not believe that the victim of the offence was a child; or
- (b) the fact that the victim consents to the unlawful act constituting the offence or receives any monetary or other reward in respect of it; or
- (c) the fact that the act for which the accused was charged shall not constitute an offence or shall not be prohibited in whole or in part within the state where it has taken place.

Additional penalties.

17.—(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of any other Law and notwithstanding the imposition of any other penalty for the commission of the criminal offences referred to in this Law, the court may, at all stages of the criminal proceedings, order—

- (a) temporary or permanent disqualification from the practice of commercial activities related to education, care and custody of children where the victim of the offence is a child;
- (b) temporary or permanent disqualification, either directly or through third persons, from the practice of commercial activities, by reason of which the offence has been committed;
- (c) temporary or permanent closure of premises or establishments which have been used for

committing the offence; and

- (d) confiscation of any object or other instrumentalities used for the commission of any offence provided for in this Law.

(2) An omission to comply with an order of the court made pursuant to paragraphs (a) to (c) of subsection (1) of this section, shall constitute a criminal offence and shall be punishable with imprisonment not exceeding three years or with a fine not exceeding eight thousand five hundred and forty three euros* or with both such penalties.

Ex officio
investigation.

18. The investigation or prosecution or institution of criminal proceedings in relation to the offences referred to in this Law shall not in any case be dependent upon the report or accusation made by the victim and the competent prosecution authorities shall, *ex officio*, act for the investigation, prosecution or institution of criminal proceedings against any persons involved in these offences.

Liability of legal
persons.

19.–(1) A legal person can be held liable for the offences referred to in this Law, when such offences are committed for its benefit, by any person acting either individually or as part of an organ of the legal person, who has a leading position within the legal person, based on–

- (a) a power of representation of the legal person; or
- (b) an authority to take decisions on behalf of the legal person; or
- (c) an authority to exercise control within the legal

* P.I. 312/2007 issued pursuant to section 9(1) of the Adoption of the Euro Law, 2007 [L. 33(I)/2007, as amended].

person.

(2) A legal person can be held liable for the commission of the offences provided for in this Law where the lack of supervision or control by a person referred to in the above subsection, has rendered possible the commission of the said offences for the benefit of that legal person by a person under its authority.

(3) Liability of a legal person under the above subsections shall not exclude criminal proceedings against natural persons who are perpetrators, instigators or accessories in the offences provided for in this Law.

Sanctions on
legal persons.

20.-(1) A legal person convicted for the commission of any offence referred to in this Law, shall be liable to a fine not exceeding five hundred twelve thousand, five hundred and eighty euros* and the Court may, in addition to any other penalty, order–

- (a) temporary or permanent exclusion from entitlement to public benefits or aid;
- (b) temporary or permanent disqualification from the practice of commercial activities;
- (c) placing under judicial supervision;
- (d) a judicial winding-up order;
- (e) temporary or permanent closure of establishments which have been used for committing the offence;
- (f) confiscation of any object or instrumentalities used for committing any offence referred to in this

* P.I. 312/2007 issued pursuant to section 9(1) of the Adoption of the Euro Law, 2007 [L. 33(I)/2007, as amended].

Law.

(2) An omission to comply with an order of the court made under paragraph (e) of subsection (1) of this section, shall constitute an offence and the legal person convicted shall be liable to a fine not exceeding one hundred seventy thousand, eight hundred and sixty euros* .

Liability of carriers.

21.-(1) For the purpose of applying this Law, any carrier conveying in the Republic any person not having in his possession his passport or any other travel or other identity document, shall commit a criminal offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding eighty five thousand four hundred and thirty euros* .

(2) Acts referred to in subsection (1) of this section shall not constitute a criminal offence if–

- (a) the carrier believed that the documents possessed by the passenger constituted the travel documents for his legal entry in the Republic; or
- (b) the passenger had in his possession his travel documents when he boarded on any means of conveyance to enter the Republic; or
- (c) his illegal entry in the Republic was necessary due to injury or illness of the passenger on board any means of conveyance or due to circumstances or phenomena beyond the control of the carrier.

* P.I. 312/2007 issued pursuant to section 9(1) of the Adoption of the Euro Law, 2007 [L. 33(I)/2007, as amended].

Claim for damages.

