

NEW ZEALAND (2016-2018)

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.	
	Involvement of Employers' and Workers' organizations in the reporting process	2016-2018 ARs: Yes: the Business New Zealand (BNZ) and the New Zealand Council of Trade Unions (NZCTU) have been consulted, and their comments have been included in the Government's report.	
OBSERVATIONS BY	Employers' organizations	2016-2018 ARs: Observations by BNZ. 2016-2018 ARs: Observations by NZCTU.	
THE SOCIAL PARTNERS	Workers' organizations		
EFFORTS AND PROGRESS MADE IN REALIZING	Ratification	Ratification status	New Zealand has not yet ratified the Protocol of 2014 (P029) to the Forced Labour Convention.
MEASURES TARGETED BY THE PROTOCOL		Ratification intention	2018 AR: The Protocol is likely to be ratified. The Government is updating its National Plan of Action to Prevent People Trafficking to include forced labour and slavery. It is envisaged that, once complete, New Zealand will be better placed to consider ratification of the Protocol in future. NZCTU comment: the NZCTU supports the development of a National Plan of Action for the prevention of forced labour and slavery and welcomes the government's stated intention to move toward ratification of the Protocol. The development of national policy and a Plan of Action is envisaged by Article 1 of the Protocol. The process of developing a national plan is therefore not a barrier to immediate ratification of the Protocol. 2017 AR: New Zealand will be able to consider ratification of Protocol 29 upon completion of the update and expansion of the Plan of Action to include forced labour and slavery. BusinessNZ commented that while New Zealand has not ratified the above protocol it was a signatory to the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, introduced in 2000 to supplement the UN Convention against Transnational Organised Crime. Prior to that date international law did not provide an exact definition of 'trafficking' which, in New Zealand, was not generally thought of as covering worker exploitation within the country. A transnational definition of trafficking was inserted in



to the Crimes Act in 2002 (s 98D(1) but removed in 2015 making it now possible, in the event of migrant worker exploitation, to pursue trafficking offences committed in New Zealand, not just those of overseas origin.

NZCTU commented that it is pleased that the Government is taking steps which may assist in the ratification of P29. The NZCTU supports the development of a National Plan of Action for the prevention of forced labour and slavery and welcomes the government's stated intention to move toward ratification of the Protocol. The development of national policy and a Plan of Action is envisaged by Article 1 of the Protocol. The process of developing a national plan is therefore not a barrier to immediate ratification of the Protocol. NZCTU further notes that the definition of forced labour, and consequently of trafficking for forced labour, under the ILO framework is somewhat distinct in emphasis and scope from the definition of trafficking in persons under the 2003 Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (Trafficking Protocol). While countertrafficking programmes under the Trafficking Protocol have tended to be coordinated within a law enforcement framework, responding to the issue of forced labour and associated exploitation requires a broader focus on labour inspection and enforcement, in addition to criminal investigations. The NZCTU looks forward to participating in further consultation on this matter.

Existence of a policy and / or plan of action for the suppression of forced or compulsory labour **2018 AR**: There is no national policy and/or plan of action for the suppression of forced or compulsory labour but a national plan of action for combatting trafficking in persons for the purposes of forced or compulsory labour does exist. Forced labour and slavery will be added to the National Plan of Action to Prevent People Trafficking, which provides for prevention, protection and prosecution (including access to remedies).

NZCTU comment: NZCTU notes that the definition of forced labour, and consequently of trafficking for forced labour, under the ILO framework is somewhat distinct in emphasis and scope from the definition of trafficking in persons under the 2003 Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (Trafficking Protocol). While counter-trafficking programmes under the Trafficking Protocol have tended to be coordinated within a law enforcement framework, responding to the issue of forced labour and associated exploitation requires a broader focus on labour inspection and enforcement, in addition to criminal investigations.

2016-2017 ARs: New Zealand has a National Plan of Action to Prevent People Trafficking ('Plan of Action'). This is a whole-of-



	Government approach aimed at preventing trafficking, protecting victims and prosecuting traffickers.
Measures taken or envisaged for systematic and coordinated action	2018 AR: The National Plan of Action to Prevent People Trafficking sets out the whole-of-Government approach to prevent trafficking, protect victims and prosecute traffickers, and that its content did not change from last year.
	2017 AR: The Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) coordinates an interagency working group on people trafficking which includes the Ministry of Justice, the New Zealand Police, the Ministry of Social Development and other agencies. This group will be overseeing an update and expansion of the Plan of Action to include forced labour and slavery. It is envisaged that this update will move New Zealand towards being able to consider ratification of Protocol 29. The targeted time frame for draft completion of this update is 31 December 2017, and public consultation on the Plan of Action will take place in 2018. Legislative developments: range of relevant new legislation has been enacted over the past few years, including most recently the Immigration Amendment Act 2015 and Crimes Amendment Act 2015. The Employment Relations Amendment Act 2016 introduced (as of 1 April 2016) a range of new and stronger enforcement measures for breaches of minimum employment entitlements. Please refer to New Zealand's 2017 Article 22 reporting on the Labour Inspection Convention, 1947 (No. 91) for further information on these changes and the Labour Inspectorate's priorities in respect of these changes. Policy initiatives: As of 1 April 2017, employers that incur a penalty for a breach of employment standards will face a set stand-down period preventing them from recruiting migrant labour for six months, one year, 18 months, or two years, depending on the severity of the breach. MBIE is currently developing formal documentation for its Programme to Support Victims of Human Trafficking, which describes in detail the operational framework, responsibilities of agencies, and options available to victims. Judicial decisions: In September 2016 New Zealand secured its first people trafficking charges involving Fijian nationals, and sentenced in December 2016 to nine years and six months in prison, and ordered to pay a total of \$28,167 reparation to his victims. The maximum penalty for a human trafficking conviction is impriso
	for some cases to be dealt with other than as trafficking offences – as employment- or immigration offences, for example.
	2016 AR : Section 98AA of the Crimes Act 1961 provides for a specific offence for a person who deals with a person under 18 years of age for the purpose of forced labour. Section 98, dealing in slaves has a similar maximum penalty and is not age specific. The offence of enslaving another person makes perpetrators liable to



