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PRESS RELEASE

**USAID-SPONSORED VIDEO DOCUMENTARIES HIGHLIGHT
MEASURES TO PREVENT TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS IN
BANGLADESH**

DHAKA, NOV 16 -- The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) today marked the release of two documentaries that highlight the tragedy of trafficking in persons in Bangladesh. As a part of ongoing advocacy initiatives to end the crime of human trafficking, the documentaries “SOLD” and “Survivors’ Voice” were funded by the U.S. Government through its principal development agency, USAID.

“SOLD” was produced by the MTV-EXIT (End Exploitation and Trafficking) campaign, a regional USAID-funded program. The video, which seeks to raise awareness and prevent human trafficking, features stories of human trafficking victims and illuminates the terror of cross-border trafficking of both males and females in Bangladesh, India and Nepal. The second video documentary, “Survivors’ Voice,” highlights labor trafficking and efforts to address the issue of Trafficking in Persons (TIP) in Bangladesh.

Members of the Bangladeshi government and civil society leaders attended the launch to discuss the current situation of human trafficking in Bangladesh and measures that are being taken against trafficking by the Bangladesh government with the cooperation of countries like the United States. Participants urged the speedy enactment of the Comprehensive Law on Human Trafficking and the need for new legislation on emigration.

Advocate Sahara Khatun, Bangladesh’s Minister for Home Affairs, and Richard Greene, U.S. Charge d’Affaires a.i. and USAID Mission Director, represented their two governments respectively.

The U.S. Government, through USAID, has provided more than \$5.8 billion in assistance to Bangladesh since 1972. In 2012, USAID Bangladesh will celebrate 40 years of development assistance partnership with Bangladesh and its people. Established by President John F. Kennedy in 1961, USAID marked its 50th anniversary as an agency on November 3, 2011.

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Note: A Bangla translation of this press release is also available at the American Center. If you are interested in the translation, please call the American Center Press Section, Tel: 8837150-4, Fax: 9885688; e-mail: DhakaPA@state.gov; Website: [http:// dhaka.usembassy.gov](http://dhaka.usembassy.gov)