22.–(1) Notwithstanding and without prejudice to any other legal remedy provided for under any other law or regulations, the victim, within the meaning of this Law, shall have a statutory right to claim damages against any person responsible for the commission of the criminal offences referred to in this Law, who shall be respectively liable under civil law to pay any special and general damages to his victims, including any due debts by reason of the exploitation of the victim's labour.

(2) The afore-mentioned general damages must be just and reasonable and in assessing them the court shall take into account the following–

- (a) the extent of exploitation and the benefit which the offender had obtained or might have obtained from the exploitation of the victim;
- (b) the victim's future perspectives and to what extent they have been affected by reason of his exploitation;
- (c) the extent of the offender's liability;
- (d) the kinship or the position of authority or influence of the offender over his victim.

(3) The court, taking into account, the degree of cruelty of the exploitation or the kinship or position of authority of the offender over his victim, may award exemplary damages.

(4) The court, in assessing the special damages, shall take into account any expenses incurred by the victim as a consequence of exploitation, including his repatriation

expenses, where applicable.

(5) In case of death of the victim, the dependents of the victim shall have a statutory right to claim damages.

Right to
compensation
from the state.

2(III) of 1997.

Predicate
offences.

61(I) of 1996
25(I) of 1997
41(I) of 1998
120(I) of 1999
152(I) of 2000
118(I) of 2003
185(I) of 2004.

The Law as the
legal basis for
extradition.

23. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 22, the victim shall be entitled to obtain compensation from the Republic in accordance with the provisions and under the conditions of the European Convention on the Compensation of Victims of Violent Crimes (Ratification) Law, 1997, where applicable.

24.-(1) Offences committed in contravention of the provisions of this Law shall be deemed to be predicate offences pursuant to the Prevention and Suppression of Money Laundering Activities Law, as amended for the time being, as if they had been included in the said Law.

(2) Proceeds of crime provided for in this Law and confiscated pursuant to sections 22 and 24 of this Law, shall be used by the Republic for financing programmes of protection, support and social reintegration of victims as well as for the compensation of victims pursuant to the provisions of section 22 of this Law.

25. This Law shall constitute the legal basis for purposes of extradition, in relation to the commission of the offences referred to therein, in cases where the extradition of a person should be based on the existence of a bilateral agreement between the Republic and the requesting state party but such a bilateral agreement does not exist.

Extent of the jurisdiction of Courts.

26.–(1) Subject to the provisions of section 5 of the Criminal Code and notwithstanding the provisions of section 6 of the Criminal Code, the Courts of the Republic shall have jurisdiction to try all offences referred to in this Law, where such offences are committed for the benefit of a legal person established in the territory of the Republic.

(2) Subject to the provisions of section 5 of the Criminal Code and notwithstanding the provisions of section 6 of the Criminal Code, the Courts of the Republic shall have jurisdiction to try all offences referred to in this Law, where such offences are committed by means of a computer system accessed from the territory of the Republic, whether or not the computer system is on the territory of the Republic.

PART III – IDENTIFICATION AND PROTECTION OF VICTIMS

Informing the involved services.

27. The involved services are bound to inform their staff as to the provisions of this Law.

Basic principles governing the protection of victims.

28. The measures provided for in this Law for the protection of victims shall apply to all natural persons who are or have been victims–

(a) even if the said victims are third-country nationals and have illegally entered or resided in the Republic in contravention of the provisions of the Aliens and Immigration Law;

(b) irrespective of whether they co-operate with the prosecution authorities in order to bring the

persons responsible before the courts;

(c) without prejudice to the rights, obligations and responsibilities of the Republic and any person under international law, including international humanitarian law and international human rights law and, in particular, where applicable, the Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees which was concluded in Geneva, on 26 July 1951, and includes the Protocol which was ratified by the Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees (Ratification) Law, 1968 and the Refugee Law, as amended for the time being, and the principle of non-refoulement as contained therein;

73 of 1968.

6(I) of 2000
6(I) of 2002
53(I) of 2003
67(I) of 2003
9(I) of 2004
241(I) of 2004
154(I) of 2005.

(d) in a way that is not discriminatory to persons on the ground that they are victims within the meaning of this Law, and in accordance with the principle of non-discrimination as prescribed in the Constitution and the Laws of the Republic.

Identification and providing information to victims.