imprisonment for up to 14 years everyone who employs or uses any person as a slave, or permits any person to be so employed or used, or induces any person to sell, let or give any other person into debtbondage or serfdom. Trafficking in people by means of coercion or deception is an offence with a penalty of a term of imprisonment up to 20 years and a fine up to \$500,000 or both. The Corrections Amendment Act came into force in May 2013. Information on this Act and its provisions can be found in the Government's 2012 report on Convention 29 (the Forced Labour Convention). There are also provisions in immigration legislation (section 351 of the Immigration Act 2009) which address exploitation of migrant employees unlawfully in New Zealand. The Immigration Amendment Act 2015 makes it an offence to exploit temporary migrant workers. Previously, it was only an offence to exploit unlawful workers. Employers who exploit temporary workers face a jail sentence of up to seven years, a fine not exceeding \$100,000, or both. The Act also created a new offence for employers who exploit legal temporary or unlawful workers and are reckless as to their immigration status. This offence carries a jail sentence of up to five years, a fine not exceeding \$100,000, or both. In addition, exploitative employers who hold residence visas will also be liable for deportation if the offence was committed within 10 years of gaining residence. The passing of the Organised Crime and Anti-Corruption Bill in 2015 prompted an updated definition of people trafficking under the Crimes Act. Exploitation and coercion within New Zealand now constitutes an offence, not just when victims cross a border. In this context, exploitation includes sexual exploitation, forced labour (and other forced services), slavery (and like practices), and servitude. Each of these terms has an established meaning which is defined to varying degrees in international and New Zealand law. The new definition of people trafficking only applies to conduct on and from 7 November 2015. The old definition applies (if at all) to events before that date. The Fisheries (Foreign Charter Vessels and other Matters) Amendment Act 2014 came into force on 7 August 2014. The legislation strengthens the regulation of foreign-owned fishing vessels operating in New Zealand waters. From 1 May 2016, all foreign charter vessels (FCVs) have been required to be New Zealand flagged and to operate under full New Zealand legal jurisdiction. FCV fishing in New Zealand's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) is now subject to New Zealand employment and labour law which will help ensure fair standards for all fishing crews working in our waters. Key features include:

- Enabling the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) to consider employment, pollution/waste discharge issues, and vessel safety matters as well as fisheries matters when assessing applications for registration of foreign-owned fishing vessels
- Allowing MPI Fishery Observers to collect information on employment, pollution/waste discharge, and vessel safety matters, in addition to fisheries data already collected
- Conferring new powers to suspend the registration of noncompliant FCVs. The Act is part of a range of measures following a 2012 Ministerial Inquiry into questionable safety, labour, and fishing practices on some FCVs.

Other measures include:

- Compulsory individual New Zealand bank accounts for crew members to audit their remuneration
- Observers on all FCVs (one observer per FCV is now mandatory, while those FCVs assessed as being high risk are required to carry two observers)
- Independent audits of charter parties to ensure crew visa requirements including wages are being adhered to.

The Government is making good progress on implementing the other recommendations made by the Ministerial Inquiry on using and operating FCVs in New Zealand: All FCVs' compliance history is



analysed and a comprehensive compliance risk assessment attributed to the vessel, senior crew, the foreign owner, and the New Zealand charterer is carried out using a variety of intelligence sources. Sixteen assessments were completed in 2015, with one vessel given a medium risk assessment and no vessels given a high risk assessment. MPI's compliance-dedicated database (FOCUS) was launched online in 2015. FOCUS has improved the search capabilities and speed of MPI internal compliance systems. • Maritime New Zealand continues its strong focus on enforcing FCV compliance with New Zealand's maritime safety standards. which includes port inspections of all FCVs and working with operators to ensure that the New Zealand minimum crew requirements are met. Vessels with a Safe Ship Management Certificate will also be required to enter the Maritime Operator Safety System (MOSS) and have a Maritime Transport Operator Certificate. • Independent audits of individual FCVs are being carried out. The results are shared between New Zealand agencies concerned with the monitoring of FCVs. • New immigration instructions with stricter requirements have replaced the Code of Practice on Foreign Fishing Crew. There is now a 30 day time limit for FCV operators to provide information and remedy problems to authorities. • The operational group is coordinating a compliance monitoring work programme. The work is continuing past the 1 May 2016 deadline. All current observers are being trained in expanded monitoring functions. In November 2015, 30 observers received initial training and remaining staff will be trained in 2016. • New Zealand ratified the Maritime Labour Convention in March • As noted above, there are now observers on all FCVs, and the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) is using a specialised auditing company to carry out independent audits of FVCs to ensure crew visa requirements, especially payment and level of wages, are adhered to. 2018 AR: The following measures have been taken or envisaged: Measures taken or envisaged a) Information, education and awareness raising targeting to prevent forms of forced labour especially people in vulnerable situation and employers: the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) continues to produce information for people new to work and for people new to New Zealand, as well as for employers in respect of their obligations. MBIE provides information on minimum rights translated in 14 languages in print and on its website (see: https://www.employment.govt.nz/starting-employment/rights-andresponsibilities/minimum-rights-of-employees/). BusinessNZ comment: BusinessNZ's member organisations (EMA, Business Central, Canterbury Employers Chambers of Commerce and the Otago Southland Employers' Association) are able to provide advice to employers on employing migrant workers so their obligations to such workers, and those workers' rights, are clearly b) Strengthening and broadening of the coverage of legislation, particularly labour law: from April 2017, new measures were introduced to stop employers who breach immigration and employment law from recruiting migrant workers. Employers who have incurred an employment standards-related penalty are banned from recruiting migrant labour for defined stand-down periods ranging from six months to two years, depending on the severity of the case. A list of employers that have incurred a stand-down period is published online, and regularly updated. Further information regarding employers who breach minimum employment standards, and the list of employers currently on a stand-down period, is available https://www.employment.govt.nz/resolvingproblems/steps-to-resolve/labour-inspectorate/employers-who-



have-breached-minimum-employment-standards/. From 26 November 2018, the Government is removing employer-assisted post-study work visas, to reduce the likelihood of students being exploited by unscrupulous employers and agents. The Government is instead providing eligibility to apply for open work visas for students studying qualifications at or above Level 4 (post-secondary education).

