

China



Population: 1,343,239,923 (July 2012 est.)
Population Growth Rate: 0.481% (2012 est.)
Birth Rate: 12.31 births/1,000 population (2012 est.)
Life Expectancy: total population: 74.84 years; male: 72.82 years; female: 77.11 years (2012 est.)
Literacy Rate: total population: 92.2%; male: 96%; female: 88.5%
Net Migration Rate: -0.33 migrant(s)/1,000 population (2012 est.)
Unemployment Rate: 6.4% (2012 est.) in urban areas, substantial unemployment in rural areas
Gross Domestic Product per Capita: \$9,100 (2012 est.)
Religions: Daoist (Taoist), Buddhist, Christian 3%–4%, Muslim 1%–2% (note: officially atheist)
Languages: Standard Chinese or Mandarin (Putonghua, based on the Beijing dialect) xx%, Yue (Cantonese) xx%, Wu (Shanghainese) xx%, Minbei (Fuzhou) xx%, Minnan (Hokkien-Taiwanese) xx%, Xiang xx%, Gan xx%, Hakka dialects xx%, and minority languages
Ethnic Groups: Han Chinese 91.5%, Zhuang, Manchu, Hui, Miao, Uyghur, Tujia, Yi, Mongol, Tibetan, Buyi, Dong, Yao, Korean, and other nationalities 8.5%
Capital: Beijing¹

Trafficking Routes

China is primarily a country of origin, transit, and destination for trafficking in persons for commercial sexual exploitation, forced marriage, illegal adoption, begging, and forced labor.² Internal trafficking is a significant problem in China as well.³ A large number of women and children are recruited by trafficking gangs in rural southern provinces, such as Guizhou, Sichuan, and Yunnan, and trafficked to urban areas both within China and abroad.⁴ Each year, between 10,000 and 20,000 women and children are trafficked within China.⁵ The Congressional Executive Commission on China reports that about 90 percent of China's internal trafficking cases involve women and children

¹CIA, THE WORLD FACTBOOK (2012), <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ch.html>, (last visited Feb. 07, 2013).

²United Nations Inter-Agency Project on Human Trafficking, *UNIAP China: The Trafficking Situation in China*, <http://www.no-trafficking.org/china.html> (last visited on Feb. 07, 2013).

³*Supra*, note 4, pg 31.

⁴Jeffrey Hays, *Child Trafficking in China*, FACTS AND DETAILS, August 2012, <http://factsanddetails.com/china.php?itemid=1157> (last visited: February 08, 2013).

⁵John Vause, Parents Seek Answers After Children Abducted, CNN INTERNATIONAL, August 10, 2009, available at: <http://edition.cnn.com/2009/WORLD/asiapcf/08/10/china.stolen.children/>.

who are trafficked from poorer provinces to wealthier areas in the country.⁶ A similar report from 2006 suggests that 90 percent of those victims are trafficked for commercial sexual exploitation.⁷

Women and children are also trafficked from China to destinations all over the world, ranging from Australia and Asia to the United Kingdom and Canada.⁸ Traffickers transport victims through China en route to Thailand and Malaysia.⁹ In 2007, China ranked in the top five most represented countries of origin for victims of human trafficking in the United States.¹⁰

China is also a country of destination; most of the women and children trafficked into China are from North and South Korea, Vietnam, Russia, and Burma.¹¹ Trafficking in women and children is most prominent in Guangdong, Fujian, Henan, Sichuan, and Anhui provinces.¹²

Factors that Contribute to the Trafficking Infrastructure

Many factors cause and contribute to the trafficking of persons in China. A lack of employment opportunities combined with China's boom in manufacturing and construction result in mass rural-urban migration; which results in trafficking opportunities for recruiters.¹³ This can be seen in a report by the All-China Women's Federation claims that massive internal migration, in the form of 150 million surplus laborers on China's east coast, occurs due to rapid economic development in the region.¹⁴

Also, Triad, an organized crime group in China, exacerbates the issue.¹⁵ This crime group implements agents who recruit Chinese victims by deceiving them into believing that they will pursue studies overseas or obtain well-paying jobs in the more prosperous areas of China, but later deliver these victims to the sex or forced labor industries.¹⁶ Most victims come from poor rural areas in China and have access to limited opportunities.¹⁷ Chinese criminal groups, such as the Shé Tóu, or snakeheads, which

⁶ CONGRESSIONAL-EXECUTIVE COMMISSION ON CHINA, ANNUAL REPORT, pg. 121, (2011), *available at*: <http://www.cecc.gov/pages/annualRpt/annualRpt07/CECCannRpt2007.pdf>.

