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Article in Brief

China advocates for enhancing international cooperation to combat transnational crimes

Full text: http://news.xinhuanet.com/world/2008-10/08/content_10167284.htm

Xinhua Net, 8 October 2008: The forth Conference of the Parties to the *UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime* (“Convention”) was held in Vienna on 8-17 October. The focus of the conference was to deliberate such topics as criminal convictions, international cooperation, technical assistance, anti-money laundry. More than 100 representatives from the Convention parties, international organisations and NGOs as well as observers attended the conference. Mr Tang Guoqiang, representative of the Permanent Mission of the People's Republic of China to the UN Office in Vienna and of other international organisations, stressed that only through enhancing cooperation can the international community hope to effectively combat transnational organised crimes. Since entering into effect in 2003, 146 nations have become parties to the Convention. The Convention provides a platform for these nations to combat transnational organised crimes together and to promote interactions and cooperation.

中国主张加强国际合作打击跨国犯罪

全文: http://news.xinhuanet.com/world/2008-10/08/content_10167284.htm

新华网，2008年10月08日：《联合国打击跨国有组织犯罪公约》第四届缔约国会议8日至17日在维也纳召开，将重点审议刑事定罪、国际合作、技术援助、反洗钱等

议题，100 多个缔约国、观察员、国际组织和非政府组织的代表与会。中国常驻联合国维也纳办事处和其他国际组织代表唐国强大使强调，国际社会只有加强合作，才能更有效地打击跨国有组织犯罪活动。打击跨国犯罪公约自 2003 年生效以来，缔约国已达 146 个，该公约为各国携手打击跨国犯罪提供了平台，促进了各国在打击跨国犯罪领域的交流与合作。

Minister Meng Jianzhu met with Mr Le Hong Anh, Vietnamese Minister for Public Security

Full text: <http://www.mps.gov.cn/n16/n1237/n1357/1570564.html>

Ministry of Public Security, 9 October 2008: Mr Meng Jianszhu, State Councillor and Minister for Public Security, met with Mr Le Hong Anh, Member of Political Bureau of the CPV Central Committee and Minister for Public Security at the Diaoyutai Guesthouse. Mr Meng pointed out that, over the years, cooperation between the public security agencies of the two countries has strengthened over the years, cooperation mechanisms have improved, interactions between personnel have become more frequent and cooperation in law enforcement has become more pragmatic. It is hoped that, based on the principles of “being far-sighted based on overall situation and full cooperation for mutual benefit and win-win progress”, both countries will continue to improve interactions between the personnel and to further deepen cooperation in law enforcement between the two countries. Mr Le Hong Anh said, the Communist Party of Vietnam and Vietnamese government attach great importance to friendly cooperation with China and are willing to further improve efforts to combat cross-border crimes, especially in such areas of trafficking in women and children and drug trafficking, in order to maintain national security and social stability of both countries.

孟建柱会见越南公安部部长黎鸿英

全文: <http://www.mps.gov.cn/n16/n1237/n1357/1570564.html>

公安部，2008-10-09：国务委员、公安部部长孟建柱在钓鱼台国宾馆会见了越共中央政治局委员、越南公安部部长黎鸿英。孟建柱指出，近年来，中越两国公安部门的合作不断加强，双方合作机制日臻完善，人员往来日益密切，执法合作更加务实。希望双方在坚持“立足大局、着眼长远、互利共赢、全面合作”原则的基础上，不断加强人员往来，进一步深化两国公安执法合作。黎鸿英表示，越南党和政府十分重视与中国的友好合作，愿意进一步加强两国在打击跨国犯罪，尤其在打击拐卖妇女儿童、贩毒等领域的合作，维护各自国家安全和社会稳定。

Iraq: helping homeless children to prevent them from becoming ‘human bombs’

Full text: http://europe.ce.cn/hqbl/main/gd/200810/06/t20081006_16982151.shtml

People’s Daily, 6 October 2008: More and more children are being used as ‘human bombs’ in Iraq. According the latest figures form Iraq’s Internal Affairs Department, of the hundreds of suicide attacks which occurred in the last two years, 24 of them were carried out by children who had been recruited by al-Qaeda groups, representing around 20% of the total number of suicide attacks. Relevant research studies also show that al-Qaeda groups have focused on recruiting homeless orphans, street children and children with mental illness. Of all the ‘human bombs’ recruited, the youngest child was only 11 years old. Most of the children were bribed with food or coerced into carrying out the attacks. Al-Qaeda groups

favours the use of children for terrorist attacks because they are less likely than adults to attract attention or raise suspicion and therefore more likely to succeed in their attacks.

