Provincial Implementation Plan on Combating Trafficking in Women and Children of Fujian Province (2008-2012)

Crimes of trafficking in women and children seriously violate the individual rights of women and children and greatly harm the physical and psychological health of trafficked women and children. As such, trafficking causes a series of social problems, seriously affecting social harmony and stability. In accordance with China’s National Plan of Action on Combating Trafficking in Women and Children (2008-2012) and the practical realities within the Fujian Province, Fujian Provincial Implementation Plan on Combating Trafficking in Women and Children (2008-2012) (hereafter referred to as the “Implementation Plan”) has been developed in order to effectively prevent and severely combat the criminal activities of trafficking in women and children, actively provide assistance and give appropriate aftercare to rescued women and children, earnestly safeguard the legal rights and interests of women and children.

Part 1. Guiding Principles and Overall Objectives

Under the guidance of Deng Xiaoping’s theory and his important “Three Representatives” ideology, fully implement the concept of scientific development and the guidelines of “prioritising prevention, combining both combating and prevention, human-centeredness and comprehensive management”, strike at the root of the problem as well as its harmful effects, earnestly safeguard the legal rights and interests of women and children, properly maintain social security and stability, in order to build a harmonious society and create a good social environment for the Construction of the Economic Zone on the West Coast of the Taiwan Straits. Improve anti-trafficking coordination and safeguarding mechanisms, clearly define the roles and responsibilities of relevant departments and units, strengthen cooperation, construct a sustainable anti-trafficking mechanism that integrates prevention, combating, assistance and rehabilitation. Increase the efficiency of anti-trafficking efforts, reduce as far as possible the occurrence of crimes of trafficking in women and children, and alleviate as much as possible the physical and psychological damage which the trafficked women and children suffer.

Part 2. Organising Agencies and Safeguarding Measures

A. Establish a Provincial Anti-Trafficking in Women and Children Inter-Departmental Joint Conference system (hereafter referred to as Provincial Joint Conference or PJC)

a. Main responsibilities

(i) Organise the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the “Implementation Plan”, organise and coordinate as well as guide and supervise anti-trafficking work in various areas and relevant departments

(ii) Coordinate and give impetus to anti-trafficking work across the province

(iii) Organise the sharing of work experiences and relevant results between various areas and
relevant departments.

b. Member Units

The Provincial Joint Conference (PJC) is made up of the following departments and units: Department of Public Security, Propaganda Department of Provincial Party Committee, Office for Comprehensive Management of Public Security, Legislative Affairs Commission of the Provincial People’s Congress, Provincial Development and Reform Commission, Department of Education, Department of Civil Affairs, Department of Justice, Department of Finance, Department of Personnel, Department of Labour and Social Security, Department of Communications, Department of Agriculture, Department of Culture, Department of Health, Family Planning Commission, State Administration for Industry and Commerce, Office of Legislative Affairs of the State Council, State Administration of Radio, Film and Television, Provincial Office of Working Committee for Children and Women under the State Council, State Council Leading Group Office of Poverty Alleviation and Development, Provincial Federation of Trade Unions, Communist Youth League of Provincial Party Committee, Provincial Women’s Federation, Fujian Civil Aviation Safety Supervision Office and Fuzhou Office of Department of Railways of Nanchang.

The Provincial Joint Conference (PJC) will be chaired by the responsible party in the Department of Public Security. The members of the PJC will be made up of the responsible staff from relevant ministries and agencies. The PJC will be located within the Criminal Investigation Division of the Department of Public Security and it will be responsible for the day-to-day work. The head of the office will be the Commander of the Criminal Investigation Division and each member department and agency will appoint one liaison person to be part of the Office staff. Irregular PJC will be held every year. Various areas, especially the key areas where trafficking in women and children occur (Fuzhou, Zhangzhou, Quanzhou, Putian, Ningde) should establish corresponding anti-trafficking mechanism according their own practical realities.

B. Mainly Use Government Contributions and Fundraise through Multiple Channels

a. Various levels of the government will set aside funding for relevant departments undertaking anti-trafficking work and include it in their respective annual budgets.

b. Actively try to procure contributions from civil groups, public welfare organisations, private enterprises and institutions as well as individuals. Secure multiple channels to raise funds.

Part 3. Operational Measures and Division of Responsibilities

A. Create a Favourable Social Environment and Work Atmosphere

Improve relevant laws and regulations, increase the dissemination of anti-trafficking information, training and education of safeguarding the legal rights and interests of women and children. Increase the recognition of the importance and necessity of the implementation of the “Implementation Plan” at various government levels, in relevant units and various spheres of society. Create a favourable anti-trafficking social environment and work atmosphere.