⁷ CONGRESSIONAL-EXECUTIVE COMMISSION ON CHINA, ANNUAL REPORT, pg. 11, (2006), *available at*: <http://www.cecc.gov/pages/annualRpt/annualRpt06/index.php>.

⁸ *Id.*

⁹ United Nations Inter-Agency Project on Human Trafficking, *UNIAP China: The Trafficking Situation in China*, <http://www.no-trafficking.org/china.html> (last visited on Feb. 07, 2013).

¹⁰ Department of Justice, Attorney General's Annual Report to Congress and Assessment of the U.S. Government Activities to Combat Trafficking in Persons Fiscal Year 2007, pg 5, (2008), *available at*: <http://www.justice.gov/archive/ag/annualreports/tr2007/agreporthumantrafficking2007.pdf>.

¹¹ United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), East Asia and Pacific Regional Office, *Reversing the Trend: Child Trafficking in East and Southeast Asia*, pg 29, (2009), *available at*: http://www.unicef.org/eapro/Unicef_EA_SEA_Trafficking_Report_Aug_2009_low_res.pdf.

¹² Wang Zhuoqiong, *More Forced into Labor, Prostitution*, CHINA DAILY, (July 27, 2007), *available at*: http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2007-07/27/content_5444409.htm.

¹³ Humantrafficking.org, <http://www.humantrafficking.org/countries/china>, (last visited February 07, 2011).

¹⁴ Humantrafficking.org, <http://www.humantrafficking.org/countries/china>, (last visited February 07, 2011).

¹⁵ Bill Gertz, *Organizes Crime Triads Targeted*, in THE WASHINGTON TIMES, (June 2010), *available at*: <http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2010/apr/30/organized-crime-triads-targeted/?page=all>.

¹⁶ *Id.*

¹⁷ Associated Press, *More Chinese Women Trafficked for Prostitution*, FOX NEWS, (2011), *available at*: <http://www.foxnews.com/world/2011/01/23/chinese-women-trafficked-prostitution/>.

specialize in human trafficking, have also been well documented as being active in exploiting people in this industry.¹⁸

Also, women are traditionally subordinate to men in Chinese culture, which increases their vulnerability to becoming victims of trafficking.¹⁹ Resulting from China's one-child policy, unwanted female children are prone to abandonment, trafficking, and even infanticide.²⁰ Girls are disadvantaged in the areas of education and job opportunities. Such discrimination increases their vulnerability to trafficking.²¹ This also leads to a lack of Chinese women for Chinese men to marry, which in turn fuels trafficking of victims from Vietnam to China for the purpose of forced marriage.²²

Forms of Trafficking

Women and children are trafficked to and from China for a variety of purposes, including forced marriage, prostitution, and labor, as well as for adoption and bride rearing, known as tong yang xi, which is a rare and illegal Chinese practice of selling or giving a young female to another family in exchange for a future daughter-in-law.²³

It is common practice for traffickers to promise adult victims employment opportunities and then coerce them into prostitution or forced labor.²⁴ Commercial sex businesses, hair salons, massage parlors, and bathhouses are common destinations for trafficked women in economically prosperous areas.²⁵ In poverty-stricken regions, trafficked women are sold to old, disabled, or mentally impaired unmarried men and forced into marriage.²⁶ Traffickers sometimes gain access to child victims by

¹⁸Andrew Rankin, *Recent Trends in Organized Crime in Japan: Yakuza vs the Police, & Foreign Crime Gangs - Part 2*, THE ASIA PACIFIC JOURNAL, February 20, 2012, at Vol 10, Issue 7, No 1 available at: <http://japanfocus.org/-Andrew-Rankin/3692>.

