



INTERNATIONAL BODYGUARD & SECURITY SERVICES ASSOCIATION

Postal address: 1276 Budapest 22, P.O.Box 28, Hungary

E-mail: president@ibssa.org

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Report on the IBSSA – AHTP

ANNEX 9

Welcome Distinguished Guests,
IBSSA Leadership,
Mr. President,
Mr. General Secretary,
Members of the Board and all association members, who have joined us from around the world,

You are gathered in a very historic place. During a very historic moment in time. I regret that I am unable to join you during this significant week, but I know with confidence that you are surrounded by the Best of the Best in IBSSA.

It was 18 months ago that Prof. George Popper – President of IBSSA and I began a discussion on anti-human trafficking. From that idea was born a new unit within our association, the IBSSA International Anti-Human Trafficking Project (AHTB).

We began this journey by seeking volunteers from around the world. Soon, twelve Bureau Chiefs stepped forward to join this new international team. Today, I am happy to report that Bureau Chiefs from twenty-five countries now represent this project.

The mission of the IBSSA International Anti-Human Trafficking Project is twofold:

1. We become subject matter experts in the area of human trafficking, and provide education to both government and non-government organizations within our regions.
2. We collect and share open-source information on the topic of human trafficking and work with local, national and international law enforcement agencies to ensure that actionable, accurate, intelligence is made available to combat this crime.

Our success has been the result of a true team effort, a global effort, that has united IBSSA professionals from so many countries and backgrounds, and made our organization stronger and better prepared for future engagements.

At this time, I would like to recognize our Bureau Chiefs:

Angola – Dr. Nuno Cosmelli
Argentina – Alejandro Kamann
Bosnia & Herzegovina – Zoran Stanisljevic and Branka Brankovic
Canada – Mike Csoke
Cyprus – George Papadopoulos
Dominican Republic – Fernando Figueroa
France – Ronan Chatellier
Germany – Dalibor Visic



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Great Britain and Jamaica – Orlando Mardner
Hungary – Zsolt Szendrei
Israel – Dr. Zeev Gefen
Jordan – Emad Khalil
Mexico – Ivan Ivanovich
Netherlands – Nico Waerts
Portugal – Helder Nunes
Serbia – Zeljko Gajic
Singapore – Steven Chee
Slovakia – Jan Culka
Slovenia – Mitja Znidaric
South Africa – Andre Van Zyl
Switzerland – Zoran Vitorovic
Turkey – Mustafa Cetinkol
Ukraine – Mykhailo Bykrev
United States (South-East) – Robert Bonasia
United States (North-East) – Ken Boudreau
United States (Mid-West) – Jonathan Wallace
United States (South-Central) – Taurus Fields
United States (South) – Susan LaValley
United States (South-West) – Lou Pimber
United States (West) – Richard Mata

These men and women have committed their time and effort toward an international endeavour to combat this global crisis of human trafficking.

Ladies and Gentlemen, please join me in giving all our Bureau Chief's a round of applause!

Over this past year, we have seen a growing awareness in human trafficking on an international level. Because of organizations like ours, awareness about human trafficking is expanded and more agencies than ever, are beginning to focus on this criminal enterprise.

For example, in the Dominican Republic, our Bureau Chief Fernando Figueroa, has been working very closely with their government, specifically the Dominican Republic Attorney General's Office and the National Police, to bring the IBSSA International Anti-Human Trafficking Project to the forefront of the country's fight against human trafficking. Fernando's efforts led to my recent visit to their country, to meet with the Attorney General's Office, INTERPOL, the National Police and the Dominican Republic National Counter Terrorism Unit. All these agencies have agreed to align with the IBSSA in furtherance of their fight against human trafficking in their country.

From Slovakia, I recently received a letter from the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior, Mr. Robert Kalinak, via their Embassy in Washington, D.C., pledging the commitment of his country, and his office, in the furtherance of our IBSSA anti-human trafficking efforts.



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In addition, over the past year, I have had extensive conversations with our Bureau in Serbia, discussing the expansion of our Project within their country.

Over this past year, many meetings have been held throughout the IBSSA on the topic of human trafficking. Recently in Charlotte, North Carolina, we gathered our senior leadership, led by Sir George Popper, and held a two-day regional meeting focused on human trafficking.

Internationally, the fight on human trafficking is just beginning. No other NGO is positioned in such a unique way as IBSSA to combat this modern crime against innocent women and children.

I would like to share a story with you. Once two young men were walking along a beach during low tide.

As a result of the low tide, thousands of star fish were washed up onto the sand. Of course, it is known that without water, within a short time, a star fish will die. So, one of the young men walked over and picked up one star fish, gently in his hand. He then walked over to the water's edge and placed this one star fish back into the water. Upon seeing this, the other young man laughed and said, "Look at all these thousands of star fish on the sand. What you did made no difference at all!". To this, the young man who had just returned the one star fish to the water said, "What I just did, mattered to that one."

It is with that spirit in mind, that those of us in the IBSSA International Anti-Human Trafficking Project set about each day to save one life at a time. Because to that one man or woman, child or adult, what we do at that moment in time, means everything.

Ladies and Gentlemen, please join us in this fight against human trafficking.

I wish you all the best during this week of networking and meetings. It is through combined efforts, like we are doing this week, that ideas are created and our future is designed.

Thank you all for being such an important part of what we do, and for making IBSSA what we are today.

Karl de la Guerra
Chairman of the IBSSA International Anti-Human Trafficking Project