Division of Responsibilities:
a. Improve relevant national laws and regulations, so as to provide legal bases to enhance the prevention and combating of crimes and the assistance and rehabilitation of rescued women and children. (The Legislative Affairs Commission of the Provincial People’s Congress is the responsible unit. Department of Public Security, Department of Civil Affairs, Department of Labour and Social Security, Communist Youth League of Provincial Party Committee and Provincial Women’s Federation are cooperating units.)

b. Combining holidays such as International Women’s Day and the National Youth Day, responsible departments and agencies actively develop anti-trafficking publicity, education and training initiatives regarding the protection of the legal rights and interests of women and children across the province. Increase the recognition of the importance and necessity of combating crimes of trafficking and assisting rescued women and children, at various levels of regional government, in relevant agencies and various social spheres. (Department of Public Security, Propaganda Department of Provincial Party Committee, Provincial Office of Working Committee for Children and Women under the State Council, Department of Education are the responsible units. Department of Justice, Department of Culture, Family Planning and Population Commission, State Administration of Radio, Film and Television, Provincial Federation of Trade Unions, Communist Youth League of Provincial Party Committee and Provincial Women’s Federation are cooperating units.)

c. Within public security agencies across the province, improve anti-trafficking education and training and that of safeguarding the rights and interests of women and children, increase recognition amongst law enforcement personnel of the importance of work to combat crimes of trafficking in women and children, and make great efforts to improve the capacity and efficiency of anti-trafficking work. (Department of Public Security is the responsible unit.)

d. In key areas and in key population groups susceptible to crimes of trafficking, build capacity to prevent trafficking in women and children. In particular, raise women and children’s anti-trafficking awareness, improve their ability to recognise trafficking crimes and protect themselves. (Department of Public Security, Communist Youth League of Provincial Party Committee, Provincial Office of Working Committee for Children and Women under the State Council and Provincial Women’s Federation are the responsible units. Department of Education, Department of Civil Affairs, Department of Labour and Social Security, Provincial Federation of Trade Unions are cooperating units.)

e. In areas where the belief that “men are superior than women” are more serious, or where there is a serious imbalance in the sex ratio of marriageable adults, carry out legal education activities, actively broaden job opportunities and improve rural social security systems in order to uproot the causes which lead to trafficking of women and children. (Department of Public Security and Propaganda Department of Provincial Party Committee are the responsible units. Department of Education, Department of Civil Affairs, Department of Labour and Social Security, Family Planning Commission, Communist Youth League of Provincial Party Committee and Provincial Women’s Federation are cooperating units.)
f. Enhance the exchanging of experiences and information sharing on anti-trafficking work, actively advocate successful working models which integrate prevention, combating, assistance and rehabilitation, promote the continuous improvement of anti-trafficking mechanisms, and increase rapid responses to against human trafficking. (The Provincial Conference System is the responsible unit)

B. Establish and strengthen crime prevention mechanisms
Develop and refine networks to prevent trafficking in women and children on three levels - communities, areas with a high incidence of trafficking in women and children, and provincial cooperation - in order to reduce the rate of incidence of trafficking in women and children. Key areas across the province where crimes of trafficking in women and children occur will be comprehensively managed by the end of 2012.

Division of Responsibilities:

a. Promote and establish community anti-trafficking working systems on the basis of active participation from community organisations and the public, and with an emphasis on clear division of labour and full cooperation between multiple sectors and organisations. (Office for Comprehensive Management of Public Security is the responsible unit.)

b. Implement the national and provincial pro-development poverty alleviation policies and strengthen support for impoverished women in rural areas. Fully utilise existing educational and training resources, actively develop various forms of education in practical skills and training in professional skills, and improve the ability of impoverished women to cast off poverty and become well-off. (State Council Leading Group Office of Poverty Alleviation and Development is the responsible unit. Department of Labour and Social Security, State Development and Reform Commission, Department of Agriculture and Provincial Women’s Federation are cooperating units.)

c. Encourage and support women to actively participate in community affairs and administration, actively raise the social and political position of women, raise their awareness to safeguard their rights. Strengthen publicity and educational work on trafficking prevention, raise the anti-trafficking awareness of community members, particularly amongst women and improve their ability to recognise trafficking crimes and protect themselves. (Department of Civil Affairs is the responsible unit. Department of Public Security, Department of Justice, Department of Education and Provincial Women’s Federation are cooperating units.)