¹⁹Matthew B. Conaway, (June 2010) "The Trafficking of Women and Girls for Prostitution and Brides in China," retrieved Feb. 25, 2013, from [http://www.academia.edu/277740/The Trafficking of Women and Girls for Prostitution and Brides in China](http://www.academia.edu/277740/The_Trafficking_of_Women_and_Girls_for_Prostitution_and_Brides_in_China).

²⁰*Id* at 6-7.

²¹*Supra*, note 6, pg. 2.

²²United Nations Inter-Agency Project on Human Trafficking, Strategic Information Response Network, *Siren Human Trafficking Data Sheet*, (2008), available at: http://www.no-trafficking.org/content/SIREN/SIREN_pdf/vietnam%20datasheet%20final%20november%202008.pdf.

²³REFUGEE REVIEW TRIBUNAL AUSTRALIA, RRT RESEARCH RESPONSE 1 (2009), available at: <http://www.mrt-rrt.gov.au/CMSPages/GetFile.aspx?guid=aab82f8d-c7e5-4758-9a72-233ad083621e>

²⁴HEATHER J. CLAWSON, NICOLE DUTCH, AMY COLOMON, AND LISA GOLDBLATT GRACE, US DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, HUMAN TRAFFICKING INTO AND WITHIN THE UNITED STATES A REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE (2009), available at: <http://aspe.hhs.gov/hsp/07/humantrafficking/litrev/>.

²⁵*Supra*, note 10.

²⁶QUANBAO JIANG, YING LI, AND JESUS J. SANCHEZ-BARRICARTE, "Trafficking of Women from Neighboring Countries into China for Marriage Within the Context of Gender Imbalance," supported by the *Project of National Social Science Foundation of China* (09XSH005), and the *985-3 Project of Xi'an Jiaotong University* and the *Spanish Ministry of Science and Innovation* : (2011), available at: http://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=in%20poverty-%20stricken%20regions%2C%20trafficked%20women%20are%20sold%20to%20old%20or%20disabled%20unmarried%20men%20and%20forced%20into%20marriage&source=web&cd=1&ved=0CDIQFjAA&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.mecon.nomadit.co.uk%2Fpub%2Fconference_epaper_download.php5%3FPap

guaranteeing that remittance payments will be sent home to the child's parents, while other times children are kidnapped and sold for adoption or other purposes.²⁷

China has a significant problem concerning trafficking for the purpose of marriage and adoption. Infant girls are frequently kidnapped or bought from poor parents, particularly migrant workers, and sold to childless families in more prosperous regions or sold to be raised as brides for poor farming families.²⁸ In one instance, twenty passengers of a bus in the Guangxi province were arrested for allegedly purchasing and trafficking 28 female babies. The babies were found on the bus alongside the passengers and in nylon bags. One infant had suffocated while the others were rescued and sent to an orphanage.²⁹ In terms of kidnappings, the Ministry of Public Security in China estimates that 30,000 to 60,000 kidnappings occur annually.³⁰

China is also a sex tourism destination. Women are openly solicited for prostitution by hotels for their guests, most frequently for foreign guests. In fact, in 2009, China's first sex theme park for tourists was opened and later bulldozed by Chinese authorities, who deemed the park "vulgar, ill-minded, and misleading."³¹

Victims are trafficked into China from many destinations through varying methods. For example, the number of North Korean women who willingly cross the border into China in an effort to survive the famine in their country has greatly increased since 1998. Some women reportedly enter into China with the intent to enter prostitution in order to survive or to be sold into marriage. Others are abducted, sold by their parents, or duped into sexual exploitation.³² Vietnamese women trafficked to Guangxi, an autonomous region of China, are offered phony promises of jobs or marriage. Such women are trafficked even farther into China, to inland provinces such as Anhui, Guangdong, Hebei, Henan, and Jiangsu.³³

Between April and May 2008, Chinese police rescued seven abducted children and one woman. A total of 18 people were given varying sentences for the kidnapping and trafficking of women and children. The three main kidnappers received life sentences, while 15 others were given sentences ranging from three to 15 years' imprisonment as well as hefty fines.³⁴

[erID%3D8111%26MIMEType%3Dapplication%2Fpdf&ei=oxYVUbv_IbKs0AHyi4HoCQ&usg=AFQjCNFfV9W8B2km6woxu9NbO30_rn46lw&bvm=bv.42080656,d.dmQ.](#)

²⁷AFG International, *China*, <http://www.agfinternational.org/htirchina.html> (last visited February 08, 2013).

