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2008 Annual Review

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anti-slavery **today's fight for tomorrow's freedom**

Anti-Slavery International is committed to eliminating all forms of slavery throughout the world. Slavery, including forced labour, bonded labour and those born or trafficked into slavery, denies millions of people of their basic dignity and violates their fundamental human rights.

Anti-Slavery International works to end these abuses by:

- Gathering evidence and exposing cases of slavery.
- Campaigning for its eradication.
- Supporting the initiatives of local organisations to release people.
- Pressing for more effective enforcement of existing laws, and for changes where needed.

Director and Chair's report

Anti-Slavery can once more note considerable success over the past year, which have been achieved alongside the organisation's continued work to reorganise its finances. Some of the results of those efforts are highlighted below and throughout this report.

- A new programme to establish schools for the children of former slaves has completed its first full year in Niger, achieving better results than local state schools. (See pages 13 and 14).
- Anti-Slavery International played a pivotal role in the establishment of the new UN Special Rapporteur on Contemporary forms of Slavery.
- After a long campaign, in which we warned that changes to the UK regulation on visas for migrant domestic workers would lead to increased trafficking, the UK government have agreed not to change the regulation for the next two years.
- A new programme has been established to eradicate slavery from the supply chain and high-street products.

- The British Government established 23rd August as Slavery Memorial day.
- The British Government agreed to ratify the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings before the end of 2008.
- Slavery was finally criminalised in Mauritania thanks to the efforts of Anti-Slavery International and our partner SOS Esclaves.
- Our friends in the Coalition of Immokalee Workers, with support from Anti-Slavery's Campaign Network, forced Burger King to agree to pay an extra 1.5 cents per pound of tomatoes it buys, with a cent going in wages to the pickers. (See pages 7 and 8).
- Following the launch of the *Recovered Histories* website, a digitised collection of 18th and 19th century literature on the Transatlantic Slave Trade, we took part in outreach work to raise the issue in local communities and arranged training and published lesson plans for secondary school teachers. (See pages 9 and 10).

We have been deeply touched by the contribution of every member and supporter of Anti-Slavery International to fundraising and campaigning which has enabled us to work towards the eradication of slavery in the world.



No Slavery No Exceptions

In 2008 we launched a new campaign to tackle one of the root causes of slavery. Throughout history prejudice and discrimination has been used as the justification for slavery. This continues to this day. In south Asia the vast majority of those enslaved are Dalits (untouchables) and belong to minority groups. In Latin America indigenous people are typically the victims of forced labour. In Europe people trafficked into forced labour and sexual exploitation are overwhelmingly migrants.

Worldwide discrimination restricts access to education, jobs, and healthcare and so contributes to the poverty that makes certain groups vulnerable to slavery as they take desperate measures to look for ways to provide for themselves and their families.

Anti-Slavery International is asking supporters to sign up to the campaign pledge, calling on governments and relevant international organisations to commit to eradicating all forms of slavery by 2015 by putting in place and implementing national and regional action plans to achieve this.

Sign up at: www.antislavery.org/noexceptions

2007 Anti-Slavery Award winners

In recognition of their exceptional contribution towards tackling modern-day slavery in the United States agricultural industry the 2007 Anti-Slavery Award was presented to the Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW) .

The CIW is a community-based worker organisation that is campaigning for fair wages and an end to modern-day slavery in the United States agricultural industry. Much of their campaigning is focused on the tomato picking industry in Florida which is carried out by a largely immigrant workforce of Latinos, Haitians and Mayan Indians, often subject to the sorts of prejudices that are also commonly held against migrant workers in Europe.

The Award came at a crucial time for the CIW who were launching a new corporate social responsibility campaign against Burger King. As a result of winning they were able to involve Anti-Slavery International's 16,000 strong campaigns network in sending letters and emails to Burger King. The letters asked for an improvement to the wages and working conditions of farm workers and an enforcement of zero-tolerance towards forced labour for all their tomato suppliers.



CIW's Greg Asbed, Lucas Benitez and Laura Germino

The Award attracted media attention, including reports on the BBC and in the Guardian. Through Anti-Slavery's networks the CIW were able to recruit the support of UK based trade unions and non governmental organisations for their campaign for Fair Food globally.

