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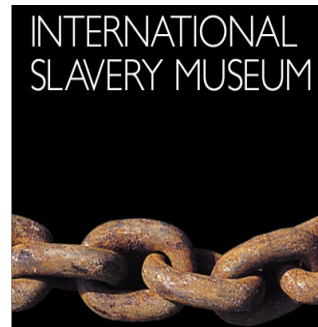
IOM Spotlight feature in International Slavery Museum

To mark its 60th Anniversary of service to migrants worldwide, the work of the International Organization for Migration has been displayed in the International Slavery Museum's *Spotlight* feature in Liverpool, United Kingdom. The *Spotlight* section highlights the important work that organizations conduct in the field of Human Rights and is placed within the museum's new Campaign Zone, an exhibition and community space that aims to shed light on the modern forms of slavery existing in the world today.

The International Slavery Museum, part of National Museums Liverpool, was created to promote an understanding of the history of transatlantic slavery and its enduring legacies. Situated

in the Albert Dock, a world heritage site and the location of Liverpool's 18th century slave trading port, it welcomes thousands of visitors each year.

IOM's work in the field of



Migration, and specifically, Counter-Trafficking is prominently displayed to highlight the important work conducted over the last decade. This area of IOM expertise compliments

the objectives of the International Slavery Museum and sheds light on the legacies of slavery and modern forms of slavery existing today.

The IOM *Spotlight* feature will be on display until October 2011 at the International Slavery Museum, Liverpool, England. Collections Development Officer at the International Slavery Museum Stephen Carl-Lokko says: "We are delighted to be able to feature the vital work being carried out by IOM in our very first *Spotlight* feature, and give our visitors the opportunity to find out about the work that IOM do."

For more information on the museum, please visit: <http://www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/ism/>

IOM UK establishes Victim Fund for trafficked persons

IOM UK has been actively seeking private donations in the past year to set up a Victim Fund, aimed at providing comprehensive return and reintegration assistance to European victims of human trafficking that wish to rebuild their lives back home.

Thanks to its fundraising efforts, IOM UK has secured a donation from a private donor that has already assisted IOM UK in the past on a case-by-case basis to fund the return of victims to EU/

EEA countries. IOM UK was able to facilitate the dignified return of victims and provide them with a small reintegration grant upon arrival to their country of origin. The return and reintegration of European victims has been an area of counter-trafficking that has been significantly lacking in the UK and IOM has been raising awareness on the importance of this vital element of victim care.

The donation of this contribution fund will allow IOM

UK to provide a more thorough and comprehensive reintegration service to the many victims exploited in the UK.

IOM UK is continuing its efforts to raise awareness and fundraise in the UK to ensure that victims are returned with dignity to their homes and families and are given the necessary tools to overcome the vulnerabilities that allowed them to be trafficked in the first place.

Fashioned for Freedom Charity Event proved huge success



Showcase from Beulah London, one of the fashion brands at the forefront of ethical production

“The road to recovery for victims of trafficking can be a long journey...to really help them secure their future, we need to provide them with tools to empower themselves”



Hosts David Gyasi and Angela Buttolph

With fashion experts such as Christina Albott, celebrities such as Sam Claflin and NGOs like Fairtrade in attendance, Fashioned for Freedom - a fashion show and concert organised to raise awareness and funds for victims of human trafficking, took place on 7th July, 2011 in St. Mary's Bryanston Square.

Hosted by Grazia's Angela Buttolph and British actor David Gyasi, the successful fundraiser showcased collections from favourite fashion brands committed to ethical production, such as Beulah London, Zoe Boomer, EA Burns, Sanyukta Shrestha and People Tree. The night concluded with performances by up-and-coming bands Chaser and KITES.

“The road to recovery for victims of trafficking can be a long journey; our main concern however is the victim's safety and well-being. To really help them secure their future, we need to provide them with tools to empower themselves. This means that we need to fulfil more than just their short-term needs. The victim's fund would therefore contribute to their reintegration into society, whether in the form of accommodation, education or vocational training”, stated Clarissa Azkoul, Chief of Mission in IOM UK.

The widespread support for the event was evident by the overwhelming generosity provided from all those involved, including models (Cosmic Models), hairstyling (Cobella), make-up (Charles Fox), refreshments (GIV UK and Pret), lighting, sound and choreography all provided free of charge.

In addition to the funds raised for IOM UK's Victim Fund, the unique event managed to raise awareness for such an important issue, while also promoting excellent designers and breaking the stereotype that ethical fashion is rarely fashionable.

“I think the evening was the perfect balance - of awesome fashion, cool bands... and mind-blowing statistics highlighting a very important global issue. I have faith that some grassroots initiatives will be kicked off after Fashioned for Freedom, and I'm very proud to have been involved”, concluded Angela Buttolph, editor of graziadaily.co.uk.