BusinessNZ comment: the removal of post-study work visas is (or soon will be) a benefit to students since they are no longer bound to a particular employer to be able to work in New Zealand. However, while students who have studied at level 4 and beyond can apply for open work visas (time limits apply), there is a potential problem in that migrants who have studied below the level 4 will no longer have a visa entitlement and will have to leave New Zealand after finishing their studies. The inability of those with below level 4 qualifications to obtain a work visa will inevitably add to the skills shortage the country is currently experiencing. Low-skilled workers who enter the country on an essential low skills visa are to be stood down after three years and will have to leave New Zealand and apply again for re-entry. This will also create problems for employers experiencing a worker shortage who will be losing experienced and well-trained employees.

NZCTU comment: the NZCTU supported changes to post-study work visas that replaced employer-specific work visas with open work visas for this group. However, the majority of temporary work visas (Essential Skills Visas) remain employer-specific, which gives unequal power to employers and creates vulnerability for migrant workers. The government is currently reviewing immigration instructions for temporary work visas. The CTU expects to be involved in consultation on this review. The Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) is also conducting an investigation of conditions of exploitation for migrant workers. The CTU will participate in a Temporary Migrant Worker Exploitation Consultation Group related to this work.

c) Supporting due diligence by the public and private sectors: within the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment's Labour Inspectorate, the Employer Systems and Assurance team was established in 2017 with the purpose of encouraging and enabling organisations to take responsibility for lifting compliance with employment standards. In many cases this requires organisations to look beyond their immediate operations and work with their extended supply chains.

d) Capacity building for the competent authorities: the Government has increased funding for the Labour Inspectorate to increase the number of inspectors and support staff, and that it continues to train law enforcement officials on trafficking, and has included an anti-trafficking component within mandatory training for criminal investigators.

NZCTU comment: the NZCTU commends and supports the New Zealand Government's moves to increase funding and capacity of the labour inspectorate and notes this will need to be a continuing programme of work. The International Labour Organisation recommends a rate of one labour or health and safety inspector for every 10,000 employees in industrialised countries. New Zealand has one for every 14,000 workers and we understand that the Government intends to increase those numbers over the next three years to bring that to one for every 9,200 employees.

And e) Promotion of freedom of association and collective bargaining to enable at-risk workers to join workers' organizations: according to the Government, the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment provides advice and education to migrants on New Zealand's minimum employment rights, including in respect of freedom of association and collective bargaining. An Employment Relations Amendment Bill is currently due for further consideration



by Parliament. The Bill as currently drafted would strengthen collective bargaining by: restoring a duty to conclude bargaining unless there is genuine reason not to do so; restoring the opportunity for unions to initiate collective bargaining earlier; removing the option for employers to opt out of bargaining for a multi-employer collective agreement; and restoring the '30-day rule' which requires new employees to be employed under terms and conditions consistent with the relevant collective agreement for their first 30 days of employment. The Bill as currently drafted would also reinstate the ability for union representatives to access an employer's premises without the employer's prior consent, provided they do so at a reasonable time, in a reasonable way with regard to the businesses' operations, and in compliance with any reasonable requirements relating to health and safety or security. Union representatives are entitled to enter a workplace for purposes related to the employment of its members and/or purposes related to the union's business, including to monitor compliance with the operation of the collective agreement and to seek to recruit employees as union members.

BusinessNZ comment: the aim of the Employment Relations Amendment Bill is to strengthen the position of trade unions rather than improve the situation for migrant workers on whose circumstances it will largely have little effect. Migrant workers are already protected by existing legislation - even if employed illegally - and other recent changes prevent employers who do not observe relevant employment law from employing migrant workers for a specified period or if they are migrants themselves, require them to leave the country. The proposed amendment will simply make it more difficult for employers to make their own decisions at enterprise level and negotiate arrangements that suit their particular business model while forcing them to contract with other employers with whom they do not wish to associate. It will be of little benefit to migrant workers.

NZCTU comment: the NZCTU has submitted in support of the proposed changes to the Employment Relations Act.

2017 AR: Labour Inspectors and Immigration Officers receive training on migrant exploitation. MBIE also provides information resources for workers and employers, and publicises antiexploitation measures (including its specialised phone service) to encourage victims of migrant exploitation to come forward. Prevention is a main focus of the Government's Plan of Action to Prevent People Trafficking, which provides for a consistent and coordinated response to people trafficking and includes targeted awareness-raising. As noted earlier in this report, the Plan of Action is being updated to include forced labour and slavery, and this process will include public consultation. Prevention is also a key focus for the Migrant Exploitation Prevention Strategy 2015-18, which includes initiatives to raise awareness and educate migrants. employers and the wider community on their rights and obligations. BusinessNZ commented that forced or compulsory labour in ILO terms is not a feature of industrial relations in New Zealand. It is not a case here of 'eliminating' forced or compulsory labour but of preventing it from occurring in the first place. There is a significant difference. No-one in this country can be forced to work, although unemployed persons, for example, might be encouraged to do so.