29.—(1) Where any involved service or non-governmental organization deems or has reasonable suspicions that any person is likely to be a victim pursuant to the provisions of this Law, shall refer that person to the Social Welfare Services which shall inform him for the rights and possibilities offered to him under this Law, and shall refer him directly to the Police which is competent to ascertain and to identify whether the said person is a victim.

(2) In accordance with subsection (1) of this section, the Social Welfare Services shall provide to the victim in a language that he can understand all the necessary information for the protection of their interests as victims, which may, where appropriate, be also given in writing and

such information shall include at least the following–

- (a) the name of the government services or non-governmental organizations to which they can turn for support;
- (b) the type of support which they can obtain;
- (c) the procedure relating to the bringing of charge before the prosecution authorities, the procedure for trying such cases as well as their role in connection with such procedures;
- (d) the terms and procedure under which they can obtain support and protection;
- (e) to what extent and on what terms they have access to legal advice or/and legal aid;
- (f) requirements for them to be entitled to compensation pursuant to section 22 of this Law; and
- (g) appropriate mechanisms enabling them to defend their rights in the event of residing in other state or in the event of their repatriation.

(3) The information provided for in subsection (2) may be granted by a non-governmental organization if this is provided in the protocol of co-operation with the involved service.

Granting of a residence permit for a reflection period to victims from third countries.

30.–(1) The Immigration Officer shall grant, free of charge, to a third-country national who is a victim, even if he had illegally entered or resided in the Republic, a temporary residence permit with a view of granting to him, a reflection period which shall be sufficient for him to recover and escape the influence of the perpetrators of the

offences provided for in this Law, so that he can take a decision, being fully aware of his rights, as to whether or not to co-operate with the prosecution authorities in the investigation of the offence or in judicial proceedings.

(2) The afore-mentioned residence permit for a reflection period, shall be valid at least for a month, and may be also renewed free of charge provided that the Immigration Officer deems it appropriate, taking in particular into account the best interests of the child where the victim is a minor.

(3) During the validity of the temporary residence permit for a reflection period, the third-country national shall have access to the treatment provided for in section 34 and it shall not be possible to enforce any expulsion order against him.

(4) The temporary residence permit for a reflection period shall not create any entitlement to residence under the Aliens and Immigration Law.

(5) The Immigration Officer may, at any time, revoke the reflection period, if any involved service has established that the third-country national concerned has actively, voluntarily and in his own initiative renewed contact with the perpetrators of the offences referred to in sections 5 to 11 of this Law or for reasons relating to public order or to the protection of national security.

(6) The Immigration Officer shall, in respect of third-country nationals who are victims and resident in the Republic, holding an employment permit which is subject to

restrictions under the Aliens and Immigration Law, approve a change in the employment sector.

(7) During the validity of the temporary residence permit for a reflection period, the victim's travel documents shall, upon his consent, be delivered to the Police which shall cause them to be given back to him after the termination of the criminal proceedings.

Rights of victim from a third-country during his stay in the Republic.

31.—(1) During the validity of the temporary residence permit for a reflection period or of the employment permit, the victims shall have the rights prescribed in sections 34 to 38 of this Law.

(2) The validity of the temporary residence permit for a reflection period or of the employment permit of the victim shall be without prejudice to his right to seek asylum under the Refugee Law, as amended for the time being.

Issue and renewal of the residence permit of a victim from a third-country.

32.—(1) After the expiry of the temporary residence permit for a reflection period, or earlier, if the Immigration Officer deems, after having been informed from the competent service involved that the third-country national concerned has already fulfilled the criterion set out in paragraph (b) of this subsection, shall consider:

- (a) The opportunity presented by prolonging his stay on the territory of the Republic for the investigations or the judicial proceedings;
- (b) whether the said person has shown a clear intention to cooperate;
- (c) whether the said person has severed all relations

with those suspected of the offences provided for in this Law.

(2) If the Immigration Officer is satisfied, after having been informed by the competent service involved, that the conditions of subsection (1) are fulfilled, shall grant a residence permit with a duration of validity of at least six months, without prejudice to reasons relating to public order and the protection of national security, which shall be renewed if the said conditions continue to be satisfied.

(3) The holders of the above-mentioned residence permit shall have the rights prescribed in section 30 and in sections 34 to 38 of this Law.

