

## Some of the major triggers were:

- The issues of concern are not restricted to Goa alone, and can be found in other parts of the country as well
- The diversity in the composition of the workshop helped all realize that networking, collaboration, convergence and dialogue are some non negotiable elements, especially, given the strength and networking capacity of perpetrators, including traffickers. The sharing of experiences by UNIFEM partners from other states helped Goa partners and stakeholders to see the larger picture
- Several myths were broken - especially related to media persons only running after “news”. The participants from the media were highly sensitive, committed and willing to learn. The request for the workshop had come from the media persons and the planning, facilitation, design and execution of the workshop had their active participation.
- Not all advocacy tools and IEC materials produced, are sensitive- there was a good discussion on “**what’s**” of insensitive renditions and “**how’s**” of sensitive projections.

The Workshop concluded with the adoption of the "**Goa Declaration**"\*\*, which encompasses a multi-partner national coalition to monitor and focus issues of "trafficking and violence with a gender sensitive and rights based perspective", besides sensitizing the media. ." It has led to the creation of '**The Media** It also led to the launch of the [National Coalition of Media Persons against Gender Violence, Human Trafficking and HIV/AIDS website](#) and a blog, [N-CAT](#). The Workshop was inaugurated by the Honourable Deputy Chief Minister of Goa, who gave the keynote address. The Honourable Chief Minister has committed to supporting UNIFEM's initiatives, especially the Goa State Convention on Trafficking, in September 2006.

This workshop was a part of UNIFEM's engagement with the media and multi stakeholder cross fertilization in terms of building positive partnerships against Violence against Women and Children, Trafficking and HIV/AIDS. This was preceded by a workshop with mainline and vernacular press in **Jaipur** and **Jharkhand**. Similar workshops will be organized in **West Bengal, Uttaranchal** and other states in India, in an effort to engage closely with the constituencies of vernacular media persons against Gender-based Violence, Trafficking and HIV/AIDS.

\*\* To view Goa Declaration see Next Page

# National Coalition of Media Persons against gender based Violence, Human Trafficking and HIV

## GOA DECLARATION

Date 25 April 2006

- 1) To build effective partnerships between various concerned groups like the media, NGOs, women's groups, the police, the judiciary and other government agencies.
- 2) To strengthen institutions that work towards preventing trafficking and gender violence.
- 3) To understand that exploiters of women and children do not respect boundaries. We declare that we will end the era of working in isolation and bring about a multi-partner **National Coalition** to monitor and highlight issues related to trafficking and violence with a gender sensitive and rights based perspective.
- 4) We declare that we will extend the canvas of the debate to include all forms of vulnerability and exploitation of women and children in particular and focus on areas not highlighted so far.
- 5) To conduct state-level workshops and other initiatives to take this movement forward and expand our family so that we reach out to every corner of the country.
- 6) To work towards raising awareness in the international media on issues concerning child abuse and trafficking since this organised trade operates across borders and would effectively build pressure on authorities to act.
- 7) To launch a website ([www.mediacoalition.in](http://www.mediacoalition.in)) and a **blog** to share information, exchange experiences and post articles related to trafficking and gender-based violence as well as stories of empowerment. To influence and involve more number of reporters to create more space in the media. To issue regular newsletters, to be distributed within our existing families and new entrants to this movement.
- 8) To put together a code of ethics – guidelines to ensure that reporting is factual, consistent, sensitive and that the dignity and rights of survivors of trafficking and violence aren't compromised and raise the standard of reporting.
- 9) To ensure ethical reporting, a **Manual on Media Reporting** will be produced in consultation with social and media experts.
- 10) Media to improve understanding and be trained on gender issues to look beyond the immediate event.