The campaign has been remarkably successful, with Burger King agreeing zero-tolerance guidelines for activities such as forced labour, and the immediate termination from the supply chain of any grower found in breach. Burger King will also pay 1.5 cents more per pound of tomatoes it buys, with a cent going directly to the tomato pickers' wages. The struggle continues to get other companies to follow suit.

“With an excellent ally such as Anti-Slavery International at our side, we know European consumers will join the fight”, Lucas Benitez, co-founder of the CIW.

Go to: www.antislavery.org/homepage/antislavery/award

Raising awareness in schools

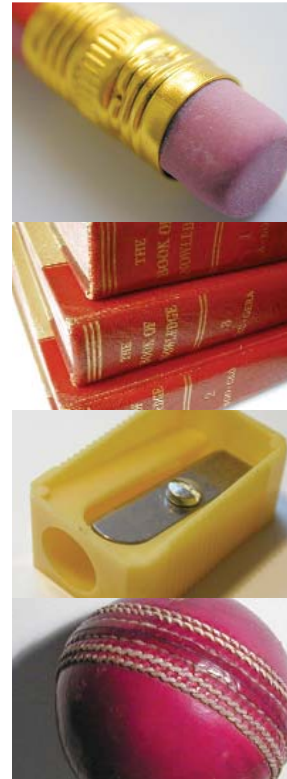
We worked with schools in Abertillery in South Wales, over two days and explored the history of the Transatlantic Slave Trade, and looked at issues such as the wealth and size of African nations prior to European involvement. Students also made campaigning materials, including posters and leaflets, which they put on display in their community. The workshops explored racism which remains one of slavery's most enduring legacies. The students were left feeling proud of the contributions of both black and white abolitionists, and motivated to play their part in ending contemporary abuses.

As one pupil said "I never thought about slavery. Now it's all I think about!"

A teacher from a secondary school near Swindon said: "The talk had a huge impact on the pupils and really opened their eyes. The students really wanted to keep up the momentum and so are organising follow up talks and plan to become active campaigners on the issue by writing letters and raising funds."

Go to:

www.antislavery.org/breaking the silence and www.recoveredhistories.org



Schools linking programme

Links were forged between UK students and schools in Niger set up to educate former slave children. Students at Woodhouse 6th form College in North London collected two suitcases full of pens, chinks, pencils, books and skipping ropes. Letters were also exchanged, with a love of tea emerging as common to both the Niger and British students!

Linking offers a unique opportunity for pupils in the UK to learn about life in Niger while practising their French, and for the schools in Niger a vital source of support.

Please contact us if your school would like get involved. Tel: 020 7501 8920 or email: antislavery@antislavery.org



Pete Pattissoon

Slavery and the supply chain

Anti-Slavery International launched a new programme which aims to get UK companies to identify, prevent and eradicate contemporary forms of slavery from their domestic and international supply chains. There is evidence of slavery in the production of raw materials, through to the manufacturing of goods such as garments, and even at the final stage, when the product is sold.

We are encouraging companies that work in sectors vulnerable to the use of slavery to work together and share methods to tackle slavery. To launch the programme we hosted a successful meeting, together with Clifford Chance and the United Nation's International Labour Office, which brought together well-known UK companies. The enthusiasm of many companies to tackle the problem forms a solid basis for future action.

As a member of the Ethical Trading Initiative, an alliance of businesses, trade unions and non-governmental organisations, Anti-Slavery International is participating in efforts to ensure that working conditions of workers producing for the UK market meet or exceed international labour standards.



We are proud that despite the challenges 73% of the children passed their end of year exams, a better pass rate than in the state run schools.

A brighter future for 150 children of freed slaves

In Niger an innovative schools programme is breaking the cycle of discrimination and oppression by educating the children of former slaves and former masters together.

Built with the help of the local community, three schools currently have 150 pupils aged six to ten. A further five schools are planned. Specially trained teachers are delivering a curriculum that emphasises equality and human rights. Social workers attached to the schools are encouraging the involvement of the community in the running of the schools. With a lifetime of never having the freedom to make decisions behind them, this is vital to the development of parents' skills and confidence.

A small micro finance scheme is also helping 60 women achieve economic independence to help provide them with lasting freedom. Some women pooled their resources and set up a shop together, while others have used the funds to buy young goats for fattening up and resale. The women have given 10% of their profits to the schools, allowing each school to now have a few chickens and goats.



