

## COUNTRY BASELINE UNDER THE ILO DECLARATION ANNUAL REVIEW

Singapore - 2021

***THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF FORCED OR COMPULSORY  
LABOUR Protocol of 2014 P029 to the Forced Labour Convention***

### REPORTING

**Fulfillment of Government's reporting obligations** Yes

p29 Fulfillment of Government's reporting obligations

Yes

**Involvement of Employers' and Workers' organizations in the reporting process**

**91. When preparing its report, did the Government consult? [10.1]**

a) The most representative employers organizations, b) The most representative workers organizations? c) The competent authorities?

**92. To which employers organizations was the report sent? [12] Please provide the list**

Singapore National Employers' Federation

**93. To which workers organizations was the report sent? [13] Please provide the list**

National Trades Union Congress

**94. Please describe the consultation process(es). [10.2]**

The organisations were consulted during the drafting of this response.

### OBSERVATIONS BY THE SOCIAL PARTNERS

**Employers' organizations**

95. Did employers organizations comment on the report? [11a]	Yes
<b>Workers' organizations</b>	
96. Did workers organizations comment on the report? [11b]	Yes
<b>EFFORTS AND PROGRESS MADE IN REALIZING MEASURES TARGETED BY THE PROTOCOL</b>	
<b>Ratification</b>	
<b>Ratification intention</b>	
61. If you have ratified Convention No. 29 but not the 2014 Protocol to Convention No. 29, what are the prospects for ratification of the Protocol?	Unlikely
62. What, if any, are the impediments to the ratification of the 2014 Protocol to Convention No. 29?	There are provisions that Singapore does not agree with, such as Article 5, which states that members shall cooperate with each other to ensure the prevention and elimination of all forms of forced or compulsory labour.
<b>Existence of a policy and or plan of action for the suppression of forced or compulsory labour</b>	
63. Is there a national policy and plan of action aimed at realizing the principle of effective and sustained suppression of all forms of forced or compulsory labour through prevention, victim protection and access to remedies? [1.1]	Yes
65. Please also indicate the manner in which employers' and workers' organizations have been consulted. [1.3]	The National Approach Against TIP mentioned in Q64 was developed in consultation with various stakeholder

	groups such as Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), academic institutions, business associations, faith-based organisations and members of the public.
<b>68. Is there a national policy and plan of action setting out measures and specific action for combatting trafficking in persons for the purposes of forced or compulsory labour? [1.5]</b>	Yes
<b>69. Please describe these measures. [1.5]</b>	The National Approach against TIP sets out the key strategies and desired outcomes in combatting TIP in the long term. Please refer to the details, as shared earlier in Q64. In addition, the Prevention of Human Trafficking Act (PHTA) came into effect on 1 March 2015. The PHTA imposes heavy penalties on offenders and provides protection to victims and informers. The PHTA defines the offence of TIP based on internationally accepted definition of TIP. The Act also criminalises the abetment of TIP and those who knowingly profit from such activities
<b>70. Does the Government collect and analyse statistical data and other information on the nature and extent of forced or compulsory labour? [1.6]</b>	No
<b>72. Does the Government envisage collecting data on forced or compulsory labour? [1.6.2]</b>	No
<b>Measures taken or envisaged for systematic and coordinated action</b>	
<b>64. Please describe the measures envisaged, the established objectives and the authorities responsible for the implementation, coordination and assessment of these measures. Please provide any relevant URL(s) [1.2]</b>	In Singapore, national efforts to prevent and combat human trafficking is spearheaded by a multi-agency taskforce, the Inter-Agency Taskforce on Trafficking-in-Persons (TIP Taskforce). The taskforce is co-lad by the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Ministry of Manpower. Following

