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Regional Seminar in Greece on Combating the Trafficking of Human Beings for Labor Exploitation

The EPLO organized a regional seminar on combating the trafficking of human beings in the framework of the project "Integrated Approach for Prevention of Labour Exploitation in Origin and Destination Countries" on 4 and 5 February 2013 at its headquarters in Athens (Achaiou 16, Kolonaki).

Key stakeholders such as labor inspectors and police officers reported on the legal framework in Greece regarding the phenomenon, the profile of the perpetrators, child trafficking, the identification, referral and assistance of trafficked persons among other during this two-day seminar and one of the nine regional seminars envisaged in the project. In addition, representatives of NGOs in Greece attended the seminar and presented their actions towards combating trafficking in persons. The seminar served as a tool for networking and the exchange of best practices and experiences among national stakeholders.

Focusing on Bulgaria, Cyprus, FYROM, Greece, Hungary and Romania as origin, transit and/or destination countries, the project aims at identifying what more these countries must do to combat the trafficking of human beings for labor exploitation. In particular, the project aims to help them improve the identification and referral of victims, to provide better assistance to these people and to more effectively prosecute and convict traffickers. In addition, it has as an objective to improve communication between the authorities concerned and make people in the countries of origin more aware of the risks of working abroad illegally.

Co-funded by the European Commission, the project is implemented by the Inspectorate General of the Romanian Police - National Agency against Trafficking in Persons of Romania (leader), the Ministry of Justice and Law Enforcement of Hungary, the Ministry of Interior of FYROM, the National Commission for Combating Human Trafficking of Bulgaria, the Action for Equality, Support, Antiracism (KISA) of Cyprus and the EPLO.