Non-renewal or withdrawal of the residence permit.

33.—(1) The residence permit issued under subsection (2) of section 32, shall not be renewed if the conditions of subsection (1) thereof are no longer fulfilled or if a decision adopted by a competent criminal court has terminated the relevant proceedings.

(2) The residence permit issued under subsection (2) of section 32, of this Law may, at any time, be withdrawn by the Immigration Officer if the conditions for its issue are no longer satisfied and, in particular, in the following cases:

- (a) if the victim has actively, voluntarily and in his initiative renewed contacts with those suspected of committing the criminal offences referred to in this Law;
- (b) if the prosecution authorities or other involved services believe that the victim's co-operation is fraudulent or that his complaint is fraudulent or wrongful;

- (c) when the victim ceases to co-operate;
- (d) when the competent authorities decide to discontinue the judicial proceedings;
- (e) for reasons relating to public policy and to the protection of national security.

Rights of victim after his identification.

34.-(1) Any natural person who is identified as a victim irrespective of his nationality and irrespective of whether he wishes to be a witness for the prosecution in respect of the offences referred to in this Law, before the issue and during the validity of the temporary residence permit for a reflection period, shall be entitled–

95(I) of 2006.

- (a) to receive information in accordance with the provisions of section 29 of this Law;
- (b) to have allowance, as long as he does not have sufficient resources in accordance with the provisions of the Public Assistance and Services Law, as amended for the time being;
- (c) to have access to emergency medical treatment and any further free medical treatment by the Ministry of Health if he does not have sufficient resources;
- (d) to medical treatment and psychological support, if deemed necessary, and, if the victim is a child, a pregnant woman, a person with special needs or/and a victim of the offences referred to in this Law or of the offences committed under aggravating circumstances within the meaning of section 12 of this Law, to medical treatment and

psychological support provided by the Ministry of Health;

(e) to security and protection by the Police;

(f) to free translation and interpretation services, where appropriate;

165(I) of 2002
22(I) of 2005
77(I) of 2005
43(I) of 2006.

(g) to legal aid provided that the conditions of the Legal Aid Law, as amended for the time being, are fulfilled;

138(I) of 2001
37(I) of 2003.

(h) to the protection of his personal data in accordance with the provisions of the Processing of Personal Data (Protection of Individuals) Law, as amended for the time being; and

(i) to have access to programmes or schemes provided by the state or by non-governmental organisations having a protocol of co-operation or specific agreements with the involved services of the Republic, as the case may be, aimed at their recovery of a normal social life, including, where appropriate, courses designed to improve their professional skills.

(2) The competent authority for the implementation or/and coordination of other involved services within the meaning of this Law, relating to the application of this section shall be the Social Welfare Services.

(3) The Social Welfare Services shall establish and operate shelters for the accommodation of the victims, the operation of which and the procedures for admission of the victims thereto shall be prescribed by Regulations:

Provided that shelters will operate with such manner and on such terms, so that the victims may enjoy

the rights and protection granted to them by this Law.

(4) The Social Welfare Services may assign their competences pursuant to subsection (3) of this section to a non-governmental organisation or to the Local Authorities under a protocol of co-operation or a specific agreement concluded between them.

Treatment of victims being third-country nationals holding a residence permit.

35. Any victim who is a third-country national and a holder of a residence permit issued under section 32 of this Law, during the duration of his residence permit, shall have the rights prescribed in section 34 and in sections 36 to 38 of this Law and, in addition, he shall have the following rights–

- (a) access to the labour market through the employment agencies authorized by the Republic and the victim shall have the same access to the labour market as the citizens of the Union;
- (b) access to vocational training and education provided by the Cyprus Human Resource Development Authority under the conditions and requirements of its schemes as well as the national procedures for the time being in force and the policy decisions of the Ministry of Labour and Social Insurance relating to employment, training and education, and
- (c) access to programmes or schemes provided by the state or by non-governmental organisations, which have a protocol of co-operation or specific agreements with the involved services of the Republic, as the case may be, aimed at their recovery of a normal social life, including, where

appropriate, courses designed to improve their professional skills or preparation of their assisted return to their country of origin.

Special provisions concerning children.

243 of 1990

5(III) of 2000.

23(III) of 2005.

