

**Directorate of Information and Communication****PRESS RELEASE****AFRICAN UNION MEMBER STATES MEET TO GIVE A GO AHEAD TO IMPLEMENT  
THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE DRAFT REPORT OF THE EVALUATION OF  
THE 2006 OUAGADOUGOU PLAN OF ACTION****Kampala, Uganda, March 20, 2019:**

The Workshop of Senior Officials of AU Member States and RECs to validate the draft report of the evaluation of the 2006 Ouagadougou Plan of Action on the Prevention of Trafficking and Smuggling of Persons, especially Women and Children in Africa off today in Kampala.

During the opening ceremony Mr. Sabelo Mbokazi, Head of the Division of Labor, Employment and Migration of the Department of Social Affairs in the African Union Commission (AUC) delivered opening remarks on behalf of Her Excellency Amira Elfadil Mohammed Elfadil, Commissioner for Social Affairs and extended thanks to the people and Government of the Republic of Uganda for hospitality and facilitation provided for the success of the workshop. “Human trafficking and smuggling is one of the worst forms of human rights violations that promotes exploitation of the victims” said Mr. Sabelo Mbokazi.

The aim of the Validation Workshop of Draft Evaluation Report of the 2006



Ouagadougou Plan of Action on the Prevention of Trafficking in Persons in Africa, especially on Women and Children is to provide further input to the draft report and finally provide a go ahead to implement the recommendations of the report to address existing policy and operational gaps in the prevention of the irregular migration in the continent.

Mr. Sabelo Mbokazi concluded by stated that AUC recognizes that national, regional, continental and international collaboration is necessary to make a difference and improve the standard of living of African populations. Strengthening and promoting the policies governing prevention of trafficking are key elements in ensuring political stability and socio-economic development.



In his welcoming remarks during the workshop, Hon. Obiaga KANIA, State Minister of Internal Affairs, Uganda formally welcomed all participants on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Uganda and expressed his delight that the workshop is taking place in Kampal. “Uganda is totally committed to fight Trafficking in Persons and we will join hands together to fight this crime” added Hon. Obiaga KANIA.

He said that the government of the Republic of Uganda is happy to express satisfaction and will spare no efforts to make the workshop successful. H.E. Obiaga KANIA wished that the meeting will come up with strong recommendations and solid policies and legal instruments to sustainably support AU Member States and RECs in addressing Trafficking in Persons and other forms if irregular migration in Africa.

The validation workshop, which will continue up to the 21<sup>st</sup> March 2019, aims to provide further input to the draft report and finally provide a go ahead to implement the recommendations of the report to address existing policy and operational gaps in the prevention of the irregular migration in the continent. The workshop also aims at familiarizing the stakeholders with the African Union Migration Policy Framework (2018-2030) as well as with a general situational analysis of trafficking and smuggling in Persons in Africa including continental and regional responses.

The workshop addresses wide range of topics related to the Prevention of Trafficking and Smuggling of Persons, especially Women and Children. Participants will share and

exchange regional, national and imperative case studies and experiences on the prevention of trafficking mechanisms and how the synergy can foster an improved system.

***For more information about the workshop, please contact:***

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