“I can’t express how grateful I am to see our school up and running. I have been promising people for years that Timidria would help us set up a school but the masters said it would never happen and that our dreams were pie in the sky. I am so happy that our school is now a reality. When we asked for a well, people again said it would never happen, but I thank you from the bottom of my heart and on behalf of my people for making this a reality too! Now we have our self respect. The children love school, they are so excited about everything they are learning and everyday come home with new ideas and thoughts. Now I can see that my children really do have a future.”

Illin Cheho, village chief of Danlousey. He has two boys enrolled in a school established by Timidria and Anti-Slavery International.

Strengthening our partner's fight against slavery

Many of our partner organisations have insufficient resources, which limits their ability to develop, grow and help as many people as they would like.

Since 2004 Anti-Slavery International's Small Grants Scheme has been working to change this by awarding grants ranging in size from £5,000-£10,000. Organisations have used the funds for administration, fundraising, research, training, advocacy, and staff costs. A study into the impact of the scheme showed that for several organisations receiving a grant has been essential to the organisation's long-term survival and ability to fight slavery.

A small grant to Foyer Maurice Sixto in Haiti helped protect children from the abuses associated with child domestic labour. Poor communities in remote regions of Haiti frequently send children to live with other families in the hope of a better life. The reality is that many child domestic workers spend gruelling days as slaves doing housework, without the opportunity to attend school.

Families were warned of the dangers through leaflets, megaphone announcements,



Pete Pattison

and documentary films on child domestic work.

One hundred volunteers were recruited and trained to carry the message out into their communities. The volunteers also act as the eyes and ears of Foyer Maurice Sixto, informing the organisation if they become aware of cases of abuse in their area.

Left: Midline Chersetal is a 13 year old Haitian domestic worker. She works from 5am to 11pm each day. Her work includes taking her employer's children to school, but she is not allowed to attend school herself.

Beyond release to lasting freedom

LAHORE, Idrees, 27, is a free man, after nearly 10 years in bondage at a brick kiln. He won his freedom by selling his left kidney and paying off the debt of around £500 he and his elderly parents owed to the kiln owner. But less than six months later he is once more in debt, having borrowed £420 from a cousin.

“It’s a pity I can’t sell my other kidney”, he said only half joking. “But at least we are free. Allah will help us now.” Idrees’s own ill-health since the surgery prevents him finding work, while his father earns less than £50 a month as a ‘day wager’ at construction sites. Victims of bondage must be offered support if freedom is to be lasting. This includes helping the victim to earn a living, provide training and shelter. Follow up checks are also essential to ensure there is no return to bondage.

¹International Labour Organization

Forced labour, including debt bondage, are forms of slavery that affect a minimum of 12.3 million people worldwide¹. The vast majority of bonded labourers are Dalits, of ‘low’ caste status, indigenous people or other minority groups. Below subsistence level wages mean labourers are forced to take out loans. Once in debt they lose control over their working conditions, and through exorbitant interest rates and other charges become trapped and unable to pay off their debt.

In 2008 Anti-Slavery produced a report on India, Pakistan and Nepal, highlighting the failure of political leadership, and lack of sustained government action to tackle the problem. Key recommendations include:

- **Governments must address inequality and discrimination**
- **Governments should ensure that programmes targeted at poor and marginalised communities reach them, with a focus on poor Dalits, minorities and indigenous groups**
- **An official survey must be undertaken of bonded labourers that identifies each victim**
- **Governments should take action to fully implement existing laws. The focus should be on liberating bonded labourers, but also prosecuting employers of bonded labourers.**
- **Law enforcement officials and labour officials must be trained to understand the laws and issues related to bonded labour.**
- **Businesses must try to ensure that international labour standards and anti-slavery laws are implemented along their entire supply chain.**

Protection to trafficked people

One of our major campaign targets was met in February 2008, when the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings came into force. This vital treaty not only works to prevent trafficking in human beings and to prosecute the traffickers, but also gives real protection to victims of trafficking.

Anti-Slavery International's goal of achieving UK ratification of the treaty moved one step closer when in January 2008 the Home Secretary announced her intention to make the necessary legislative and procedural changes and ratify the Convention. Anti-Slavery International campaign members wrote letters and emails in support of maintaining the current Overseas Domestic Workers visa which freed workers from being tied to a particular employer. We are pleased that the visa arrangement will now be preserved for another two years.