36.–(1) Subject to the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Ratification) Law, as amended for the time being and of the European Convention on the Exercise of the Rights of the Child (Ratification) Law, involved services shall take into account the best interests of the child in the application of this Law and shall cause the full implementation of the procedures provided for in this Law, taking into account the maturity and age of the child.

(2) A child victim within the meaning of this Law, who is a third-country national shall be entitled to have access to the public education system under the same terms and conditions applicable to the citizens of the Republic.

(3) In the case of an unaccompanied minor victim, the provisions of sections 37 to 39 of this Law, shall also apply.

(4) In case of a child victim within the meaning of this Law, the involved services shall take all appropriate measures for providing the necessary assistance and support to his family and where appropriate or where necessary, the protection and support measures for the victim provided for in this Part, shall apply to the members of the family of the child.

(5) The competent authority for the application of this section or/and the co-ordination of the involved services for the application of this section shall be the Social Welfare Services.

Unaccompanied
minors.

37.-(1) The provisions of this section as well as of sections 28, 29, 30(1), 34 and 35 of this Law, shall apply to all unaccompanied minors subject to the provisions of the Refugee Law, as amended for the time being, relating to unaccompanied minors seeking or presumed to seek asylum.

(2) Any decision of the Immigration Officer or of any other competent authority of the Republic, in each case, concerning an unaccompanied minor, shall take duly into account the best interests of the child and the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Ratification) Law.

(3) An unaccompanied minor who appears in person at a specific point of entry with the intent of entering the Republic either with, or without the necessary documents or authorizations to that effect, or who is located in the territory of the Republic, either with or without the aforementioned required documents, shall be taken immediately into the care of the Director of the Social Welfare Services pursuant to the provisions of the Children Law, who shall represent the unaccompanied minor and shall act for his benefit.

Cap. 352.
83(I) of 1999
143(I) of 2002
64(I) of 2007.

(4) The Immigration Officer shall issue a residence permit for a reflection period to an unaccompanied minor which may be renewed for as long as the conditions of section 39 may not be fulfilled.

(5) The Immigration Officer shall make every effort to locate the members of the family of the unaccompanied minor as quickly as possible or to locate the place of residence of his family members, irrespective of their legal status and without prejudice to the substance of any

application for residence.

(6) The Immigration Officer shall make every effort to ascertain the identity of a minor as quickly as possible after he had entered the territory of the Republic, as well as the fact that he is unaccompanied. Information relating to the identity and status of the minor may be taken through different means, in particular, through a proper interview which shall be conducted as quickly as possible, in a manner that conforms to the minor's age.

Social rights of unaccompanied minors.

38.-(1) Where an unaccompanied minor of school age is expected to stay within the Republic, for a prolonged period and in any case, at the latest, within three months from the date on which the competent authorities had received information of his entry or stay in the Republic, the unaccompanied minor shall have access to the general educational facilities under the same conditions as the citizens of the Republic, or alternatively, shall have access to appropriate special educational facilities, depending on the status of the unaccompanied minor.

(2) Unaccompanied minors shall be entitled to free medical care, as well as to special medical or other assistance, and, in particular, where they have been the subject of any form of neglect, exploitation or ill-treatment, torture, or of any form of cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment or have suffered as a result of armed conflicts.

Return of unaccompanied minor.

39.-(1) The Immigration Officer may, taking into account the views of the Director of the Social Welfare Services, order the return of an unaccompanied minor to his country

of origin or to another country where he is entitled to stay permanently which is prepared to accept it or to a third-country for the purpose of family reunification. The return of the unaccompanied minor shall be made only where it is secured that upon his arrival in the said country proper reception and care is available depending on the needs of the unaccompanied minor, taking into account the age and degree of independence provided by the parents or other adults being the legal guardians of the minor.

(2) For the purpose of return of an unaccompanied minor, the Immigration Officer, may cooperate:

- (a) with members of the family of the unaccompanied minor either within the country of origin of the minor or in a country in which these members reside with a view to family reunification;
- (b) with the authorities of the country of origin of the unaccompanied minor, provided that he is not an asylum seeker or with the authorities of another country, for the purpose of finding a suitable and lasting solution;
- (c) with international organizations aiming at the protection of minors and which already play an active role in advising governments on the guidelines relating to the handling of cases of unaccompanied minors;
- (d) where appropriate, with non-governmental organizations for the purpose of ascertaining the availability of reception and care facilities in the country where the minor shall return.