2016 AR: New Zealand recognises the relationship between forced labour, labour exploitation and trafficking, and that enforcement of labour laws and labour inspection are important measures to reduce vulnerability to both labour exploitation and trafficking. From 1 April 2016 the Employment Relations Amendment Act 2016 introduced stronger powers for the Labour Inspectorate, including a new regime to deal with serious breaches of minimum entitlements including; broader powers to pursue third parties involved in breaches of employment standards; power to request a wider range of information from employers; and the ability to issue infringement



notices for breaches of record keeping requirements. MBIE's Labour Inspectorate is responsible for monitoring and enforcing minimum employment standards. New Zealand's participation in antitrafficking measures mostly occurs within the Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime initiative, of which New Zealand is an active member. MBIE's Migrant Exploitation Prevention Strategy 2015-2018 aims to support the integrity of New Zealand's labour market by ensuring migrant workers are treated fairly. Interventions supporting Strategy outcomes include providing effective education to migrant employees and their employers via communication campaigns and targeted employment guides. MBIE liaises with other government agencies, NGOs and community representatives / associations to ensure victims of migrant exploitation through forced labour and other means receive support and guidance. The Government invests in activities that increase the likelihood of non-compliant employers being caught and held accountable by improving MBIE's ability to detect, investigate and effectively prosecute employers who engage in migrant exploitation and the supply chains of which they are a part. This includes developing Sector Strategies and proactive, intelligence-led targeting of employers who exploit migrants. MBIE's Labour Inspectorate and Immigration New Zealand (INZ) work together to address the exploitation of migrants including focusing enforcement activity on the employer, rather than the migrant. Their approach is based on principles that protect the victims of criminal offending. Targeted joint-agency operations have been undertaken following the Government becoming aware of allegations of poor pay and work conditions in the retail/hospitality industries. ILO indicators on forced labour are utilised in the work of New Zealand labour inspectors. The Government recognises some populations may be at greater risk of being exploited by employers in the New Zealand labour market. These include recent migrants who may agree to work under substandard terms and conditions, due to a lack of awareness of New Zealand's minimum employment standards. Also, people working unlawfully may be reluctant to report employers who flout employment standards and seek help due to fear of authorities. In particular, the Government has identified some issues around the treatment of international students by some employers. International students may be particularly vulnerable as they are often young, without existing contacts in New Zealand, and it may be their first time travelling alone or living away from home. They may have financial and family pressures from their home country and they may face language and cultural barriers, including to finding acceptable employment. These factors combined with limited work skills and experience, may cause them to accept any work conditions they are offered. The Government is taking steps to address this vulnerability and to enforce employers' compliance with minimum employment standards. Measures taken include:

- A number of efforts have been made to advance prevention efforts in New Zealand.
- Prevention is a main focus of New Zealand's Plan of Action to Prevent People Trafficking. The Plan provides for a consistent and coordinated response to people trafficking and includes targeted awareness-raising.
- MBIE (as the parent agency for both INZ and the Labour Inspectorate) publicises anti-exploitation measures to encourage victims of migrant exploitation to come forward, including a specialised phone queue to the Labour Contact Centre. The channel for making complaints was publicised in multiple languages, through front-line NGOs, unions, community law centres and other migrant support organisations.
- Prevention is also a key focus for the Migrant Exploitation Strategy. The ongoing programme of work to combat migrant exploitation includes initiatives to increase awareness, including providing links to employment information in key languages in visa approval letters; publications directed to particular sectors (e.g. the



construction sector) and community-based awareness raising activities.

- INZ provides a number of resources aimed to inform migrants and their employers about living and working in New Zealand. Settlement support information is provided to new migrants and their employers throughout the migration pathway, offshore to onshore.
- INZ has developed resources for migrant groups and sectors in which migrants have been identified as vulnerable to workforce exploitation, including international students, Pacific migrants and those working in the dairy farming, construction, or aged care sectors.
- New editions of guides for migrant dairy workers and their employers were launched in May 2015.

 The guide includes:
- For migrant workers information about minimum employment entitlements, including employment agreements, minimum wage, leave, health and safety, and a list of employment support services.
- For employers information including practical tips and tools to help employers better understand and support their migrant workers as well as employer's responsibilities to ensure migrants understand their entitlements and are employed lawfully.
- INZ produces a suite of tailored resources to support migrants from the Pacific. The resources are delivered directly to Pacific migrants offshore through Immigration Offices in the Pacific, and onshore through community-based channels and networks. In addition, INZ has developed a tailored power-point presentation and DVD with case studies in first languages to support off-shore migrant orientation activities delivered by INZ offices in Fiji, Samoa and Tonga.
- The guide for employers recruiting Filipino workers includes information on: how employers can comply with New Zealand and Philippines law; requirements to engage licensed recruitment agents in New Zealand and the Philippines; and the recruitment process including how to become an accredited foreign employer. Accreditation ensures employers enforce fair employment practices.
- INZ sends welcome emails to approved residence, work, and student visa holders containing links to useful information about working and living in New Zealand, particularly around workers' rights and obligations. This information is delivered in thirteen languages. Targeted emails are also sent to visa holders employed in the dairy, construction and aged care sectors. 'NZ Ready' is an online tool designed to assist new migrants to plan their move to New Zealand. This interactive tool asks potential migrants to answer a set of questions and then provides a personalised list of helpful information on a variety of topics, including New Zealand's employment law, finding employment, cost of living, and finding accommodation.
- 'NZStudy+Work' is an Immigration New Zealand website dedicated to providing information on what international students need to know about working while studying in New Zealand. These students can easily be vulnerable in the workplace. The site also provides information for employers of international students, reminding them of their obligations as employers.
- Proactive sampling of Filipino workers by INZ
- A border operation in 2015 sampled Filipino workers on arrival in New Zealand to look at their employment agreements to ensure they matched the agreements lodged with INZ.
- New Zealand Migrant Settlement and Integration Strategy Inclusion is of the five outcome areas of this Strategy. The proportion of migrants who experience discrimination in New Zealand is one of the four indicators for this outcome. The Human Rights Commission is developing a new initiative, Tackling Casual Racism, which will support this outcome. It will be a social media empathy-building campaign aimed at building New Zealanders' understanding and acceptance of New Zealand's rapidly increasing



diversity. The initiative will also include the production, promotion and distribution of resources for businesses on their human rights responsibilities and recruitment inclusion practices. It will also include the development of support for migrants to fully understand their rights and how to access mainstream support services.

