

DRAFT PROGRAMME

13-14 May 2013

High-Level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons

<p>9am - 10 am GA Hall</p>	<p><u>Monday 13 May 2013</u></p> <p><i>Opening Remarks:</i></p> <p>H.E. Mr. Vuk Jeremić , President of the General Assembly H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General Mr. Yury Fedotov, Under-Secretary-General, Executive Director of UNODC Ms. Mira Sorvino, UN Goodwill Ambassador against Human Trafficking Ms. Alyse Nelson, President of Vital Voices Global Partnership</p>
<p>10am - 1pm GA Hall</p>	<p><i>Plenary Meeting</i></p>
<p>3pm - 4:30pm Trusteeship Council</p>	<p><i>Panel Discussion I</i></p> <p><i>The Global Plan of Action, relevant legal instruments, and Effective Partnerships to Protect and Assist Victims of Human Trafficking</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chair: H.E. Mr. Martin Sajdik, Permanent Representative of Austria to the United Nations - Jim Clancy, Anchor, CNN International - Ms. Joy Ngozi Ezeilo, UN Special Rapporteur on Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children - Dr. Saisuree Chutikul, Member, Board of Trustees for the UN Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking - Ms. Kay Buck, Executive Director of the Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking (CAST) - Rani Hong, Founder, Tronie Foundation and trafficking survivor
<p>4:30pm - 6pm Trusteeship Council</p>	<p><i>Panel Discussion II</i></p> <p><i>Sharing Best Practices and Lessons Learned for Prevention and Prosecution in the implementation of the Global Plan of Action, and relevant legal instruments</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chair: H.E. Antonio Pedro Monteiro Lima, Permanent Representative of Cape Verde to the United Nations - H.R.H. Princess Bajrakitiyabha Mahidol of Thailand - H.E. Mr. Hans Lundborg, Ambassador-at-Large of Sweden on Human Trafficking, Ministry of Foreign Affairs - Ms. Lakshmi Puri, Assistant-Secretary-General, Acting Head of UN Women - Ms. Jean Baderschneider, President, End Human Trafficking; Chair, National Leadership Council of Polaris Project; and retired Vice-President, Global

	<i>Procurement, ExxonMobil.</i>
	<u>Tuesday 14 May 2013</u>
10-1pm GA Hall	Plenary Meeting
3-TBC GA Hall	Plenary Meeting
TBC (after list of speakers has been exhausted) GA Hall	<p><i>Presentation of summaries of the discussion</i></p> <p>- H. E. Antonio Pedro Monteiro Lima, Permanent Representative of Cape Verde to the United Nations and H.E. Mr. Martin Sajdik, Permanent Representative of Austria to the United Nations</p> <p><i>Closing Remarks</i></p> <p>- H. E. Mr. Vuk Jeremić , President of the General Assembly</p>



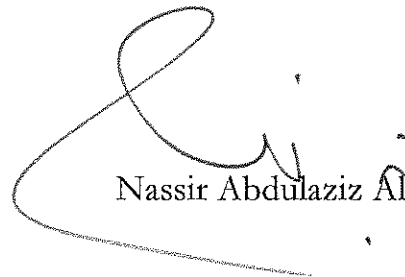
THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

13th September 2012

Excellency,

I am pleased to share with you the summary of the General Assembly Interactive Dialogue on “Prevention of Human Trafficking: Partnership and Innovation to End Violence against Women and Girls”, held in New York on 3 April 2012. It is my hope that the summary will contribute to the on-going dialogue on the fight against human trafficking and contribute to the General Assembly’s appraisal of the UN Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons in 2013.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser

All Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers
to the United Nations
New York

**Interactive Dialogue of the 66th Session of the General Assembly
on Prevention of Human Trafficking: Partnership and Innovation to End Violence
against Women and Girls**

New York, 3 April 2012

President's Summary

The President of the General Assembly convened an interactive dialogue, on "*Prevention of Human Trafficking: Partnership and Innovation to End Violence against Women and Girls*", in cooperation with the Group of Friends United against Human Trafficking and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). The dialogue was convened to discuss existing challenges in the context of the implementation of the UN General Assembly Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons (A/RES/64/293), and ways of improving the international community's coordinated efforts to end human trafficking.

Human trafficking is a crime against humanity. At any given time, an estimated 2.5 million people are trapped in this modern-day slavery. Men, women and children fall into the hands of traffickers in their own countries or abroad, finding themselves enslaved in forced labour, domestic servitude or sexual exploitation. Every country in the world is affected by trafficking, whether as a country of origin, transit or destination for victims.