伊拉克收容流浪儿童 防止其成为无知“人弹”

全文: http://europe.ce.cn/hqbl/main/gd/200810/06/t20081006_16982151.shtml

人民日报, 2008年10月06日: 目前, 被用以执行自杀式炸弹袭击的“人弹”中, 出现了越来越多儿童的身影。伊内政部的最新统计数字显示, 近两年来发生在伊拉克的百余起自杀式炸弹袭击中, 有24起袭击是由“基地”组织招募的“儿童人弹”实施的, 约占到所有自杀袭击数量的20%。相关调查也显示, “基地”组织招募的重点是流浪孤儿、街头儿童以及患有精神疾病的无家可归儿童。在所有被招募的“儿童人弹”中, 年纪最小的只有11岁, 他们大部分是被“基地”组织恐怖分子用食物利诱或者直接恐吓发动袭击的。恐怖组织倾向于用儿童发动恐怖袭击, 是因为与成年人相比, 儿童的目标更小, 更不易引起人们的注意和怀疑, 成功率比由成年人实施的袭击高出许多。

Thailand: Justice for migrant labour

Full text: http://www.bangkokpost.com/031008_News/03Oct2008_news14.php

Bangkok Post, 3 October 2008: After a two-year-long trial, the Labour Court of Thailand ruled last week that owners of the Praphasavee fleet of deep-sea trawlers must pay for leaving their crew adrift in the open seas for over three months without food and fresh water. Out of over 100 crew members, 39 died at sea. Two of them were buried on an island. The bodies of 37 others were simply dumped in the ocean. Most of the crew were ethnic Mon who had fled the harsh poverty and war atrocities wrought by the junta in Burma.

Although some believe the 4.9-million-baht compensation awarded to the 38 plaintiffs is too small, the message from the court is clear: workers, illegal or not, are entitled to minimum wages. And regardless of their workers' legal status, the employers must be held accountable for their mistreatment.

It was indeed a historic court ruling. But much still needs to be done to save ethnic migrant workers from slave-like working conditions in Thailand. Abused or not, the law says all migrant workers whose jobs are terminated must be immediately deported. This law has robbed workers of their right to seek legal and financial redress from labour exploitation, while allowing abusive employers to get away with murder. It is not only inhumane laws that are at play here. Migrant workers in Ranong, Phuket, Phangnga and Surat Thani are barred from using mobile phones and motorcycles. Group gatherings are prohibited, meaning workers cannot organise cultural or religious ceremonies - a blatant violation of their rights.

泰国: 为移民劳工主持正义

全文: http://www.bangkokpost.com/031008_News/03Oct2008_news14.php

曼谷快讯, 2008年10月3日: 经过两年的审判之后, 泰国劳动法庭上周裁决, 就 Praphasavee 深海捕捞船队的业主使他们的100多名船员在没有食物和淡水的情况下在公海漂泊了3个月, 致使39名船员死亡一事做出赔偿。这39名死亡的船员有两人被埋在了荒岛上, 其余37人被草草投入了大海。船员们中绝大多数人是缅甸的孟族人, 他们是为了摆脱贫困、逃离战乱的暴虐威胁而离开在缅甸的家园的。

虽然有些人认为给 38 名原告的 490 万泰铢的赔偿金实在太低，但法庭的宣判却给予公众一条明确的信息：工人（即便是非法移民）均有资格获得最低工资；不论工人是否具有合法身份，雇主必须为自己的虐待工人的行径承担责任。

这是一次具有历史意义的法庭裁决。但仍有许多工作有待完成，以避免泰国移民工人陷入被奴役的境况，如现行法律规定所有的移民工人（不管其是否遭受虐待）在工作雇用期结束时，一律必须立即离开泰国。这样的法律条款剥夺了工人的权利，使他们无法因遭受劳动剥削而寻求合法的和经济上的赔偿，同时使施虐的雇主得以逃避自己的违法行径。但除了不人道的法律以外，还有其他许多不公平的现象，例如：在 Ranong、Phuket、Phangnga 和 Surat Thani 等地的移民工人居然被禁止使用手机，不允许骑摩托车，还不准聚会，意味着工人不能组织文化活动或宗教仪式，显而易见这是对其权利的侵犯。



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