Cooperation of the victim with the prosecution authorities.

95(I) of 2001.

40.—(1) Any victim who, being fully aware of his rights, in accordance with the provisions of this Law, wishes to co-operate with the prosecution authorities within the framework of criminal proceedings, shall be deemed to be a witness in need of protection within the meaning of the Protection of Witnesses Law, 2001, as amended for the time being.

(2) Any victim who decides to co-operate with the prosecution authorities shall have the right to be informed, in respect of—

- (a) the outcome of his complaint;
- (b) relevant factors enabling him, in the event of prosecution, to be informed for the progress of the criminal proceedings regarding the person prosecuted for the criminal offences concerning him, except in exceptional cases where the proper handling of the case may be affected;
- (c) the judgment delivered by the court.

(3) The Republic shall afford victims who co-operate with the prosecution authorities as witnesses in criminal proceedings, reimbursement of any expenses they have incurred due to the fact of their participation in criminal proceedings against the offender for the commission of the offences referred to in this Law.

(4) During the validity of the residence permit for a reflection period, the victim shall enjoy the rights provided for in sections 31, 34 and 36 to 38 of this Law, irrespective of whether at that stage he wishes to co-operate with the

competent authorities or not.

Safety and protection of victim.

41.–(1) In the case where there is a serious risk of reprisals or where a serious intent to intrude upon the victim’s privacy by the offender is presumed, the prosecution authorities are bound to ensure a suitable level of protection for the victim and, where appropriate, to ensure a suitable level of protection for his family as well, or for persons close to members of his family, particularly as regards their safety and protection of their privacy.

(2) The prosecution authorities are bound to inform the victim upon the release of the person prosecuted or convicted for an offence provided for in this Law, where it is deemed necessary and, in particular, where there is danger concerning the victim, at least, in all cases where the victim has cooperated with the prosecution authorities for the prosecution or conviction of the offender.

Protection of victims from criminal liability.

42.–(1) The victims shall not be criminally prosecuted in the case of committing any offences relating directly to their status as victims, provided that violence, coercion and abuse of power have been used and, where it concerns children, irrespective of whether the above means have been used.

(2) Third-country nationals who are victims within the meaning of this Law, shall not be criminally prosecuted in the case of committing any offences relating directly to their status as victims, and, in particular, in the case of committing the offences of illegal entry, illegal residence, unlawful employment or employment in contravention of the conditions of their employment as prescribed in the Aliens and Immigration Law, as amended for the time

being, provided that violence, coercion and abuse of power have been used and, where it concerns children, irrespective of whether those means have been used.

(3) In the case of prosecution of a victim for the commission of any offences during his victimization it shall be a defence that he was under threat or use of violence or other forms of coercion, fraud or deception, abuse of power or exploitation of his position of vulnerability.

Documents proving the identity of the victim.

43. Where the victim because of his victimization does not possess any identity document, the Civil Registry and Migration Department shall, in cooperation with the competent authorities of the country of origin, if necessary, subject to the provisions of the Refugee Law, as amended for the time being, cause any travel documents or other identity documents to be issued.

Repatriation of victims.

44. Repatriation of the victim which shall preferably be voluntary must:

- (a) be done with due regard for the safety, protection and dignity of the victim;
- (b) not involve danger as to the success of any judicial proceedings relating to the fact that this person is a victim including actions brought by the victim for claiming damages pursuant to section 22 of this Law;
- (c) be done in cooperation with his country of origin in order to avoid his revictimization;
- (d) be done within one month from the delivery of the judgment of the competent criminal court.

**PART IV – ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE FOR THE
APPLICATION OF THIS LAW**

National
mechanism for
the
identification of
victims.

45.–(1) Any officer of any involved service who, in the exercise of his duties, deems that a person is likely to be a victim or has been a victim, is bound to refer directly the said person to the Social Welfare Services, which shall inform him for the rights and possibilities offered to him under this Law.

(2) Immediately after informing the alleged victim in accordance with the provisions of subsection (1) of this section, his case shall be referred to the prosecution authorities which shall conduct an interview with the said person and a proper investigation in order to ascertain that he is a victim by virtue of the provisions of this Law and in case the victim is a third-country national, a temporary residence permit for a reflection period shall be issued to him, in accordance with the provisions of section 30 of this Law.