- Combined INZ and Labour Inspectorate activity

INZ and the Labour Inspectorate have developed a joint plan to raise awareness of employment standards. One of the plan's goals is to prevent offending employers being allowed continued access to migrant labour. The Labour Inspectorate will sample 100 INZ work visa applications to test compliance of Individual Employment Agreements. Both INZ and the Labour Inspectorate will co-develop a suite of online training modules to lift the level of capability for visa officers when deciding work visa applications. There is ongoing work to develop profiles of adequate and inadequate employers to manage the risks around poor employers being able to employ migrant labour.

- Trafficking in persons training by INZ

In September 2015, INZ Auckland-based staff carried out training on trafficking in persons. Topics included: global overview of trafficking in persons; defining people trafficking (international framework, international and domestic legislation, differences and similarities between trafficking and smuggling); myths and realities in victim identification; overview of people trafficking and migrant exploitation in New Zealand; and addressing people trafficking and migrant exploitation.

- High risk sectors

The Labour Inspectorate has developed sector specific approaches to high risk sectors (dairy, horticulture and viticulture, hospitality, retail, construction, and payroll systems) to build a connected and strategic approach to dealing with non-compliance. Elements include:

- Building risk profiles, conducting proactive investigation programmes, and taking enforcement action where breaches are found
 - Informing and educating employers
- Working closely with sector bodies to ensure employers are helped to comply and held accountable where they do not
- Where sectors have a high proportion of migrant employers and employees, working with INZ, Inland Revenue, WorkSafe and local government Councils (where appropriate) to ensure employers are helped to comply and are held accountable where they do not, and to help provide information to employees to understand minimum employment standards.

In implementing the New Zealand Refugee Resettlement Strategy, INZ provides off-shore orientation to Quota Refugees through a DVD and fact sheets, which provide key information on living and working in New Zealand, the settlement challenges refugees may face, the expectations of them and the settlement support they will receive on arrival and in the community. In New Zealand all employees (including migrants and "unlawful employees") have the same legal rights. Immigration Officers check employment agreements and offers for those visas that require a job offer to ensure their legitimacy and legality. It is unlawful in New Zealand for individuals or companies to charge employment premiums, regardless of the amount being charged. In situations where someone is charged a premium for employment, under Section 12A of the Wages Protection Act 1983, a Labour Inspector can initiate proceedings in the Employment Relations Authority to recover that premium and seek a penalty.

- New Zealand and the Philippines Memorandum of Arrangement on Labour Cooperation (MoA)
- In September 2015, New Zealand and the Philippines signed a bilateral Arrangement on the recruitment and treatment of Filipino migrant workers. The MoA intends to reduce the vulnerability and



potential for exploitation of workers by improving the transparency of recruitment processes and ensuring compliance with both countries' employment and immigration requirements.

- A key area of cooperation is focused on enforcing laws and regulations on non-payment of recruitment and placement fees by Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs). Debt bondage is a common experience of many victims of trafficking. Unfair debt arrangements as well as excessive deductions from a person's salary, including paying debts to employers / recruitment agents, are potential indications of trafficking.
- New Zealand's Recognised Seasonal Employer Scheme (RSE) is a temporary work migration policy for the horticulture and viticulture industries. It was developed in collaboration with sending Pacific States. The RSE Scheme is designed to ensure that "recognised" (accredited) employers have human resource policies and practices of a high standard, meet all relevant immigration and employment laws and promote the welfare of workers. The nature of the programme and the surrounding assurances make it very difficult for trafficking to occur.
- As noted above, INZ provides a number of resources, most of which are online, aimed to inform migrants about living and working in New Zealand. These resources comprise both information and online tools aimed at people who are planning to work in New Zealand. INZ has developed resources specifically targeted at migrant groups and sectors in which migrants have been identified as vulnerable to exploitation in the workforce, including international students, Pacific migrants and those working in the dairy farming, construction, or aged care sector. Some of these resources, translated into migrants' first languages, are distributed to migrants in their country of origin prior to their departure. The majority of migrants granted work or residence visas are also sent direct emails from INZ to welcome them and provide electronic links to workers' rights information and to tailored resources.
- The Labour Inspectorate is working with several private training institutes to include employment standards components into industry qualifications and continuing professional development.
- A specific training module on migrant exploitation has been prepared for use by Labour Inspectorate and Immigration Officers.
- A specific training module is also being developed for Immigration Advisors.
- Freedom of association and the promotion of collective bargaining are protected in law in New Zealand. New Zealand employment law confirms the right of all employees to exercise freedom of association and engage in collective bargaining if they so choose. New Zealand has ratified ILO Convention 98 on the Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining.
- Freedom of association (which includes the right to belong to a trade union) is also affirmed in section17 of the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990.
- Assistance is provided to victims of domestic violence, trafficking or migrants who have been victimised or exploited. BNZ commented that the government report appears to confuse two different situations - migrant labour and forced labour. The lack of statistics on migrant labour exploitation is unsurprising in light not only of the small number of complaints but also of the fact that forced labour in New Zealand is a rare occurrence. Where it does occur, it is usually as a consequence of migrant employers treating their migrant employees in a manner that is unacceptable in New Zealand. Such treatment is subject to the full force of the country's employment law and, in any case where a crime has been committed, to criminal sanctions as well. This is further recognised in recent immigration legislation that provides for the deportation of any employer who having lived in New Zealand for fewer than ten years, has acted in a way contrary to the legislative protections applicable to all employees. Migrant exploitation is more likely to occur in the migrant's country of origin (premiums paid for finding work,



providing visas and such like) than in New Zealand - behaviour which the New Zealand authorities also seek to prevent. In response to BNZ comment, the Government indicated that it recognises there is a distinction to be made between people in circumstances of trafficking, forced labour, exploitation, and those who may be experiencing substandard working conditions (e.g. underpayment of wages or the failure to meet guaranteed minimum leave entitlements). Substandard working conditions should be distinguished between trafficking, labour exploitation and forced labour, which, in turn, involves the manipulation of the victim, resulting in the serious undermining of the victim's personal freedom and ability to make choices for themselves through the use of threats, forms of coercion and/or deception.