The overall objective of the interactive dialogue is to unite in common endeavour Member States, the UN system, international organizations, civil society, private sector, and the media, to emphasize the value of a comprehensive approach and inclusive international partnerships in effectively fighting global trafficking. Focus on improving prevention of human trafficking and the protection of its victims will provide a result-oriented response to modern challenges. In addition, the dialogue was organized to raise awareness of and support for the UN Voluntary Trust Fund and other key provisions in the Global Plan of Action, and to provide a substantive contribution to appraisal of the Global Plan of Action (to be presented to the General Assembly in 2013), and the 57th session of the Commission on the Status of Women.

Opening Session

In recent years Member States have made noteworthy progress in strengthening international cooperation to combat human trafficking. Programmes for victims have been established, laws have been amended and the UN Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Human Trafficking was established. The Trust Fund provides humanitarian, legal and financial aid to victims of trafficking through a range of avenues, including governmental, intergovernmental and civil society organizations.

Despite the many efforts made, serious challenges remain, particularly on the prevention-side of the conundrum. Human trafficking is now one of the fastest growing criminal

industries (rivaling the trafficking of illicit arms and drugs) and requires a concerted international response. Criminals are earning an estimated US\$32 billion a year running trafficking operations. Data indicates that 80 percent of those trafficked each year are subject to sexual exploitation, and 17 percent end up working in other forced labor industries. Women and girls are particularly vulnerable, but men are also subject to the crime. More resources are urgently needed to tackle this problem.

Panel discussions on “*Protecting the Victims of Trafficking: Partnerships and Innovation*”, and “*Assistance to the Victims of Trafficking: The Role of Governments, International Organizations, Private Sector and Civil Society.*”

Participants, including experts, trafficking survivors, Member States, NGO and academic leaders, highlighted that the root causes for the growing demand for cheap labor should be tackled, such as economic and social factors that allow for the phenomenon to exist. Others noted despite an increase in discussion and raising of awareness too little has been done to address this serious human rights abuse. Seven key points emerged in the discussion:

1) *Coordination.* The highly sophisticated organization of human trafficking networks requires that we remain a step ahead of the traffickers. Member States can only achieve this if we ensure that our response and prevention efforts are integrated, inclusive and tightly coordinated. We should work closely among Member States and with other partners at the local, national, regional and international levels to acquire reliable data. Our partners should include the private sector, civil society and trafficking survivors. Our topics of discussion should include increasingly restrictive immigration policies, as these have proven to render victims more vulnerable to trafficking, and the role of digital information.

2) *The Law.* Many national legal systems still criminalize victims of human trafficking, allowing for impunity on the side of the offender. As long as laws that curb the demand side are absent, corruption at the “street level” is not tackled, and law enforcement officials treat human trafficking as a crime with low priority, we are restricted in our response. We must review and amend our laws to ensure they are aligned with international treaties and train our law enforcement officers, prosecutors, judges and those working with victims on the need to implement the applicable law as a matter of the highest priority. Where laws are in place, they should be implemented: current data show a low number of human trafficking prosecutions among Member States, including those that have ratified the Convention on Transnational Organized Crime and its Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children.

3) *Women.* We must ensure that women have a leading role at the negotiating and policy-making table, particularly survivors of human trafficking. Survivors can offer invaluable firsthand knowledge and insight into the mindsets and practices we, as responders, aspire to understand. We should speak *with* survivors, not *about* survivors, as they can enlighten us on existing schemes and methods used by traffickers.

4) *Demand.* In tackling the demand side of human trafficking, we should encourage private corporations and governments to sign and implement “zero tolerance” principles as they sensitize their employees. Private corporations are increasingly involved in labour trafficking, particularly in agriculture, construction, fisheries, textiles and the domestic service sectors. The United Nations holds its staff worldwide to a similar “no tolerance” policy; national governments should follow suit.

5) *Victims.* We should continue to support human trafficking survivors and call upon survivors as we design and implement victim-assistance programmes. Such programmes should be sustainable and have realistic time lines: short term “rescue” operations are not truly helpful to victims.

6) *Integration.* It is essential that we integrate and mainstream the fight against human trafficking into the United Nations’ programmes and broader work as a cross-cutting theme. We must work to prevent this heinous crime through economic and social development, a strengthened rule of law and more effective security institutions.

