

REF: HRC-RES-MIGRANTS

Dr. Buti Kale
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For the USA and Caribbean
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
Regional Representation in Washington
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Dear Dr. Kale,

Thank you for taking the time to meet with me during your recent visit to the Cayman Islands.

Following on from our discussions the Human Rights Commission (the "Commission") has written to the Chief Officer of the Ministry of Home Affairs to ascertain whether the Cayman Islands Government will be giving any consideration to the process currently in place as it relates to migrants to ensure the Cayman Islands does its part to deter and prevent human trafficking.

In addition the Commission has requested any details of the Government's plan to ask for the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons Especially Women and Children (the "Protocol") to be extended to the Cayman Islands. At this time the United Kingdom is a signatory but has not extended it to the Cayman Islands.

With regards to an audit of the processing of migrants the Commission has discussed the various options available and believes that the best option may be to purchase a video recorder and record the process from start to finish. This recording could then be sent to your office for review and feedback. I know that this was not your most favoured option but Commission would welcome the UNHCR's views on this as a possible approach.

Have you given any further consideration to the question of an appropriate regional approach to the various human rights issues that we discussed? I haven't contacted the Human Rights commissions or bodies in any of the other British Overseas territories yet but I do understand that each of the territories in the Caribbean does have a human rights body. If you think meaningful progress can be made through a shared approach I would be very happy to try to engage with them, and similarly with the other independent states in the region.

Finally, you were going to speak with your colleagues at the UN High Commission for Human Rights and UNICEF to see if there was any merit in those organisations working with the Commission here in Cayman. If they would find it useful to speak with the Commission please do not hesitate to pass on my contact details to them.

We look forward to hearing from you in due course and will likewise communicate with you any feedback we receive from the Government related to the Protocol.

Yours sincerely,

James Austin-Smith

Chairman