NZCTU commented that it recognises and supports the various measures described in the Government report designed to address migrant exploitation. It commends the Government for recent legislative changes (such as the Fisheries (Foreign Charter Vessels) Amendment Act 2014 Immigration Amendment Act 2015 and the Employment Relations Amendment Act 2016) that introduce stronger enforcement powers in relation to migrant exploitation. It also supports better information sharing.

Measures taken or envisaged to protect victims of forced labour

2018 AR: Protection measures are included in the National Plan of Action to Prevent People Trafficking, as well as the internal policies, and measures noted in previous reports continue to apply.

2017 AR: MBIE's Labour Inspectorate and Immigration New Zealand work together to address the exploitation of migrants, including focusing enforcement activity on the employer rather than the migrant. Their approach is based on principles that protect the victims of criminal offending. MBIE provides a range of resources in a range of languages to inform migrants and their employers about living and working in New Zealand. It has also developed resources for migrant groups and sectors in which migrants have been identified as vulnerable to workforce exploitation. In 2017 this has included new information resources for migrant workers and employers in New Zealand's hospitality sector. This information is available the following link: on https://www.newzealandnow.govt.nz/resources/working-inhospitality

2016 AR: New Zealand's National Plan of Action to Prevent People Trafficking is a whole of Government approach aimed at preventing trafficking, protecting victims and prosecuting traffickers. MBIE coordinates an interagency working group on people trafficking which includes the Ministry of Justice, the New Zealand Police, the Ministry of Social Development and other agencies. This group will also oversee the update and expansion of the Plan of Action to include forced labour and slavery. It is envisaged that this update will move New Zealand towards being able to ratify the Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labour Convention.

The Crimes Act 1961 criminalises slavery, including debt bondage and serfdom, and dealing in slaves, in New Zealand. The Government has policies and measures to ensure high risk industries are closely regulated or monitored. In New Zealand these include the sex, horticulture and viticulture industries and work on board FCVs. Targeted joint-agency operations were undertaken following the Government becoming aware of allegations of poor pay and work conditions in the retail/hospitality industries. ILO indicators on forced labour are utilised in the work of New Zealand labour inspectors. New Zealand courts can order reparation to victims at sentencing for offences; civil action could be brought to recover wages and entitlements and/or other damages. All employees may access the employment problem resolution services under the Employment Relations Act 2000 regardless of occupation. The system is a graduated continuum, moving from mediation, to the determination of the issue in the Employment Relations Authority,



through to hearings in the Employment Court. Legal access continues regardless of a worker's immigration status. New immigration instructions provide an avenue for some victims of migrant exploitation to remain in New Zealand while their complaint is being addressed. In some cases the victim will be able to complete the purpose of their visit, e.g. to study or work. In other cases, they may only be able to stay for a more limited time while the employment matter is investigated and resolved.

Measures taken include:

- ♣ The Plan of Action to Prevent People Trafficking offers protection and assistance to victims of trafficking, including health services, housing, social services, and financial assistance. Victims are also provided support during the criminal justice process. See 2.2 on INZ training on trafficking in persons, carried out in September 2015.
- ♣ New Zealand's Victims of Trafficking Immigration Policy provides a clear pathway to residence for identified victims of trafficking. Lawful status allows access to funded healthcare and social services and welfare.
- ♣ In practice, if a person who is liable for deportation indicates that they have an employment matter (including a potential case of exploitation) under consideration, where appropriate INZ will undertake not to deport the person for a specified period to allow for the matter to be investigated and/or resolved. In some cases this may include providing the person with an opportunity to obtain alternative employment and apply for a new visa. INZ strongly encourages victims to come forward at the earliest possible opportunity.
- **4.** Some financial assistance is available to victims of people trafficking through the social security system.
- ♣ New Zealand's Health and Disability Services Eligibility Direction 2011 allows victims and suspected victims of people trafficking offences to be eligible for publicly funded health and disability services.
- ♣ New Zealand's Plan of Action to Prevent People Trafficking ensures support for identified victims, including access to permanent residence (see below) and rehabilitation assistance.
- ♣ New Zealand agrees that the right to privacy with regard to personal data should be respected. The Privacy Act 1993 aims to promote and protect individual privacy. The Act establishes information privacy principles for: the collection, use, disclosure and storage of personal information by agencies, and access by each individual to their personal information.
- ♣ In New Zealand everyone has equal access to emergency services and shelters where the circumstances require this. There are also shelters and temporary accommodation services provided by community and NGOs covering a range of circumstances.
- **4** New Zealand is a Contracting State to the Hague Convention on Protection of Children and Co-operation in respect of Intercountry Adoption. One of the Convention's key objectives is guaranteeing safeguards to prevent the abduction, the sale of, or traffic in children.
- ♣ New Zealand also has a set of Cabinet approved non-binding Guidelines to direct agencies to respond to international surrogacy. The purpose of these guidelines is to provide safeguards in relation to children born in an overseas country as a result of a surrogacy arrangement these safeguards include traffic in children.
- **4** The Ministry of Social Development works closely with both INZ and the Department of Internal Affairs (Citizenship and Identity) in relation to children that cross borders where there is a surrogacy, child protection or adoption matter.
- ♣ Where a person holding a temporary visa has claimed workplace exploitation, or has had such a claim accepted as genuine by INZ, where appropriate, the person will not be deported for a specified period to allow for the matter to be investigated and/or resolved. In some cases this may include providing the person with an opportunity to obtain alternative employment and apply for a new



