

# MINISTRY OF PUBLIC SECURITY

## PRESS STATEMENT

### **Ministerial Task Force on TIP Intensifies Works Via Cooperation with Brazil**

Twenty-two Interpreters are now recipients of trafficking in persons Training, as the Ministerial Task Force on Trafficking in Persons (TIP) intensifies its work in equipping various stakeholders with the necessary skills of combating the crime of trafficking.

The training course which was held on November 28 and 29 2018, at the Guyana Police Force Training Centre, also included Brazil's participation as was agreed at the Guyana Frontier Committee and Consular Cooperation Meetings in October 2108.



**(From right) Force Training Officer, Assistant Commissioner Clifton Hicken; TIP Coordinator (ag) Oliver Profitt; Hon. Minister Keith Scott; Commissioner of Police Leslie James; IOM Chief of Missions in Guyana, Robert Natiello and participants of the programme. (Rabindra Rooplall photo)**

Also participating in the Training Course were representatives of the Immigration and Criminal Investigations Departments of the Guyana Police Force, National Commission on Disability, University of Guyana, Childlink, L&L Translation Services, Language Services Centre and Foreign Missions from Chile, China, Suriname and Argentina.

Trainers/Presenters were enlisted from the Ministry of Public Security, Ministry of Indigenous Peoples' Affairs, Guyana Police Force Trafficking in Persons Unit and Immigration Department, Guyana Geology and Mines Commission, Childcare and Protection Agency – Ministry of Social Protection, Guyana Women Miners Organization, Help and Shelter, Childlink, International Organization for Migration and the Brazilian Embassy.

The taskforce on October 18-21 and 30-31 respectively, collaborated with Brazilian Counterparts for Anti-TIP activities and discussions in Lethem and Bonfim.

The activities took the form of awareness sessions and the sharing of information at St. Ignatius Secondary, Lethem Public Hospital, Moco Moco Village, Parishara Village, Quarry Village and via Lethem Radio during Lethem Town Week. The Task Force also collaborated with the TIP Committee of the State of Roraima to conduct awareness sessions in hotels in Lethem and through information booths at the Town Week exhibition.



**Guyana's Ministerial Task Force on Trafficking in Persons and Brazil's State of Roraima Trafficking in Persons Committee TIP Awareness at Lethem Town Week Exhibition**



**TIP Awareness at Rupununi Eco Inn conducted Jointly by representatives of the Guyana Ministerial Task Force on Trafficking in Persons and Brazil's State of Roraima TIP Committee**

Additionally, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) made it possible for the winners of the Task Force TIP Poetry Competition – Lorraine Baptiste (1st), Thamesha Watson (3rd) and Ruth Manbodh (4th) – and the winner of the Ministry of Social Protection TIP Jingle Competition - Mr. Rashleigh Joseph to join the Task Force team and make performances of their winning pieces on Radio Lethem and at the Ms. Lethem Pageant.



**From left: Winner of the Ministry of Social Protection TIP Jingle Competition and 4<sup>th</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup> place Winners of the Task Force TIP Poetry Competition after performing their winning pieces on Radio Lethem**

This Collaboration between Guyana and Brazilian counterparts was successful as was evident after discussions at the Guyana Frontier Committee and Consular Cooperation Meetings where the team agreed on the following:

- ✚ For consideration be given to developing a Memorandum of Understanding between the countries in responding to cross-border TIP
- ✚ To have Portuguese language training provided for Guyanese TIP officials

- ✚ For Ministry of Social Protection TIP awareness materials to be translated from English to Portuguese
- ✚ For the Brazilian Embassy to participate in the TIP Training Course to be provided for Interpreters
- ✚ And for the continuation of collaboration between authorities from Guyana and Brazil in conducting TIP awareness in border areas.



**Police Cooperation breakout group Discussions, including discussions on human trafficking, during the Guyana Brazil Frontier Committee Meeting in Bonfim, State of Roraima, Brazil**

The Ministerial Task Force on Trafficking in Persons remains committed to working with both local and foreign partners to combat the crime of human trafficking.

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