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MEDIA ADVISORY

ASIL TO HOST STATE DEPT ANTI-TRAFFICKING DIRECTOR

WASHINGTON, DC –The American Society of International Law (ASIL) will host the US State Department’s Director of Monitoring and Combating Trafficking in Persons, [Ambassador Mark P. Lagon](#), on Wednesday, **May 7, noon-1:30 p.m.**, for a talk on *Closing the Window of Vulnerability: Preventing Trafficking of Migrant Laborers*. The event will take place at ASIL headquarters, **2223 Massachusetts Ave., NW, Washington, DC** (Dupont Circle). Members of the press and public are invited to attend by registering with ASIL Director of Communications and Member Relations, Sheila Ward, at sward@asil.org.

According to the State Department, there are today 175 million migrant workers in the world, some of whom are susceptible to being lured into the trap of slave labor and sex trafficking. This discussion will explore domestic law and international law as they relate to the grossest form of exploitation of migrant workers. Specifically, Ambassador Lagon will address the unique vulnerability of migrants to human trafficking and the necessity to employ national laws, bilateral accords, and international instruments to

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protect their basic human dignity.

The event will begin with a light lunch at noon, followed by the speaker's presentation at 12:30 p.m. and then a brief question and answer session. ASIL hosts such programs on an occasional basis as a free informational service to bring experts on current international law topics together with those who have an interest in them.

ASIL is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, educational membership organization. It was founded in 1906, chartered by the U.S. Congress in 1950, and has held Category II Consultative Status to the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations since 1993. ASIL's mission is to foster the study of international law and to promote the establishment and maintenance of international relations on the basis of law and justice. The Society's 4,000 members (from nearly 100 countries) comprise attorneys, academics, corporate counsel, judges, representatives of governments and nongovernmental organizations, international civil servants, students, and others interested in international law.

ASIL events, such as *Closing the Window of Vulnerability: Preventing Trafficking of Migrant Laborers*, generally deal with one of the Society's seven thematic focal areas: Human Rights and Humanitarian Law, International Institutions, International Law and Development, International Security, Science and Technology, Trade and Investment, and Transnational Litigation and Arbitration. For more information, visit www.asil.org.