(3) In every case the provision of support services and protection to the victim in accordance with the provisions of this Law, shall be priority.

(4) The prosecution authorities may approach the victim in order to ascertain whether he is willing to co-operate with them, only after the evaluation of the victim's status by the Social Welfare Services and their consenting opinion.

(5) During the stages referred to in subsections (1) to

(4) of this section, the involved services and the non-governmental organizations, where applicable, are bound to exchange information relating to the victim's status and the course of the proceedings before the courts.

Basic principles which must govern the protocols of co-operation.

46. The protocols of co-operation between the involved authorities or between the involved services and the non-governmental organizations must be governed at least by the following basic principles–

- (a) Aim of cooperation shall be the combating of the offences referred to in this Law, through the provision of support and protection to the victims and the successful persecution of the perpetrators of the offences;
- (b) transparent and accurate designation of the obligations of the collaborating parties as to the accomplishment of the above aim;
- (c) transparent and accurate procedures to be followed by the parties collaborating for the application of the provisions of this Law;
- (d) protection of victim's personal data in accordance with the provisions of the Processing of Personal Data (Protection of Individuals) Law, as amended for the time being; and
- (e) respect and dignified treatment of the victim at any stage of the proceedings.

Multidisciplinary coordinating group.

47.–(1) There shall be established a multidisciplinary coordinating group for the prevention of the offences referred to in this Law, for the protection of victims and for

taking all appropriate measures in the confrontation of trafficking and exploitation of persons, which shall be presided by the National Coordinator, and shall consist of the Attorney-General of the Republic or his representative, the Director-General of the Ministry of Justice and Public Order or his representative, the Chief of Police or his representative, the Director-General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs or his representative, the Director of the Labour Department of the Ministry of Labour and Social Insurance or his representative, the Director-General of the Ministry of Health or his representative, the Director-General of the Ministry of Education and Culture or his representative, the Director of the Civil Registry and Migration Department and the Head Officer of the Asylum Service of the Ministry of the Interior or their representative, a representative of the National Machinery for the Women's Rights and representatives of two Non-Governmental Organisations designated by the National Coordinator.

(2) It shall be the duties and functions of the multidisciplinary coordinating group–

(a) to revise or amend the National Action Plan approved by the Council of Ministers' Decision No. 61.961 dated 12.5.2006 concerning–

- (i) the combating and effective suppression of the offences referred to in this Law;
- (ii) the protection and support of victims within the meaning of this Law and their social reintegration as long as they reside within the Republic;
- (iii) the prevention of the offences referred to in

this Law and informing and sensitizing the society regarding the offences referred to in this Law and the violation of the victims' human rights;

(iv) the co-operation with the countries of origin or transit countries or other destination countries of the victims in order to develop the possibilities to combat the offences referred to in this Law and to protect the victims at both national and international level.

(b) to monitor the implementation and evaluate the National Action Plan;

(c) to take measures for more effective implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the national mechanism for the identification of victims;

(d) to collect, exchange information, particulars and statistical data between its members in respect of the offences referred to in this Law and the protection of victims;

(e) to draft manuals and educational materials on good practices which should be followed by all involved services and non-governmental organizations for the protection of victims;

(f) to submit proposals for amendments to this Law or other relevant legislation, where deemed necessary;

(g) to organize seminars and educational programmes for all the officers of the involved

services and non-governmental organisations;

- (h) to undertake and organize other activities for informing and sensitizing the society, especially, in matters of equality and combating of any discrimination based on sex, ethnic or national origin, colour, religion and generally in matters falling within the scope of this Law to the degree that the afore-mentioned are not offered by the Ministry of Justice and Public Order;
- (i) to prepare and discuss protocols of co-operation between non-governmental organizations and any of the involved services within the meaning of this Law; and
- (j) to monitor and consider the international developments and the international law in sectors falling within the scope of application of this Law.

(3) The multidisciplinary coordinating group shall draft an annual report to be submitted to the Council of Ministers through the National Coordinator, in relation to the application of this Law and the situation prevailing both in the Republic and at the international level in relation to the object of this Law, which shall be submitted to the Council of Ministers together with the revised each time National Action Plan for confronting trafficking and exploitation of persons. The annual report and the revised National Action Plan, after having been approved by the Council of Ministers, shall be laid before the House of Representatives for information purposes.