	<p>the success of the National Plan of Action launched in 2012 as the roadmap for Singapore’s Whole-of-Government approach to dealing with TIP from 2012 to 2015, the National Approach Against TIP was launched in 2016 to set out key strategies and outcomes to guide the taskforce in combatting TIP. There are four desired outcomes of Singapore’s, National Approach Against TIP: 1. Prevention: A public that is aware of TIP crimes and actively takes steps to prevent, combat and suppress TIP. Government officials and stakeholders who are well-trained, competent and professional in identifying and dealing with TIP cases. 2. Prosecution: An effective end-to-end criminal justice response to TIP crimes, involving comprehensive investigations and prosecution of all offenders who may be involved in trafficking or the exploitation of victims. 3. Protection: An appropriate victim care and support framework that looks after the needs of all victims of trafficking. 4. Partnership: A strong ecosystem comprising domestic and international stakeholders to put forth a whole-of-Singapore response against TIP. More information can be found at: <a href="https://www.mha.gov.sg/what-we-do/combating-trafficking-in-persons">https://www.mha.gov.sg/what-we-do/combating-trafficking-in-persons</a>, <a href="https://www.mom.gov.sg/trafficking-in-persons">https://www.mom.gov.sg/trafficking-in-persons</a></p>
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**Measures taken or envisaged to prevent forms of forced labour**

<p><b>74. Have measures been taken or are measures envisaged for the prevention of all forms of forced or compulsory labour? [2.1]</b></p>	<p>No</p>
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**Measures taken or envisaged to protect victims of forced labour**

<p><b>76. Have measures been taken or are measures envisaged for the identification, release, protection, recovery and rehabilitation of victims of all forms of forced or compulsory labour? [3.1]</b></p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p><b>Measures taken or envisaged to facilitate access to remedies</b></p>	
<p><b>78. Have measures been taken or are measures envisaged to provide victims of all forms of forced or compulsory labour with access to remedies? [4.1]</b></p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p><b>80. Please indicate whether the measures aimed at providing access to justice and remedies apply to all victims of forced or compulsory labour, irrespective of their presence or legal status in the national territory. [4.3]</b></p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p><b>Cooperation with other Member States, international / regional organizations or NGOs</b></p>	
<p><b>81. Does the Government cooperate with other member States, international and regional organizations, or non-governmental organizations to achieve the effective and sustained suppression of forced or compulsory labour? [5.1]</b></p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p><b>82. Please briefly describe the modalities of this cooperation. [5.2]</b></p>	<p>Singapore is committed to our efforts in building international partnerships and remains an active and contributing member to the international community by sharing best practices and raising awareness on TIP through our participations in various regional and international platforms. Under our mutual legal assistance (MLA) framework, Singapore is able to provide and seek MLA, to and from foreign jurisdictions for a wide range of offences, including TIP offences, on the basis of reciprocity.</p>

	<p>Singapore proactively supports TIP studies conducted by researchers. In October 2021, the TIP Taskforce received a request to participate in a study conducted by Praxis Labs (contracted by ILO), which looked into the opportunities for strengthening the detection of forced labour in the fishing industry. The TIP Taskforce Secretariat provided information relating to Singapore's efforts in combatting TIP, including our support for fishermen and seafarers.</p>
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**Special initiatives or Progress**

<p><b>85. Please describe any significant changes which have taken place since your last report (for example, changes in the legislative and institutional framework, launching of major programmes, new data, changes in the number of persons in forced labour who have been identified, released and protected, penalties imposed on perpetrators). [7]</b></p>	<p>Due to pandemic-related restrictions, the government transitioned some court cases to an internet-based video software programme to avoid court delays. Policy, immigration and Ministry of Manpower officials were continuously trained on anti-trafficking measures. In 2020, more than 440 of such officials received legislation enforcement training and victim identification training.</p>
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**TECHNICAL COOPERATION NEEDS**

**Request**

<p><b>87. Does your Government think that it should establish technical cooperation activities with the ILO or pursue those that already exist for the prevention and effective suppression of forced or compulsory labour, victim protection and access to remedies? [9.1]</b></p>	<p>No</p>
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