²⁸Alexandre Meneghini, *Infant Girls for Sale in China*, CBS NEWS, February 11, 2009, available at: http://www.cbsnews.com/2100-202_162-545861.html.

²⁹Jeffrey Hays, *Child Trafficking in China*, FACTS AND DETAILS, August 2012, <http://factsanddetails.com/china.php?itemid=1157> (last visited: February 08, 2013).

³⁰*Id.*

³¹*Sex Tourism: Red Faces in China*, ETURBONEWS, available at: <http://www.eturbonews.com/9335/sex-tourism-red-faces-china>.

³²AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL, *CHINA'S REPATRIATION OF NORTH KOREAN REFUGEES*, MARCH 5, 2012, <HTTP://WWW.AMNESTYUSA.ORG/NEWS/NEWS-ITEM/CHINA-S-REPATRIATION-OF-NORTH-KOREAN-REFUGEES> (LAST VISITED FEBRUARY 07, 2013).

³³YI WANG, OXFAM QUEBEC, *ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING PROGRAM IN VIETNAM 7* (2005), available at:

http://www.humantrafficking.org/uploads/publications/oxfam_antitrafficking_program_in_vietnam.pdf.

³⁴*Kidnappers Sentenced to Life Terms in Southwest China*, CHINA DAILY, available at:

http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2009-08/25/content_8615057.htm (last updated September 4, 2009).

In Xinjiang province, approximately 20 Uyghr nationalist opposition groups operate, albeit not very actively. Children and teenagers have reportedly taken part in separatist activities; although it is not clear to what extent they have participated in combat.³⁵

Government Responses

Under China's criminal code, anyone who abducts or traffics women or children is subject to imprisonment for five to 10 years and a fine.³⁶ Punishment has increased to imprisonment for 10 years to life, plus a fine, under certain aggravated circumstances.³⁷ In Article 240 of China's criminal code, it further states that "abducting and trafficking women or children refer to abducting, kidnapping, buying, selling, transporting, or transshipping women or children."³⁸

Any person who buys or abducts a woman or child is subject to imprisonment for up to three years.³⁹ Anyone who buys abducted women and forces them to engage in sexual activities is subject to punishment under the rape provisions of the criminal code.⁴⁰ In addition, the Law Safeguarding Women's Rights and Interests of the People's Republic of China prohibit abducting, selling, or kidnapping women as well as buying such women.⁴¹ The criminal code further imposes imprisonment for up to three years on anyone who uses "force or coercion to obstruct workers of state organs from rescuing bought women or children."⁴²

The criminal code punishes organizing and forcing others into prostitution by imprisonment of five to 10 years and a fine. Punishment is enhanced to imprisonment

³⁵COALITION TO STOP THE USE OF CHILD SOLDIERS, CHILD SOLDIERS GLOBAL REPORT 2008 (2008), *available at* http://www.child-soldiers.org/global_report_reader.php?id=97.

³⁶Criminal Code of the People's Republic of China, (1979) art. 240, *available at*: <http://www.cecc.gov/pages/newLaws/criminalLawENG.php>. In addition, article 262 of the Criminal Code specifically prohibits abducting minors by stating, "Those abducting minors under 14 years of age from their family or guardians are to be sentenced to 5 years or less in prison or put under criminal detention."

³⁷*Id.* art. 240. The enhanced penalty applies when an offender falls within one of the following cases: primary elements of rings engaging in abducting and trafficking women or children; those abducting and trafficking more than three women or children; those raping abducted women; those seducing, tricking, or forcing abducted women into prostitution; or those selling abducted women to others, who in turn force them into prostitution; those kidnapping women or children, using force, coercion, or narcotics, for the purpose of selling them; those stealing or robbing infants or babies for the purpose of selling them; those causing the serious injury or death of abducted women or children, or their family members, or causing other grave consequences; and those selling abducted women or children outside the country.