FASHIONED FOR FREEDOM

Promoting corporation between the Albanian Diaspora in the UK and Albanian national and local authorities on development



Chief of Mission Clarissa Azkoul with members of Albanian national authorities

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) missions in London and in Tirana (Albania), in partnership with the Government of Albania, organised the first conference on cooperation between the Albanian Diaspora in the UK and national and local authorities on local development in June 2011.

The conference was aimed at facilitat-

ing dialogue between national and local authorities in Albania and representatives of the Albanian new Diaspora in the UK on transnational cooperation and development. It served as a forum for enhancing cooperation and sharing knowledge, best practices, and generating concrete proposals for cooperation projects and local development initiatives of the Albanian Diaspora in the UK for the Kukes and Shkoder Regions in Albania. The conference brought together central government representatives, local government representatives from Albania, representatives of the Albanian new Diaspora in the UK, IOM and the Brain Gain Programme. The Conference was one of the ongoing IOM activities in the framework of the joint UN-Government of Albania programme “Youth employment and migration: Reaping the benefits and mitigating the risks”, which promotes decent employment for youth

as a national priority. Moreover, it proposes to address the issues faced by disadvantaged youth from rural areas with targeted labour market measures aimed at minimising the risks of engaging in irregular migration. Its implementation approach is based on a set of coordinated interventions that draw on the mandate, expertise and added value of the national and local partners as well as of the ILO, IOM, UNDP and UNICEF.



Participants from the conference

IOM UK hosts second Women Diaspora Leaders meeting

The second meeting for the association of Women Diaspora Leaders UK was held in IOM London on July 20th. The Women Diaspora Leaders, from different countries including Uganda, Zimbabwe, Afghanistan and Albania, came together to discuss the growth of their network and future opportunities both in the UK and internationally. Lida Rragami, a successful Albanian whose enthusiasm and initiative allowed her to create an extensive Albanian Community group, was invited to present at the meeting and share her experiences of establishing her network. Ms. Rragami began her voluntary work by creating a small Albanian language class for children on weekends, which now has over 14 branches across the UK. She assists Albanians, and other migrants in the UK, with employment opportunities and advice.

Ms. Rragami is now part of the association of Women Diaspora Leaders UK. The group’s next appointment will be in September where the Action Plan and Constitution will be determined and agreed upon. The group’s main aim is to create a platform for Women Diaspora Leaders to gain invaluable knowledge on how they can help their own communities and projects, as well as network with others in the same field of work.



OTHER NEWS IN BRIEF

IOM UK hosted a Video Conference between the Ethiopian Diaspora in the UK, the Embassy of Ethiopia in the UK and representatives of the Government of Ethiopia and IOM Addis Ababa. The objective of the meeting was for the Diaspora to engage with Government representatives and voice their ideas as to how they can contribute to the socio-economic development of their home country



In March 2011, IOM London was awarded the tender for the Facilitated Return Scheme (FRS), with the programme running from 01 April 2011 – 31 March 2014. The project will facilitate the reintegration assistance of detained migrants who are non-EU and non-EEA nationals as per the agreement between the IOM and the UK Border Agency. The involvement of IOM with the returnees will commence once they have arrived in their countries of origin. The FRS (formerly known as VRRDM) has assisted over 4000 migrants to reintegrate since November 2006

The IOM team at Heathrow Airport continues to provide transit assistance to refugees and migrants organised by IOM worldwide. A total of 3,597 migrants have been assisted by IOM Heathrow from April to July 2011

IOM UK will begin implementing a new project in the area of Migration for Development in Africa. The project, called “Linking the Ghanaian Diaspora to the Development of Ghana”, will commence August 1st and serves to create a platform for facilitating the engagement of Ghanaians in sustainable development

During the month of July, IOM UK assisted 2 victims of trafficking with return and reintegration to their countries of origin. IOM ensured they were given the appropriate tools to reintegrate in their home countries and are currently conducting follow-up activities to monitor their recovery

IOM UK has opened a twitter account. Find out all the latest news from IOM across the world. Follow us @IOM_UK



IOM UK is gearing up to bring the giant trolley to Trafalgar Square. The Buy Responsibly campaign, aimed at raising awareness on the issue of trafficking for forced labour, will come to London during Anti-Slavery Week and will be in Trafalgar Square 17-19 October. To find out more, please visit www.buyresponsibly.org and for information on the events to be held during Anti-Slavery Week, visit <http://www.antislaveryday.org.uk/>.



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The International Organization for Migration is the world's leading migration agency, promoting humane and orderly migration by working with different partners worldwide.

Since 1999 IOM UK has assisted more than 39,000 people to return home to 150 countries around the world in an orderly and dignified manner, and in the majority of cases with post-arrival and comprehensive reintegration assistance to contribute to their sustainable return.