7) *Funding.* The aforementioned goals are only feasible with political will and the correlated funding. The 2010 Global Plan of Action created the UN Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Human Trafficking to help service providers on the ground as they deliver much-needed support to victims. Despite several recent donations by Member States and private parties, to the Trust Fund, including donations made by some Member States at the Interactive Dialogue, and the efficient and important work of UNODC in managing the Fund, funding to date has been insufficient. The Fund requires more capital so that it can provide the support that Member States envisaged at the time they created the Fund.

Closing Session and Conclusions

As the dialogue’s comprehensive discussion indicated, the scourge of trafficking in persons requires concerted action from all segments of the international community. As a global phenomenon it requires a global approach. Partnerships at all levels are necessary to address this complex problem effectively. By showcasing good practices and sharing innovative policies, programmes and projects, the dialogue set a useful basis for in-depth consideration of this issue as we move towards the appraisal of the Global Plan of Action in 2013. The dialogue concluded with the expression of gratitude to UNODC for its efficient and important work, including the provision of small grants to victims, and a call to Member States to robustly support the Trust Fund for Victims and continue to step up their commitment to and prioritization of the fight against human trafficking.



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

New York, 7 February 2013

Excellency,

In July 2010 the General Assembly adopted by consensus the United Nations Global Plan of Action against Trafficking in Persons. By adopting the Plan, Governments resolved to take concrete action to prevent trafficking in persons, protect and assist victims, prosecute related crimes and strengthen partnership among Government, civil society organizations and the private sector, including the media.

The Plan also calls for the General Assembly to appraise in 2013 the progress achieved in the implementation of the Plan of Action. In December 2012 the General Assembly passed resolution 67/190 on improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons which decided to convene, a high level meeting of the General Assembly no later than July 2013 in order to assess achievement, gaps and challenges including in the implementation of relevant legal instruments.

The resolution further requests the President of the General Assembly to appoint co-facilitators for assisting him in conducting open-ended informal consultations with Member States with a view to determining the modalities of that meeting, including on participation of international, regional, sub regional organizations as well as civil society.

In this regard, I am pleased to announce my decision to appoint the Permanent Representative of Austria, H.E. Mr. Martin Sajdik, and the Permanent Representative of Cape Verde, H.E. Mr. Antonio Pedro Montero Lima, as co-facilitators to conduct open-ended informal consultations with Member States with a view to determining the modalities of the high-level meeting on the General Assembly, including on participation of international, regional, sub regional organizations as well as civil society.

I am grateful to Ambassador Sajdik and Ambassador Montero Lima for accepting this responsibility and trust you will extend your full cooperation and support to them.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Vuk Jeremić', written over a horizontal line.

Vuk Jeremić

All Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

28 February 2013

Excellency,

You will recall that in July 2010, the General Assembly adopted by consensus the United Nations Global Plan of Action against Trafficking in Persons. The Plan calls for the General Assembly to appraise in 2013 the progress achieved in its implementation. In December 2012 the General Assembly passed resolution 67/190 on improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons, and decided to convene "a high level meeting of the General Assembly no later than July 2013 in order to assess achievement, gaps and challenges including in the implementation of relevant legal instruments".

I have therefore decided to schedule this General Assembly high level meeting for Monday, 13 May 2013.

I extend an invitation to Member States to be represented at the highest possible level at this meeting of the General Assembly.

By adopting the Global Plan of Action against Trafficking in Persons, Governments resolved to take concrete action to prevent trafficking in persons, protect and assist victims, prosecute related crimes and strengthen partnership among Government, civil society organizations and the private sector, including the media. One of the most important elements of the Global Plan of Action is the "*United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, especially women and children*".

The Fund's focus to provide humanitarian, legal and financial aid to victims of trafficking in persons, especially women and children, through established channels of assistance, such as governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, is closely aligned with my priorities as the President of the General Assembly.

It is my hope that the high level meeting will provide an opportunity for an in-depth and forward looking discussion on the implementation of the Global Plan of Action. Also the meeting will hopefully help raise additional support for the important Trust Fund to which Member States and the public will be encouraged to contribute.

Further information with regard to the Trust Fund, and the modalities of the high level meeting, including on participation of international, regional, sub regional organizations as well as civil society, will be provided in coming days.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Vuk Jeremic', written over a horizontal line.