³⁸*Id.* art. 240

³⁹*Id.* art. 241.

⁴⁰*Id.* art. 241. Article 236 of the Criminal Code (the provision on rape) states, "Whoever, by violence, coercion, or other means, rapes a woman is to be sentenced to not less than 3 years and not more than 10 years of fixed-term imprisonment. Whoever has sexual relations with a girl under the age of 14 is to be deemed to have committed rape and is to be given a heavier punishment. Whoever rapes a woman or has sexual relations with a girl involving one of the following circumstances is to be sentenced to not less than 10 years of fixed-term imprisonment, life imprisonment, or death: (1) rape a woman or have sexual relations with a girl when the circumstances are odious; (2) rape several women or have sexual relations with several girls; (3) rape a woman in a public place and in the public; (4) rape a woman in turn with another or more persons; (5) cause the victim serious injury, death, or other serious consequences."

⁴¹*Id.* art. 36.

⁴²*Id.* art. 242.

from 10 years to life, plus a fine and confiscation of property, if an organized group commits the crime, if the victim is a girl under 14 years of age, if the crime committed is against more than one victim, if the offenders raped the victims, if the crime was committed repeatedly, or if serious injury or death occurs.⁴³

Anyone who helps others organize people for prostitution is subject to punishment of imprisonment for up to five years and a fine.⁴⁴ The acts of harboring a person involved in prostitution as well as seducing or introducing others into prostitution are punishable by imprisonment for up to five years and a fine. Seducing a girl less than 14 years of age into prostitution is punishable by imprisonment for at least five years and a fine.⁴⁵ In addition, the Law Safeguarding Women's Rights and Interests of the People's Republic of China prohibits organizing, coercing, luring, keeping, or introducing women to work in prostitution, as well as hiring or keeping women to engage in obscene activities with others.⁴⁶

The criminal code penalizes any person who knows that he or she is suffering from a venereal disease and nonetheless engages in prostitution or seeks out individuals working in prostitution. Punishment is imprisonment for up to five years and a fine.⁴⁷ The code also penalizes any employee of a hotel, the entertainment industry, or a taxi service who arranges for another person to engage in prostitution or lures another person into prostitution.⁴⁸

Unlawfully detaining another person or depriving another person of his or her personal freedom is an offense punishable by imprisonment for up to three years.⁴⁹ Anyone who uses force to interfere with another person's freedom of marriage is subject to punishment by imprisonment for up to two years.⁵⁰

Producing and/or disseminating obscene materials⁵¹ or organizing an obscene performance is an offense punishable by imprisonment for up to three years and a fine.⁵² Labor law permits employees to revoke their employment contract if an employer forces them to work through means of violence, threat, or deprivation of personal freedom in violation of law.⁵³ The criminal code further provides that "persons of employing units who are directly responsible for forcing workers to labor by restricting their physical freedom in violation of labor management laws and regulations" are subject to punishment by imprisonment for up to three years, a fine, or both.⁵⁴

The Decision of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress on the Strict Prohibition Against Prostitution and Whoring prohibits "engaging in

⁴³ *Id.* art. 358.

⁴⁴ *Id.*

⁴⁵ *Id.* art. 359.

⁴⁶ *Id.* art. 37.

⁴⁷ *Id.* art. 360.

⁴⁸ *Id.* art. 361.

⁴⁹ *Id.* art. 238.

⁵⁰ *Id.* art. 257. In addition, article 41 of the Law Safeguarding Women's Rights and Interests of the People's Republic of China prohibits interfering with women's freedom in marriage or divorce.

⁵¹ *Id.* art. 363.

⁵² *Id.* art. 365.

