

Asian Task Force for Organ Trafficking

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April 15, 2008

Dear Colleague,

We would like to bring to your attention the *Recommendations on the Prohibition, Prevention and Elimination of Organ Trafficking in Asia* ("Taipei Recommendations") of January 2008, issued by the Asian Task Force for Organ Trafficking. The Task Force is composed of fourteen independent scholars from Asia, Europe and the United States. It was established in 2007 with the purpose of identifying the problems of organ trafficking in Asia and providing the recommendations on how to tackle organ trafficking.

In consideration of the facts that there is a widening gap between organ demand and supply for transplantation, which lead to the result that patients in need have been traveling beyond geographical borders to receive transplants, either because of organ shortage at home or because transplant service has not been well established in their home countries; also taking into serious account the situations that agents and middlemen have exploited the situation as organ trafficking and that some Asian countries have become the sources of black market organs and the hub for transplant tourism, the Task Force is of the firm view that the mere condemnation could not stop the serious situation. There must be concrete steps taken by government authorities, public and private organizations as well as individuals to help stopping, preventing and eliminating organ trafficking. The *Recommendations* represent the joint views of the Task Force members about the principles and measures to be implemented for this purpose.

Enclosed please find the report of the Task Force, which include the full contents of our *Recommendations*. We sincerely hope that these *Recommendations* will be of assistance to you in formulating policies and in adopting specific measures. More specifically, we hope that these *Recommendations* will be fully integrated into your policies and measures so that the ultimate goal of eliminating organ trafficking in Asia could be achieved earlier.

If the Asian Task Force and its members can be of any further help to you, we would be more than happy to advice and to provide possible assistance. We look forward to your positive consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Chang-fa Lo
Chairman of the Task Force



Alireza Bagheri
Coordinator of the Task Force

