



**Alliance To End
Slavery & Trafficking**

A Project Of Humanity United

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May 2, 2011

The Honorable Kay Granger, Chair
House Appropriations Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs

The Honorable Nita Lowey, Ranking Member
House Appropriations Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy, Chairman
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs

The Honorable Lindsey Graham, Ranking Member
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs

Dear Chairwoman Granger / Chairman Leahy and Ranking Members Lowey and Graham:

On behalf of the Alliance to End Slavery and Trafficking (ATEST), we the undersigned organizations, are writing to urge you to fund important programs to combat human trafficking in the FY 2012 State, Foreign Operations and Related Programs Appropriations bill and to include related Committee report language to further assist in anti-trafficking efforts.

ATEST is a diverse alliance of U.S.-based human rights organizations, acting with a shared agenda to end modern-day slavery and human trafficking around the world. We work together to create fundamental change—from strengthening laws and business standards to building public will—to change the accepted norms that enable the phenomenon to persist around the world. The fact that the enslavement and trade in human beings exists in our modern world as a disturbingly large, highly profitable illicit industry is unacceptable. Slavery damages our communities, taints the products and services we consume and the profits we earn, and is one of the most pressing human rights challenges of our time. ATEST member organizations include: Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking (CAST), Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW), ECPAT-USA, Free the Slaves, International Justice Mission, Not For Sale Campaign,

Polaris Project, Safe Horizon, Solidarity Center, Verite, Vital Voices Global Partnership, World Vision, and one individual member, Julia Ormond, former U.N. Goodwill Ambassador and president and founder of the Alliance to Stop Slavery and End Trafficking (ASSET).

As you begin to draft the fiscal year 2012 State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations bill, we ask that you consider funding and report language for the following programs important to combating human trafficking and modern-day slavery:

1. \$6,800,000 for the Administration of the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons

The Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons (G/TIP) provides the tools to combat trafficking in persons and assists in the coordination of anti-trafficking efforts both worldwide and domestically. G/TIP also funds projects in 76 countries around the world in an effort to assist governments with a will to change and economic need to improve their response to human trafficking.

Established in 2001 in response to the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000, G/TIP's mission is to work with other governments, international organizations, and civil society actors to eradicate modern-day slavery by prosecuting traffickers, protecting victims, and preventing trafficking in persons. In FY 2012, G/TIP will work to assess the increasing number of countries - currently 177 - ranked in its annual Trafficking in Persons Report. It will also conduct improved monitoring and evaluation of its own programs to determine which strategies are most effective in combating slavery. In recent years, G/TIP has struggled with meager funding to implement its mandates under the TVPA. With your help and leadership, we believe G/TIP can make significant progress in meeting its mandates.

2. \$25,000,000 for International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement Trafficking in Persons Grants

We request \$25,000,000 under International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement (INCLE) for G/TIP to award grants to non-governmental organizations to fight human trafficking internationally through prevention programs, training for law enforcement, and legal and strategic support. We support the Administration's proposal to combine Economic Support Fund and INCLE Trafficking in Persons grants into one program under INCLE.

3. Foreign Assistance "Slavery Lens" Report Language

Foreign assistance programs aiming to reduce levels of poverty and improve governance generally, by their nature, counteract vulnerability to human trafficking and slavery. Nonetheless, for a program to reach the most vulnerable and disempowered within its target area, including those vulnerable to or already victims of human trafficking and

slavery, it must be carried out with a “slavery lens” so that foreign assistance does not inadvertently leave these vulnerable community members behind or even increase their vulnerability. Assistance programs with anti-slavery objectives in India and Nepal have begun to show the promise of this lens in contributing to broader development objectives. Post-earthquake assistance in Haiti also benefited from an understanding of prevalent forms of human trafficking in Haiti of which many Haitian children were already victims prior to the earthquake. To ensure foreign assistance does not inadvertently promote human trafficking and slavery, we request the following report language.

Report Language:

The Committee urges the Secretary and the Administrator of USAID to continue efforts to combat human trafficking and slavery in all aspects of foreign assistance. The Committee believes the Secretary and the Administrator should put in place systems to ensure that foreign assistance programs relating to humanitarian assistance, food security, poverty reduction, social and economic development, education and governance contribute to decreasing vulnerability to or prevalence of human trafficking and slavery, consistent with U.S. policy, including with section 107(e) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000.

4. Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor Report Language

We support the labor and corporate accountability activities within the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor (DRL). These important programs strengthen multi-stakeholder engagement on labor abuses in supply chains through measures including child labor initiatives in cotton and cocoa, efforts to support Brazil's national plan against slave labor, and capacity building for local labor monitoring and worker organizations. We request the following report language to encourage DRL to continue these activities.

Report Language:

The Committee urges the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor to continue its efforts to combat human trafficking overseas, including its efforts to encourage businesses to adopt policies and participate in initiatives aiming to eliminate modern forms of slavery within multinational supply chains, and its efforts to include slavery issues within its South-South intergovernmental cooperation programs.

5. Maintain Funding at FY 2009 Level for the Program on Migration and Refugees

We request that you maintain funding for the Program on Migration and Refugees at the fiscal year 2009 level to support continuing family reunification efforts for human trafficking survivors in the United States. Services for human trafficking survivors' family members sponsored by this program are unique in that they provide on the ground assistance for human trafficking survivors' families around the world and ensure that

families can be reunited after years of separation. The program support by this fund is currently running a wait list of over 80 individuals from 22 countries around the world.

We understand the extremely difficult funding situation you are facing in FY 2012 and, as a group of leading NGOs, we have collectively carefully vetted our requests to reflect true priorities that are targeted and focused on the most important and most effective programs in the State Department related to human trafficking. We thank you for your consideration of these requests and your continued leadership in fighting the scourge of human trafficking and slavery. If you have any questions, please contact Cory Smith at csmith@humanityunited.org or (202) 361-1442.

Sincerely,