⁵³ Labor Law of the People's Republic of China, July 1, 1995, art. 32, *available at*: http://www.china.org.cn/living_in_china/abc/2009-07/15/content_18140508.htm

⁵⁴ Criminal Code of the People's Republic of China, July 6, 1979, art. 244 (1980), *available at*: http://www.novexc.com/criminal_law.html.

prostitution, patronizing prostitutes, pimping, pandering, procuring, maintaining a brothel,” and other related activities.⁵⁵ The decision imposes the death penalty on perpetrators who force a girl under the age of 14 to engage in prostitution, who force more than one person to engage in prostitution, or whose actions result in serious bodily injury or death.⁵⁶ In addition, the Standing Committee of the National People’s Congress enacted the 1991 Decision Relating to the Severe Punishment of Criminal Elements Who Abduct and Kidnap Women and Children. That decision criminalizes the purchase and sale of women who are not abducted.⁵⁷ A total of 3,400 women and children were rescued from traffickers between April and August 2009, mostly from the provinces of Shanxi, Anhui, Yunnan, and Henan.⁵⁸

Nongovernmental and International Organization Responses

The U.N. Inter-Agency Project (UNIAP) on Human Trafficking in the Greater Mekong Sub-region was established in June 2000 to facilitate a stronger and more coordinated response to regional trafficking in persons. UNIAP brings together six governments, 13 U.N. agencies, and eight international NGOs.⁵⁹

The All-China Women’s Federation (ACWF) is the implementing partner of the International Labour Organization/International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (ILO/IPEC) Mekong Sub regional Project to Combat Trafficking in Children and Women. The Yunnan Province Women’s Federation implements the program in Yunnan. ILO/IPEC has begun similar projects in Anhui, Guangdong, Henan, Hunan, and Jiangsu provinces.⁶⁰

In September 2007, an anti-trafficking campaign throughout Asia was implemented by USAID and AusAID, in affiliation with the MTV Europe Foundation and MTV Networks Asia Pacific. Through this partnership, a variety of anti-trafficking materials were created through media, such as television specials (one named *Traffic*), public service announcements, concerts, a multilingual Internet presence, and MTV events in locations including Bhutan, China, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Mongolia, Maldives, Cambodia, Hong Kong, Maldives, Japan, Papua New

⁵⁵ The Decision of the Standing Committee of the Seventh National People’s Congress, October 27, 2001, available at: http://english.gov.cn/laws/2005-10/10/content_75700.htm.

⁵⁶ *Supra*. Section 2. The sentence in these cases is imprisonment of 5 to 10 years.

⁵⁷ Law Info China, Decision of the Standing Committee of the National People’s Congress Regarding the Severe Punishment of Criminals who Abduct and Traffic in or Kidnap Women or Children, Sept. 4, 1994, available at: <http://www.lawinfochina.com/display.aspx?lib=law&id=858&CGid=>

⁵⁸ XINHUA NEWS AGENCY, *3,400 women, children rescued in human trafficking cases*, August 12, 2009, available at: http://www.china.org.cn/china/news/2009-08/12/content_18319214.htm.

⁵⁹ KIEREN BEST, UNIAP CHINA, UNITED NATIONS INTER-AGENCY PROJECT ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN THE GREATER MEKONG SUB-REGION, (2005), available at: <http://www.asiapacificforum.net/services/training/regional-workshops/trafficking/downloads/session-5/s5-best.pdf>.

⁶⁰ ILO, PREVENTING TRAFFICKING IN GIRLS AND YOUNG WOMEN FOR LABOUR EXPLOITATION WITHIN CHINA (2007), available at: http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_mas/---eval/documents/publication/wcms_099774.pdf.

Guinea, South Korea, Thailand, and the Philippines. Southeast Asia and South Asia will receive separate films and other materials.⁶¹

In 2008, twenty countries⁶² participated in 49 programs focused on combating trafficking in persons. The Office of Overseas Prosecutorial Development, Assistance, and Training conducted these programs in an effort to promote the prevention of trafficking, protection of victims, and prosecution of traffickers.⁶³