d. Increase publicity and education of relevant laws and regulations to create an atmosphere of rule of law in society. Urge the parents of minors and other guardians to fully comply with the Law on the Protection of Minors of the PRC in order to provide a good home environment and family education for the healthy development of minors. (Department of Justice is the responsible unit. Department of Education, Communist Youth League of Provincial Party Committee and the Provincial Women’s Federation are cooperating units.)

e. Enhance the publicity and implementation of the Marriage Law of the PRC and the Law on the
Protection of the Rights and Interests of Women of the PRC in order to raise women’s awareness and capacity to combat trafficking. Cultivate a caring and loving environment for women in the whole of society. (Department of Justice is the responsible unit. Department of Civil Affairs, Provincial Office of Working Committee for Children and Women under the State Council and Provincial Women’s Federation are cooperating units.)

f. To implement the Compulsory Education Law of the PRC. Improve the mechanism for ensuring funding for compulsory education in the countryside, ensure that all children and youths have the right to nine years of compulsory education and prevent them from entering society too early. At the same time, strengthen education of teachers and students on their anti-trafficking awareness. (Department of Education is the responsible unit. Department of Civil Affairs and Department of Culture are cooperating units.)

g. Strengthen assistance for people who are vulnerable to trafficking. Actively develop various forms of social assistance, help women and children of poor families to solve the difficulties of living in impoverished circumstances and intensify life skills training for them. Actively utilize the currently available assistance and welfare system to successfully provide assistance and aftercare for homeless minors and abandoned babies. (Department of Civil Affairs is the responsible unit. Department of Justice, Department of Finance and Department of Health are cooperating units.)

h. Intensify crime prevention and monitoring in key regions where trafficking in women and children occur, bringing an end to the criminal activities of trafficking from the very beginning. (Department of Public Security is the responsible unit. Office for Comprehensive Management of Public Security and the Provincial Office of Working Committee on Children and Women under the State Council are cooperating units.)

i. Intensify management of the human resources market, standardize the process of seeking employment, the recruitment of employing units and the activities of employment units, in accordance with the relevant laws and regulations. Refine the system for registering employees, strengthen the supervision of the activities of various kinds of employment units and maintain order in the human resources market. Actively research the problem of trafficking in women and children in the labour market and places near the labour market, and develop targeted and effective publicity and educational activities. (Department of Labour and Social Security is the responsible unit. Department of Personnel, State Administration of Radio, Film and Television and the State Administration for Industry and Commerce are cooperating units.)

j. Enhance the dissemination of anti-trafficking information in railway stations, bus stations, ports, entertainment venues, hotels where migrant workers gather, to prevent the occurrence of crimes of trafficking in women and children. (Fuzhou Office of Department of Railways of Nanchang, Department of Transport and Fujian Civil Aviation Safety Supervision Office are the responsible unit. Department of Public Security, Department of Justice, Communist Youth League of Provincial Party Committee and Provincial Women’s Federation are cooperating units.)
k. Actively and successfully reform, monitor and educate criminals who have trafficked women and children to reduce the rate of re-offending. (Department of Justice and Department of Public Security are the responsible units.)

l. In key regions where crimes of trafficking in women and children occur, there will be multi-sectoral and multi-organisational participation to undertake comprehensive management. Countryside and town governments, village/residential committees and the community will help those who are vulnerable to being trafficked and will allow crime prevention to be incorporated into the work priorities of each level. By aiming to introduce this work into development projects, crimes are actively prevented and opportunities for individual development are provided. As far as possible, poverty relief organisations will implement preferential projects for their target population. (Office for Comprehensive Management is the responsible unit. Department of Public Security, Department of Civil Affairs, Communist Youth League of Provincial Party Committee, Provincial Women’s Federation and State Council Leading Group Office of Poverty Alleviation and Development are the cooperating units.)

C. Combating crimes and rescuing trafficked women and children

Refine operational mechanisms, increase capabilities and efficiency to uncover and solve cases of trafficking in women and children and to rapidly rescue trafficked women and children. By the end of 2012, the percentage of solved cases over the total number of cases reported to the authorities will be higher than that of 2007.

Division of Responsibilities:

a. Further improve and strengthen the mechanism to combat trafficking that is led by public security and justice units and supported by close cooperation of the relevant departments and various spheres of society.

- The Department of Public Security and public security agencies in prefectures and cities in which trafficking in women and children are prominent must properly strengthen anti-trafficking organisations and build work teams. (Department of Public Security is the responsible unit.)