	visa. INZ wants to strongly encourage victims to come forward at the earliest possible opportunity. ♣ New Zealand's policy for victims of people trafficking does not extend to other victims of forced labour. Victims of people trafficking are granted a 12-month temporary entry class visa provided they have received certification from the New Zealand Police that they are believed to be victims of people trafficking. Police certification is required to help reduce the risk of immigration fraud. While on the temporary visa, victims of people trafficking will: • have access to publicly funded health and disability services • have access to financial assistance provided under the Special Needs Grants Ministerial Welfare Programme, and • be able to work or, if a child, to study. ♣ New Zealand's Victims of Trafficking Immigration Policy provides a clear pathway to residence for identified victims of trafficking. Adult certified victims of trafficking1 are able to apply for a resident visa under this policy after they have been granted a special temporary visa. To be eligible for residence, applicants have to: • demonstrate that have not obstructed the police investigation during the validity of their temporary entry visa, and • provide evidence that if they returned to their home country they would be endangered, or at risk of being re-victimised, or at risk of suffering significant social stigma and financial hardship as a consequence of being trafficked. ♣ This provision is based on the current cross-national definition of people trafficking in the Crimes Act. These risk factors are unlikely to apply to forced labour victims where their risk is likely to be from perpetrators in New Zealand, not their home country. BNZ recalled that prostitution is legal in New Zealand. If under age prostitution is detected, offenders who profit from it will be dealt with via the criminal law. Adult prostitutes have the protection of both employment law and, if necessary, the criminal law. It further stated that although the Go
Measures taken or envisaged to facilitate access to remedies	population. Trafficking if it occurs at all cannot easily be concealed. 2018 AR: Prosecution measures (including victim support) are included in the National Plan of Action to Prevent People Trafficking, and the measures noted in previous reports continue to apply.
	2016 AR: The Employment Relations Amendment Act 2016 introduced (as of 1 April 2016) a range of new and stronger enforcement measures for breaches of minimum employment entitlements. Significant amongst these is a new regime for addressing serious breaches, including exploitation, to bring sanctions more in line with the migrant exploitation provisions in the Immigration Act 2009. This regime includes: ♣ Maximum penalties (per breach) of \$50,000 for an individual and the greater of \$100,000 or three times the financial gain for a body corporate (prior to this new regime the maxima were \$10,000/\$20,000) ♣ Management banning orders for individuals who commit serious and/or persistent breaches. The amendments also significantly increase the ability for third parties (eg, Company Directors) to be held accountable for breaches. In New Zealand, all employees are able to access the employment problem resolution services under the Employment Relations Act 2000. It would be very difficult to ensure that victims can pursue



administrative, civil and criminal remedies irrespective of their presence. Prosecutions can, in theory, proceed in the absence of victims, but as a matter of practicality are difficult to pursue. INZ and the Labour Inspectorate have targeted communications for victims of labour exploitation, specifically for migrant workers. A pamphlet for distribution has been developed in plain English and indicators exploitation. includes а list of of (http://www.immigration.govt.nz/migrant/general/generalinformati on/migr antexploitation/). The pamphlet encourages migrants or their advocates to come forward to MBIE (including through a free call number) if they have concerns about exploitation, regardless of immigration status. The pamphlet is being translated into key languages, including Chinese, Hindi, Gujurati and Punjabi. The pamphlet will be disseminated to NGOs and other labour advocacy groups, and can be handed to migrants by front-line immigration officers or labour inspectors, for example during a site visit where migrants are identified as being at risk. Community law centres provide information on legal assistance. Legal proceedings regarding criminal charge provide a defendant with all the rights of persons arrested or detained in sections 23 and 24 of the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990, and the criminal procedure rights in section 25 of the Act. These include the right to receive legal assistance without cost if the interests of justice so require and the person does not have sufficient means to obtain that assistance (section 24(f)), and the right to free assistance of an interpreter if the person cannot understand or speak the language used in court (section 24(g)). Both mediation and action from the Labour Inspectorate in New Zealand is free. As stated above, all New Zealand employees can access the employment problem resolution services under the Employment Relations Act 2000. New Zealand law has remedies for victims to seek compensation for damage suffered. Please note the specific remedies and penalties contained within New Zealand's employment and immigration legislation already described. Where a person has been convicted of an offence, the offender may be ordered by the Court to make reparation to compensate the victim. The Sentencing Act 2002 provides that where a court is entitled to impose an order for reparation, it must impose it unless it is satisfied that the order would result in undue hardship for the offender or the dependents of the offender, or that any other special circumstances would make it inappropriate. See sections 12 and 32-38 of the Sentencing Act. The Sentencing Act 2002 allows for discharges with or without conviction and commutation from presumptive sentences where it would be unjust to impose them. The Criminal Proceeds Recovery Act 2009 replaced the Proceeds of Crime Act 1991 and established a regime for the forfeiture of property that has been derived directly or indirectly from significant criminal activity; or that represents the value of a person's unlawfully derived income. The Sentencing (Offender Levy) Amendment Act 2009 came into force on 1 July 2010. Its purpose is to ensure that offenders contribute to addressing the harm caused to victims. The levy is an amount each offender is required to pay following conviction for any offence and is paid into the victims' services bank account for use by "approved agencies" providing services to the victims of crime. The levy is separate from (and additional to) a sentence of reparation which is payable to the offender's victim. An offender is required to pay a single levy at the point of sentence, regardless of the number of convictions in respect of which he or she is being sentenced. The court has no discretion as to whether the levy should be imposed. The financial capacity of the offender is irrelevant.

