

# MANAMA DECLARATION

## ON

### “HUMAN TRAFFICKING AT THE CROSSROADS”



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**UN.GIFT**  
Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking



### Human Trafficking at the Crossroads

**الإتجار بالبشر على مفترق الطرق**

Private-Public Partnership to Fight Human Trafficking

**الشراكة من أجل مكافحة الإتجار بالبشر**

1 - 3 March 2009  
١ - ٣ مارس ٢٠٠٩

Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain  
**المنامة، مملكة البحرين**



The participants of the Manama International Conference express their deep appreciation to Her Highness Shaikha Sabeeka bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa, Wife of the King of Bahrain, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for their commitment and contribution to the success of our conference concluding in this Declaration.

We commend the campaign “End Human Trafficking Now”, launched in partnership with the business community in 2006 in Athens. The Athens Ethical Principles adopted then are even more relevant today, particularly as we are facing crises of unprecedented magnitude. We need to work even harder for the protection, safety and dignity of vulnerable groups, especially women and children, whose very survival is threatened.

We recognize in this moment of crisis that we need to exercise leadership by:

1. Working with the private sector to achieve zero tolerance for human trafficking by adopting the Athens Ethical Principles.
2. Encouraging governments to implement national strategies to end human trafficking according to the UN Protocol<sup>1</sup>.
3. Urging the adoption and implementation of national legal frameworks to include human trafficking as a criminal offence and ensure the protection of victims.
4. Requesting regional entities to develop frameworks to enhance inter country collaboration to end human trafficking between countries.
5. Urging the United Nations General Assembly to adopt a Global Plan of Action against Human Trafficking.
6. Publicly acknowledging ethically based business practices as a major contribution towards restoring confidence in the private sector.
7. Requesting business partners to include elimination of human trafficking in their corporate social responsibility programmes.
8. Requesting industry associations and international standards organizations to work towards including elimination of human trafficking within their standards.
9. Supporting the creation of help lines and networks of services required for victims of trafficking.
10. Encouraging the media and the cultural and artistic communities to continue their leadership in awareness-raising and disseminating best practices.
11. Strengthening information sharing on progress made.
12. Ensuring the continued support of the international partners involved in the campaign "End Human Trafficking Now".
13. Reconvening in two years to assess steps taken to implement this Declaration.

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<sup>1</sup> The Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.