- Fully implement the procedure to be developed by the Ministry of Public Security that is suitable for children in terms of their physical and psychological development to investigate cases, and mobilize public security agencies across the province to undertake relevant training. (Department of Public Security is the responsible unit.)

- Organise and develop specialized anti-trafficking campaigns in key areas where trafficking in women and children occur. Organise anti-trafficking in women campaigns in Zhangzhou and Ningde cities, and organise anti-trafficking in children campaigns Fuzhou, Quanzhou, Putian. (Department of Public Security is the responsible unit. Office for Comprehensive Management, Department of Civil Affairs, Department of Labour and Social Security, Family Planning and Population Commission, Communist Youth League of Provincial Party Committee and Provincial Women’s Federation are cooperating units.)
- Resolutely combat the “buyer’s market” for trafficking in women and children. In accordance with the law, investigate and prosecute illegal recruitment units and the use of child labour. Ban illegal labour services, marriage and other services and illegal networks of employment intermediaries. Recruitment units or individuals that buy, introduce and force trafficked women and children to engage in the sex trade and other forced labour will be prosecuted for administrative, civil and criminal causes of action. “Buyers” who obstruct or resist efforts by the public security agencies to rescue trafficked women and children are subject to criminal penalties. (Department of Public Security and Department of Labour and Social Security are the responsible units. Provincial Federation of Trade Unions, State Administration for Industry and Commerce and Department of Civil Affairs are cooperating units.)

a. Reinforce the establishment of information networks, improve the gathering of information at various levels of anti-trafficking organisations as well as their ability to process information. Rely on the criminal investigation integrated information system to timely collect and input information on trafficking of women and children cases. (Department of Public Security is the responsible unit. Department of Civil Affairs and Provincial Women’s Federation are the cooperating units.)

- Establish an information system, refine the mechanisms for the gathering and exchanging of information to combat trafficking. (Department of Public Security is the responsible unit. Department of Civil Affairs and Provincial Women’s Federation are cooperating units.)

- Improve the system for reporting crimes. Encourage various departments, units and the general public to report criminal activities of trafficking in women and children to law enforcement units. (Department of Public Security is the responsible unit.)

D. Intensify efforts to rescue and rehabilitate trafficked women and children

Continue to refine the mechanisms to assist victims, increase the proportion of rescued women who receive training, assistance, physiological and psychological treatment and other such necessary assistance, protect the privacy of rescued women and children, actively help them to return to their families and society and prevent them from suffering secondary harm. Enable the majority of rescued women and children to obtain the necessary assistance, to be promptly reintegrated and to lead a normal life.

Division of Responsibilities:

a. Establish and refine relief mechanisms which are centred on multi-sectoral cooperation and widespread support of all social circles.

- The relevant departments of various levels of governments should according to demand establish new relief services as well as transfer, rehabilitation and training organisations, ensuring the necessary personnel and funding, to ensure that more rescued women and children obtain basic assistance or appropriate aftercare. At the same time, open special hotlines to the public and appoint corresponding emergency assistance organizations to ensure that trafficked women and children receive timely assistance and aftercare. (Department of Civil Affairs and Department
of Finance are the responsible units. Department of Public Security, Department of Education and Department of Health are cooperating units.)

- Develop relevant working procedures and standards, review experiences and promote effective working methods. (Department of Civil Affairs is the responsible unit. Department of Public Security and Department of Education are cooperating units.)

- Encourage relevant civil groups, enterprises, institutions and individuals to provide funds, technical support and specialized services to help rescued women and children. (Department of Civil Affairs and the Communist Youth League of Provincial Party Committee are the responsible units.)

- Relevant academies, scientific research organisations, welfare organisations and psychological counselling organisations assist relevant departments and units to train relief and rehabilitation professionals. (Department of Education is the responsible unit. Department of Civil Affairs and Department of Health are the cooperating units.)

- The Department of Health will organise and coordinate relevant medical organisations in various areas to provide basic medical treatment to rescued women and children. County (cities and districts) should appoint specialized medical organizations (Department of Health is the responsible unit.)

- Legal aid organisations will provide necessary legal aid for rescued women and children, in accordance with law. (Department of Justice is the responsible unit and Department of Public Security is the cooperating unit.)

- Intensify training for rescued women and children and strengthen their legal awareness, rights awareness and relevant skills. (Department of Civil Affairs is the responsible unit. Department of Education, Communist Youth League of Provincial Party Committee and Provincial Women’s Federation are the cooperating units.)

b. Strengthen social care for rescued women and children and help them to return and reintegrate into society smoothly.