Procedures and structure of the multidisciplinary coordinating

48.-(1) The multidisciplinary coordinating group shall be convened regularly and at a plenary session every three

group.

months.

(2) The multidisciplinary coordinating group may be convened on an extraordinary basis whenever it is deemed necessary by the National Coordinator, for serious, extraordinary and urgent reasons.

(3) The multidisciplinary coordinating group may, for its more effective operation, be composed of working groups each dealing with more specific issues, which may be convened at a regular or extraordinary basis.

(4) Working groups composed pursuant to subsection (3) of this section shall prescribe the involved service which shall coordinate and convene them.

(5) The working groups shall inform the multidisciplinary coordinating group for the work, decisions and practical measures taken by them regarding the application of this Law during the ordinary meetings of the latter.

National
Coordinator.

49. The National Coordinator shall preside over the meetings of the multidisciplinary coordinating group and shall have the function and duty –

(a) to convene the ordinary and extraordinary meetings of the multidisciplinary coordinating group or of a specific working group, as deemed necessary;

(b) to coordinate and monitor the implementation and realization of measures and actions to be decided within the context of the multidisciplinary coordinating group and the National Action Plan;

(c) to represent the multidisciplinary coordinating

group at the Council of Ministers whenever matters falling within the field of application of this Law are discussed;

(d) to submit the annual report of the multidisciplinary coordinating group and the National Action Plan to the Council of Ministers for discussion and taking decisions; and

(e) to represent the multidisciplinary coordinating group where deemed necessary, in two-party contacts with representatives of other states or international organizations in respect of matters falling within the fields of application of this Law.

Training of public officers and judges.

50.–(1) The Republic is bound to grant to the involved services the necessary resources for the training and education of their officers, involved in any procedure provided for in this Law, or who are in contact with victims in any other way with particular reference to the needs of the most vulnerable victims.

(2) The Republic is bound to grant the necessary resources for the training and education of judges and judicial staff in matters regulated by this Law.

Information.

51.–(1) The Civil Registry and Migration Department shall, in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Consular authorities of the Republic abroad, be bound to provide information materials, as to the terms and conditions for legal migration of third-country nationals in the Republic and the risks involved in illegal migration and especially the risks regarding the trafficking and exploitation of persons, to third-country nationals requesting the granting of visa for entry in the Republic or a residence

permit within the Republic and belonging to a group of persons at great risk or who are particularly vulnerable, in relation to their living and/or employment conditions in the Republic regarding their exploitation.

(2) The multidisciplinary coordinating group shall–

- (a) organize information campaigns in the Republic concerning the trafficking and exploitation of persons as well as the terms and conditions for granting residence permits to third-country nationals in the Republic, their rights and the mechanisms being available to them for reporting the phenomena of their exploitation within the meaning of this Law;
- (b) issue informative leaflets on the phenomenon of trafficking and exploitation of persons which are addressed both to the group of persons who are vulnerable to exploitation, employment agencies, and to the society as a whole, and especially, children;
- (c) ensure that Media personnel is informed and trained on the trafficking and exploitation of persons;
- (d) organize campaigns and take measures for the education and sensitization of society to discourage the demand that fosters all forms of exploitation of persons, especially women and children.

Bilateral
agreements.

52. The Republic shall cause the conclusion of bilateral agreements with the victims' countries of origin or with

countries of origin at great risk in order to cooperate–

- (a) for the combating of the offences referred to in this Law;
- (b) for the protection and social reintegration of the victims and their families either in the Republic or in the case of repatriation in their country of origin;
- (c) for the exchange of information, particulars and data regarding the trafficking and exploitation of persons;
- (d) for informing victims or potential victims regarding the legal migration and the risks involved in illegal migration.

PART V – FINAL PROVISIONS

Regulations. **53.** The Council of Ministers may make Regulations to be laid before the House of Representatives for approval, for the better carrying into effect of this Law.

Repeals.
3(I) of 2000. **54.** Upon the entry into force of this Law, the Combating of Trafficking in Persons and the Sexual Exploitation of Minors Law, 2000 shall be repealed.