Victims of trafficking are rarely identified by the immigration service or other professionals they have contact with. By providing reports to the courts we have been able to help four trafficked people receive humanitarian protection, one was assisted in returning home and for another we provided advice in the prosecution process against the trafficker.



Pete Pattison

'Indra', trafficked from Sri Lanka to the UK to work in domestic service.

Neville Atkinson
ArtVenture
Jean and Barry Berkley
The Bromley Trust
A & S Burton 1960
Charitable Trust
Denis Buxton Trust
CAFOD
Barbara Cairns Trust
The Baring Foundation
Claire Chandler
City Parochial Foundation
Clifford Chance
Comic Relief
John Denza
The Department for
International Development
The Dutch Foreign Ministry
Edmonton Christian School
The Ericson Trust
Edward S Hogg Charitable
Trust

Eileen & Colins Trust
European Commission
The Allan & Nesta Ferguson
Charitable Trust
The Robert Flemming
Hannay Memorial Charity
The Ford Foundation
The Fulmer Charitable Trust
Garden Court Chambers
Jane Gibson
The Glenview Trust
Lorna Goldman
The Heritage Lottery Fund
Holy Trinity Church
Roger Ivens
The Lara Lee & George Gund
III Foundation
Andrew Leek
The Inverclyde Trust
JUSACA Charity Trust
Graham Martin
NOVIB (Oxfam Netherlands)

The Oak Foundation
Offshore Hydrocarbon
Mapping - Pinsent Masons
David Ould
The Paragon Trust
Dr and Mrs P W Robinson
The Rufford Maurice Laing
Foundation
David Runton
John Swallow
St Swithun's
Stock Yards Bank And Trust
Trenton Consultants
The Sir James Reckitt Charity
The Wyndham Charitable
Trust
Tisbury Telegraph Trust
Trocaire
Voice Of Slavery
Caroline Wells
Westminster Abbey
Sam Wilberforce

Thank you

Your support is vital to Anti-Slavery International. The events you hold raise essential funds as well as awareness of our work. We are grateful for your generous donations and active participation in campaigning for change.

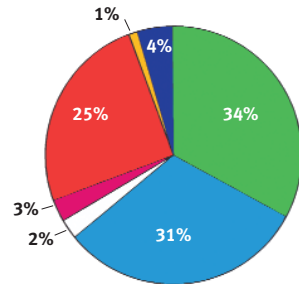
The organisation recruited an additional 3,262 individual donors using face to face street interviews. This raised £96,134 by March 2008 and is expected to raise an additional £164,000 a year over the next three year. This will help us to plan for the future.

Thanks also to our many volunteers and interns who make an enormous contribution to the organisation. They are highly skilled and would cost the organisation over £35,000 a year if their wages were calculated using just the minimum wage as a benchmark. In reality the benefit we receive is far greater.

The support of Trusts, foundations and other project funders has also been central to enabling Anti-Slavery International to work around the world to end slavery.

Special thanks go to the individuals and organisations to the left.

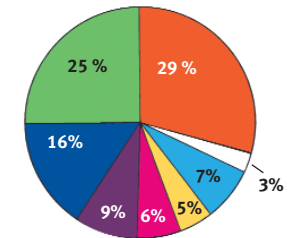
Income



● Individuals	£453,104
● Trusts / Foundations / Corporate	£428,147
● Legacies	£32,256
● Publications & Other Sales	£38,018
● Institutional Grants	£343,973
● Investment income	£13,698
● Events and other fundraising activities	£61,660
Total	£1,370,856

Expenditure

The planned variation between expenditure and income was as a result of trustees taking a one-off strategic decision to make a major investment in developing our donor base and fundraising capacity. The resulting deficit is covered by mortgaging part of the value of our office buildings (to be repaid over 15 years). This is beginning to show the encouraging results on which our future depends.



● Fundraising	£529,615
● Governance costs	£48,622
● Worst forms of child labour	£131,994
● Trafficking	£84,779
● Debt bondage/bonded labour	£112,030
● Forced Labour	£157,971
● Slavery based on descent	£278,768
● Campaigning and advocacy	£447,460
Total	£1,791,239