- Actively give appropriate aftercare to rescued children for whom guardians cannot be found. (Department of Civil Affairs is the responsible unit and Provincial Women’s Federation is the cooperating unit.)

- Actively help with the aftercare of rescued children who are of school age so that they enrol in a school, return to school and adapt to a new life. (Department of Education is the responsible unit and Department of Civil Affairs is the cooperating unit.)

- Actively help female victims and minors above 16 years of age who cannot or are not willing to return to their original homes to obtain appropriate vocational skills training, vocational
guidance, introductions to jobs and other such employment services, so as to find employment in a different area. (Department of Civil Affairs is the responsible unit and Department of Labour and Social Security is the cooperating unit.)

- Carry out successful work with rescued women and children, their families and the community in which they live, guarantee their smooth return to their families and communities and help them to practical issues of daily life. (Department of Civil Affairs is the responsible unit. Communist Youth League of Provincial Party Committee and Provincial Women’s Federation are the cooperating units.)

c. Provide a variety of services for rescued women and children who have returned to society, give them effective help to solve their practical difficulties and matters regarding employment, livelihood, safeguarding their rights and other such aspects. (Department of Civil Affairs is the responsible unit. Department of Labour and Social Security, Chinese Communist Youth League of Provincial Party Committee and Provincial Women’s Federation are the cooperating units.)

d. Intensify the registration, administration and protection of rescued women and children. Establish special case files, follow-up on and investigate their living conditions and when necessary coordinate the relevant departments and organisations to solve any issues facing them. (Department of Public Security is the responsible unit. Department of Civil Affairs and Provincial Women’s Federation are the cooperating units.)

e. Intensify research into the physiological and psychological health of trafficked women and children and seek effective methods for rehabilitation and treatment.

f. (Department of Health is the responsible unit. Department of Education, Communist Youth League of Provincial Party Committee and Provincial Women’s Federation are the coordinating units.)

g. Strengthen cooperation, mutual support, mutual coordination between areas, departments and organizations, and to establish integrated working mechanisms (Department of Public Security is the responsible unit and Office for Comprehensive Management of Public Security is the coordinating unit.)

E. Enhance international and provincial cooperation

Under the leadership of the Anti-Trafficking in Women and Children Inter-Ministerial Joint Conference Office (hereafter IMCS), strengthen international and provincial cooperation, make the combating of crimes of cross-border and cross-province trafficking in women and children more powerful and efficient, enhance assistance for trafficked women and children and effectively contain cross-border and cross-province trafficking crimes.

Division of Responsibilities:

a. Under the leadership of the IMCS Office, severely combat cross-border trafficking in women and children in order to effectively curtail cross-border crimes. To sign letters of intent to cooperate with major provinces/autonomous regions/municipalities of origin and to report to the IMCS Office by the end of 2008. (Provincial Joint Conference Office will be the responsible unit.)
b. Strengthen cross-province cooperation between police. Share information, assist in individual cases and cooperate to investigate cross-province trafficking with provinces, cities and districts where trafficking occurs. Increase and enhance the strength and efficiency of cross-province anti-trafficking efforts. (Department of Public Security is the responsible unit. Department of Justice are the cooperating units.)

c. Enhance the monitoring and management of cross-province employment and marriage agencies and regulate the activities in order to promote safe migration of workers. (Department of Labour and Social Security, Department of Civil Affairs and State Administration for Industry are the responsible units. Department of Public Security, Department of Communications and Commerce, Fuzhou Office of Department of Railways of Nanchang are the cooperating units.)

d. Enhance cross-province cooperation in rescue and aftercare work for rescued women and children to assist their smooth return to their families and communities and help them to practical issues of daily life. (Department of Public Security is the responsible unit. Office for Comprehensive Management of Public Security, Department of Labour and Social Security, Department of Communications, Communist Youth League of Provincial Party Committee and Provincial Women’s Federation, Fuzhou Office of Department of Railways of Nanchang are the cooperating units.)

Part 4. Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation

Relevant agencies in different levels of the government will pay great attention to the prevention and combating of trafficking in women and children. Leadership will be strengthened and cooperation will be formed. Members of the Provincial Joint Conference will formulate their own implementation plans based on the requirements of the “Implementation Plan” and their own practical realities. The Provincial Joint Conference Office takes responsibility to organise and coordinate the implementation of the “Implementation Plan”, to monitor the progress of implementation by relevant agencies in different levels, as well to undertake periodic and final evaluation.