Vuk Jeremic

All Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

NEW YORK

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

18 March 2013

Excellency,

I have the pleasure to enclose herewith a letter by H.E. Mr. Martin Sajdik, Permanent Representative of Austria and H.E. Mr. Antonio Pedro Monteiro Lima, Permanent Representative of Cape Verde, the Co-Facilitators to conduct open-ended informal consultations with Member States with a view to determining the modalities of the 13 May 2013 high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the appraisal of the Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons, inviting you to attend a first round of informal consultations to be held on Tuesday, 26 March 2013.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Zdravko Ponos'.

Zdravko Ponos
Chef de Cabinet

To All Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York



Permanent Mission of Austria
to the United Nations in New York

PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC
OF CAPE VERDE TO THE UNITED NATIONS

New York, 14 March 2013

Excellency,

As indicated in the letters of the President of the General Assembly dated 7 and 28 February 2013, we have been appointed as co-facilitators to conduct open-ended informal consultations with Member States with a view to determining the modalities of the 13 May 2013 high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the appraisal of the Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons, including on participation of international, regional, sub regional organizations as well as civil society, including non-governmental organizations, the private sector and the media, whose role is emphasized in the Global Plan of Action.

In July 2010, the General Assembly adopted by consensus the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons (A/RES/64/293). By adopting this landmark Plan, Governments resolved to take concrete action to prevent and combat trafficking in persons, protect and assist victims, prosecute related crimes and strengthen partnership among Government, civil society organizations and the private sector, including the media.

The Plan also calls for the General Assembly to appraise in 2013 the progress achieved in the implementation of the Plan of Action. In December 2012, the General Assembly passed resolution 67/190 on improving coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons and decided to convene a high-level meeting of the General Assembly no later than July 2013 in order to assess achievements, gaps and challenges including in the implementation of relevant legal instruments. Resolution 67/190 also requests the President of the General Assembly to prepare a summary of the high-level meeting.

As co-facilitators, it is our intention to facilitate these consultations in an open, transparent and inclusive manner. To initiate discussions we have the pleasure to invite you to a first round of informal consultations on **Tuesday, 26 March 2013** in the afternoon (conference room to be announced in the Journal).

The objective of this first meeting will be to allow Member States to express their initial views on the main issues concerning the content, format and organizational modalities of the high-level meeting. To help enrich this initial discussion, we shall in the coming days provide you with an informal *Food for Thought* paper for your consideration setting forth some reflections on the modalities and substance of the high-level meeting and, in particular, underlining the urgency of moving to an early agreement.

We look forward to engaging with delegations on this most important subject and count on your active participation at the highest possible level. For further information please contact Ms. Nadia Kalb of the Permanent Mission of Austria (+1-917-542-8434; nadia.kalb@bmeia.gv.at) or Mr. José Carlos Mendonça of the Permanent Mission of Cape Verde (+1-212-472-0333; josecvgomes@hotmail.com).

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration.



Martin Sajdik
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Austria
to the United Nations



Antonio Pedro Monteiro Lima
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Cape Verde
to the United Nations

To all Permanent Representatives and Permanent Observers
to the United Nations New York



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

20 March 2013

Excellency,

I have the pleasure to enclose herewith a *food for thought* paper from H.E. Mr. Martin Sajdik, Permanent Representative of Austria, and H.E. Mr. Antonio Pedro Monteiro Lima, Permanent Representative of Cape Verde, the two Co-Facilitators to conduct open-ended informal consultations with a view to determining modalities of the 13 May 2013 high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons. The food for thought paper is further to the co-facilitators 14 March 2013 letter inviting you to a first round of informal consultations on **Tuesday 26 March 2013 from 3-6pm.**

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Zdravko Ponos
Chef de Cabinet

To All Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York

HIGH-LEVEL MEETING OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON THE APPRAISAL
OF THE PROGRESS ACHIEVED IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GLOBAL
PLAN OF ACTION TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS, 13 MAY 2013

INFORMAL FOOD FOR THOUGHT PAPER

This informal Food for Thought Paper is intended to launch the discussions during informal consultations to determine the modalities, including on participation of international, regional, subregional organizations as well as civil society, including non-governmental organizations, the private sector and the media, for the GA high-level meeting on the appraisal of the progress achieved in the implementation of the Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons. For this purpose it provides some background information on the Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons (Section I) as well as information and food for thought for the appraisal (Section II).

Member States are invited to share their views on the format for the meeting, on possible topics and themes for discussion, including on possible speakers, and to relate their expectations for the high-level meeting.