Non-prosecution of victims for unlawful acts that they would have been forced to carry out



WORK IN FREEDOM COUNTRY BASELINE UNDER THE ILO DECLARATION ANNUAL REVIEW

	Cooperation with other Member States, international / regional organizations or NGOs	2018 AR: The Government cooperates with other member States as well as with international, regional and non-governmental organizations. It reports that New Zealand supports the Pacific Immigration Directors' Conference (PIDC) Secretariat as a member of the Board and key donor. The PIDC conducts research including on people smuggling and human trafficking, and in 2014 prepared a report on People Smuggling, Human Trafficking and Illegal Migration in the Pacific. New Zealand is an active member of the Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime ('Bali Process'), a regional forum to support and strengthen practical cooperation on countering people smuggling and trafficking. New Zealand seconds an immigration official to the Regional Support Office (RSO) and provides this organisation with financial support. The Government indicates also that in July 2017, the Anglican Diocese of Wellington, the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment and the US Embassy in New Zealand hosted the Tip of the Iceberg conference on people trafficking. The two day conference brought together senior government officials, business leaders, academics, civil society, faith-based groups, and the interested public to discuss domestic and international actions to tackle these issues. This conference was supplemented by a further workshop hosted in July 2018.	
	Promotional activities		
	Special initiatives/Progress	2018 AR : A people trafficking case is currently before the courts involving a couple charged with arranging by deception the entry of two individuals into New Zealand.	
CHALLENGES IN REALIZING MEASURES TARGETED BY THE PROTOCOL	According to the social partners	Employers' organizations	has noted on earlier occasions, evidence of forced labour was not apparent in this country until relatively recently and is probably associated with an increase in migrant numbers with persons coming into the country who do not understand its employment relations system along with other persons who are 'assisted' to come here in the hope of obtaining a better life. BusinessNZ in no way condones forced labour. BusinessNZ pointed out in its response to the government's 2018 Article 22 report on Convention 29, that many, if not most employers who have deliberately engaged in migrant worker exploitation are those holding residence visas who are unaware of their obligations under New Zealand's employment legislation. In one case before the courts the offender tried to argue such workers should be treated as they would be in their own country, illustrating the difficulty authorities can encounter when trying to deal with the worker exploitation problem. Often, with ethnic minority employees and employers, neither has a complete understanding of rights and obligations applying to employment in New Zealand. However, as BusinessNZ also noted in commenting on the Article 22 report, there is increasingly a blurring of the distinction between labour which is forced in the sense that it is 'work or service which is exacted from [a] person under the threat of a penalty and for which the person has not offered himself or herself voluntarily' and that of workers of migrant workers who have willingly chosen to be employed in some overseas country, even though deception has influenced their choice. Loss of the distinction is to be regretted in that it



tends to draw attention away from the evil of forced labour as the Convention defines it.

Workers' organizations

2016 AR: NZCTU reported that it agrees with the Government's analysis that most of the issues indicated as possible challenges may come into play in relation to suppression of forced labour. NZCTU also agree that the legislative framework is largely adequate. NZCTU's concerns relate primarily to resourcing. In relation to the inadequacy of Labour Inspectorate resourcing, acknowledged that some small increase has been made but this increase is not adequate to the scale of the problem. NZCTU has related concerns regarding the observers placed by the Government on fishing vessels. Observers are tasked with ensuring compliance with employment, health and safety, environmental and maritime law. There is generally only one observer per vessel. It believes that the range of topics that an observer must be expert in and their vulnerability as an individual may hamper their ability to effectively enforce the necessary laws (including forced labour). NZCTU notes the Government's changes to the immigration instructions giving Immigration Officers greater latitude to extend temporary visas where a migrant has assisted Immigration NZ or the Labour Inspectorate in relation to migrant exploitation (as that term is defined in s 351 of the Immigration Act 2009). However, NZCTU considers that these changes do not go far enough to provide a realistic incentive for victims of exploitation to come forward for two reasons. First, migrant exploitation under s 351 requires serious contravention of the various minimum standards. What constitutes serious for the purpose of this offence remains (so far as we are aware) undefined judicially. Second, the Immigration Officer has ultimate discretion as to whether to allow a worker to remain. It would be a brave migrant willing to risk their right to remain in New Zealand based on an untested, opaque and arbitrary system. NZCTU calls for a presumption that a migrant who alleges breaches of minimum employment standards be allowed to remain in New Zealand while the investigation occurs and if the allegations of breach are upheld that the migrants be permitted to remain under similar terms. Another helpful step would be the removal of work visas tied to one particular employer- this often exacerbates workers' dependence on their employer and reduces their willingness to stand up for their minimum rights. In response to the NZCTU comment, the Government responded that the number of labour inspectors has increased from 41 in 2014 to 57 in 2016, an increase of 39 percent. New Zealand's Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment takes allegations of migrant exploitation very seriously. If an investigation into migrant exploitation is occurring the migrant is eligible to remain in New Zealand. A number of recent cases have involved charges being laid in relation to exploitation (s.351). Other investigations



			relating to other cases of migrant exploitation are currently underway.
	According to the Government	2016–2017 ARs: While there is a sound legislative framework in New Zealand, all of the following issues could come into play depending on the circumstances of any given instance or case: a) lack of awareness; b) Lack of information and data; c) Social values, cultural traditions; d) Social and economic circumstances; e) Lack of resources in the institutional framework; e) Challenges linked to the labour recruitment and placement process; f) Challenges linked to migration policies; g) Lack of social dialogue on the principle; h) Lack of resources in employers' organizations; and i) Lack of resources in workers' organizations. However, New Zealand has not had such an incidence of forced labour cases / practices to be able to determine which might be most relevant.	
TECHNICAL COOPERATION NEEDS	Request	2016-2018 ARs: I	LO technical assistance is not required.
	Offer		