Multilateral Initiatives

A new statute that governs cross-strait relations between Taiwan and mainland China contains a number of provisions aimed at curbing the flow of illegal immigration and trafficking in persons between the two areas. According to October 2003 amendments to the Act Governing Relations between Peoples of the Taiwan Area and the Mainland Area, forcing any person from the mainland area to enter the Taiwan area illegally is punishable by a fine and imprisonment of one to seven years.⁶⁴ If the perpetrator intends to make a profit, the penalty is increased to three to 10 years of imprisonment,⁶⁵ and the penalty for the leading conspirator in the offense is imprisonment of at least five years.⁶⁶ Acting as an intermediary in committing this offense is punishable by up to two years' imprisonment or by up to three years' imprisonment if the perpetrator's intent was to make a profit.⁶⁷ Soliciting a person from the Taiwan area to enter into mainland China illegally is punishable by imprisonment of up to six months.⁶⁸ In addition, any vessel, aircraft, or other vehicle used in trafficking schemes may be confiscated,⁶⁹ and the registration of the vehicle and professional licenses of its crew members may be suspended or annulled.⁷⁰

In June 2004, China and Vietnam launched a joint campaign in partnership with UNICEF to eliminate trafficking in women and children. The one-year program was implemented by the women's unions of the two countries, with technical assistance and support from UNICEF. The campaign, launched on the border linking the Vietnamese town of Mong Cai to Dong Xing in China, was carried out in Lang Son, Nghe An, Quanh Ninh, and Thanh Hoa provinces in Vietnam and in Guangxi in China.⁷¹ The women's

⁶¹DOJ, ATTORNEY GENERAL'S ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS AND ASSESSMENT OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS FISCAL YEAR 2010 at 70 (2011), *available at*: <http://www.justice.gov/archive/ag/annualreports/agreporthumantrafficking2010.pdf>.

⁶² Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Bosnia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Kosovo, Mexico, Moldova, Nicaragua, Philippines, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Tajikistan, Tanzania, and United Arab of Emirates.

⁶³The Office of Overseas Prosecutorial Development, Assistance, and Training, DOJ/OPDAT Trafficking in Persons, *available at*: <http://www.justice.gov/criminal/opdat/achieve/traffic-n-persons.html#top> (last visited on February 12, 2013).

⁶⁴Act Governing Relations between Peoples of the Taiwan Area and the Mainland, July 1, 1997, Article 79, paragraph 1, *available at*: http://www.judicial.gov.tw/constitutionalcourt/japan/p03_01.asp?expno=497.

⁶⁵ *Id.* art. 79, paragraph 2.

⁶⁶ *Id.* art.79, paragraph 3.

⁶⁷ *Id.* art.83.

⁶⁸ *Id.* art.84.

⁶⁹ *Id.* art. 79, paragraph 6–7.

⁷⁰ *Id.* art. 79, paragraph 5.

⁷¹Press Release, UNICEF, Campaign to Stop Trafficking in Women and Children Between Viet Nam and China June 3, 2004, *available at*: http://www.unicef.org/vietnam/media_521.html.

unions of the two countries then implemented a follow-up campaign in the same provinces in 2005, which included the distribution of leaflets, posters, stickers, T-shirts, and caps in addition to televised information in an effort to further raise awareness.⁷² Senior officials from Cambodia, China, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam met in July 2004 for the first time for a closed-door meeting to discuss a new framework to combat trafficking in the region.⁷³ Those six countries then signed the Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation Against Trafficking in Persons in the Greater Mekong Sub-region in October 2004, which was focused on combating trafficking across the borders of these countries through strengthened cooperation among law enforcement. The Joint Declaration of the Coordinated Mekong Ministerial Initiative Against Trafficking was signed in December, 2007 in an effort to reemphasize the complexity and importance of fighting human trafficking on a transnational level as well as seeking justice for the victims of trafficking.⁷⁴

⁷²Tran Dinh Thanh Lam, *VIETNAM: No Red Lights for Trafficking Women to China*, *IPSNEWS*, Feb. 10, 2006, available at: <http://www.ipsnews.net/2006/02/vietnam-no-red-lights-for-trafficking-women-to-china/>.

⁷³COMMIT, *COMMIT Sub-Regional Plan of Action 2 (2008-2010)*, available at: http://www.no-trafficking.org/reports_docs/commit/commit_spa2_final.pdf.

⁷⁴Memorandum, *Sixth Senior Officials' Meeting, Improving Law Enforcement Cooperation and Severely Combating Transnational Crimes of Trafficking in Persons*, Nov. 5, 2008, available at: <http://www.notip.org.cn/UserImages/00000827.pdf>.