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LEADING CHARITIES URGE PROTECTION FOR ALL TRAFFICKED PEOPLE IN UK GOVERNMENT ACTION PLAN

**Joint statement by Amnesty International, Anti-Slavery International,
ECPAT UK and UNICEF UK**

We welcome the Government's launch of a public consultation on its national action plan against human trafficking and its continued commitment to tackling trafficking.

As part of this process we urge the Government to sign the Council of Europe's *European Convention on Action Against Trafficking in Human Beings*. This is the only international law that provides trafficked people with guaranteed minimum standards of protection. These include at least 30 days to remain in the country to receive support, including emergency medical assistance, safe housing and legal advice.

Hundreds of women, children and men are trafficked to the United Kingdom each year into sexual exploitation and for other forms of forced labour, including domestic slavery, agricultural work, packing and construction, but the support that exists here is available only to women trafficked into prostitution and is accessible under narrow criteria.

We urge the Government to ensure the national action plan includes a commitment to:

- a) guaranteed minimum reflection period for all trafficked people;
- b) specialist support and medical assistance;
- c) specialist safe houses for child and adult victims of trafficking;
- d) right to a temporary residence permit if deemed at risk.