

SOUTH AFRICA

NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING RESOURCE LINE

 **0800 222 777**

WORK SAFE

Here are a few things you can do to make sure you don't become a victim of labour trafficking when you plan to apply for a job abroad.

- Confirm that the organisation offering the job is licensed.
- Have a regular working visa – tourist and other types of visas do not allow you to work abroad.
- The work contract should always be bilingual – in a language you speak fluently as well as in the official language of the country where you plan to work
- Never sign a contract written in a language you don't know well. Check the contract carefully for all the details about the working conditions. Don't sign a contract that has unclear statements or general statements such as «the employee will also be performing other activities»
- Keep contact details of organisations, handling foreign national issues and the embassy/consulate in the country you are going to with you.
- Give your family/friends detailed information on where you are going and staying as well as a recent photo of you and the people you are travelling with.
- Prepare all documents you will need and make copies. Never give your ID to anyone; always carry it with you.
- Set an emergency signal with your relatives/friends, which you can use in case of emergencies.
- Keep a small amount of money with you at all times in case of emergency.
- Learn some phrases in the language of the country you are visiting. Make sure you know how to ask for directions, where the closest hospital or police stations are.
- Memorize the telephone number of at least one relative /friend.
- Make sure you know the emergency number in the country.

TRAVEL SAFE

Travels are usually a source of positive emotions, especially when you are going on a vacation, but at the same time it is a risky situation because you leave your home and go to a foreign territory with people you don't know. Often because of this vulnerability travelling people become victims of crimes, and sometimes of trafficking.

We have prepared this list of advice on travelling safety, which will prepare you for a possible dangerous situation.

+Always keep contacts of organizations, handling foreign nationals issues and the Embassy/consulate within the country you are visiting.

+Provide your family/friends with:

- detailed information on your travel itinerary
- copies of your travelling documents and passport.
- recent photo of yourself and the people you are travelling with.

+Set an emergency signal with your relatives/friends, which you can use in case of emergency.

+Prepare all documents you will need and make copies of them. +Never give your ID to anyone; always carry it with you.

+Be careful and keep your eyes open for suspicious activities near you. Inform your relatives/friends in case you see or hear something.

+Keep a small amount of money with you at all times in case of emergency.

+Learn phrases in the language of the country. Know how to ask for directions, where the closest hospital or police station are. Memorize the telephone number of at least one relative /friend.

+Know the emergency number of the country.

+Be careful and cautious when talking to strangers. Never share your whole name or where you are staying.

+Avoid:

- travelling alone, at night or dark alleys.
- getting into cars with people you do not know.
- Accepting food or drinks from people you do not know.
- Risky situations.

If you think someone is following you, immediately head to a more populated area and don't hesitate to call the police.

ONLINE SAFETY

Very often traffickers find their victims on the internet. Because everyone is free to create his/her profile, the identity of the users and the credibility of the information they publish is rarely guaranteed. Children and teenagers are specifically in danger of becoming victims of trafficking over the internet since they are more vulnerable and less experienced.

Here's why we prepared a list of good advice for safe surfing online:

+If you decide to go on a date with someone you met online remember, that this is a high-risk situation, so you need to take some precautions. Those might be meeting with the person at daylight on a busy, central place, where nobody can abduct or hurt you. If the other person wants you to meet in a apartment, at some dark or secluded place, a park, etc., this is a red flag that the person might be very dangerous.

+When meeting someone off the internet, tell a friend, a relative, a colleague or someone who you can trust. It's a good idea to have a safety plan in mind in case something goes wrong – for example, have this person call you and come up with a code word if you need him/her to come pick you up, or insinuate that you have to leave right now.

+Never give your personal ID, address, phone number, name, address of your school/university and information about your relatives and family members to strangers or people you met online and don't know very well.

+Never accept offers to go out with someone you've only met online. Very often people on the internet are not what they look like.

+Do not open messages with vulgar, inappropriate, dangerous or insulting content. Block users, who send messages like these.

+Never send pictures of you to people you just met online. Restrict the visibility options of your posts and the information you publish online to only close friends.