I THE GLOBAL PLAN OF ACTION TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS

Human trafficking is a crime that ruthlessly exploits women, children and men for numerous purposes including forced labour and sex. This global crime generates billions of dollars in profits for the traffickers. It is estimated that 20.9 million people are victims of forced labour globally. This includes victims of human trafficking for labour and sexual exploitation. While it is not known how many of these victims were trafficked, the estimate implies that currently, there are millions of victims of trafficking in persons in the world. Every country in the world is affected by human trafficking, whether as a country of origin, transit or destination for victims.

Trafficking in persons is not only one of the fastest growing criminal activities in the world, but first and foremost a serious violation of human rights, in particular of women and girls. Although trafficking affects women, men, boys and girls, women and girls are most vulnerable and disproportionately affected by trafficking. Human trafficking requires a forceful response founded on the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children. Efforts to prevent and combat this crime should be centered on assistance to victims and promotion and protection of their rights while strengthening the criminal justice response and increasing cooperation and coordination.

In 2010, the United Nations General Assembly adopted by consensus the Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons (A/RES/64/293), urging Governments worldwide to take coordinated and consistent measures to defeat the crime. By adopting this landmark Plan, Governments resolved to take concrete action to prevent and combat trafficking in persons, protect and assist victims, prosecute related crimes and strengthen partnership among governmental institutions, intergovernmental organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector, including the media.

The four point Global Plan of Action focuses on:

- I. Prevention of trafficking in persons;
- II. Protection of and assistance to victims of trafficking in persons;
- III. Prosecution of crimes of trafficking in persons; and,
- IV. Strengthening of partnerships against trafficking in persons.

The Plan calls for integrating the fight against human trafficking into the UN's broader programmes, to boost development and strengthen security worldwide, and established the UN Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, especially women and children, as well as a biennial Report on Trafficking in Persons. The plan called for an appraisal of its progress in 2013.

Key Instruments, Resolutions and initiatives on combating Trafficking in Persons

In **2000**, the General Assembly adopted the UN Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC). The Protocol, which constitutes – together with UNTOC – the international legal framework for all anti-trafficking measures, now has 154 parties and entered into force in 2003.

Article 3(a) of the Protocol defines Trafficking in Persons as: *“the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs.”*

In **2002** the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights presented the Recommended Principles and Guidelines on Human Rights and Human Trafficking to the United Nations Economic and Social Council¹ in response to the need for practical, rights-based policy guidance on the trafficking issue. The purpose of the Trafficking Principles and Guidelines is to promote and facilitate the integration of a human rights perspective into national, regional and international anti-trafficking laws, policies and interventions.

¹ E/2002/68/Add.1

In **2004**, the first session of the Conference of the Parties to UNTOC, which was established to improve the capacity of States parties to combat transnational organized crime and to promote and review the implementation of the Convention and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children was held in Vienna. Also in **2004**, the Commission on Human Rights appointed the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children,² to highlight the importance of a victim-centred, rights-based approach to combating trafficking in persons, especially women and children.

In **2005**, the United Nations World Summit Outcome document recognized the threat trafficking in human beings poses on security, development and human rights.³ It further recognized that trafficking in persons continues to pose a serious challenge to humanity and requires a concerted international response, and to that end urged all States to devise, enforce and strengthen effective measures to combat and eliminate all forms of trafficking in persons to counter the demand for trafficked victims and to protect the victims.⁴

In **2006**, the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons (ICAT) was established to foster coordination and cooperation among relevant United Nations agencies and other international organizations involved in combating human trafficking.⁵

In **2007**, the United Nations Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking (UNGIFT) was created⁶, and in **2008** the Vienna Forum to Fight Human Trafficking was held, providing all anti-trafficking actors, including the United Nations, Governments and civil society organizations, with a global forum to share experiences and highlight the need to address human trafficking in a multifaceted and holistic manner.

In **2008**, a thematic debate on human trafficking was held by the General Assembly concentrating on “the three Ps, prevention, protection and prosecution”, and in **2009**, a General Assembly Interactive Thematic Dialogue on “Taking collective action to end human trafficking” underlined the importance of strengthening collective action by Member States and other stakeholders, including regional and international organizations, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and the media.

In **2010**, UNODC published the Framework for Action on Implementation of Trafficking Protocol as a technical assistance tool to assist United Nations Member States in the

² Decision 2004/110.

³ A/RES/60/1 at 111.

⁴ A/RES/60/1 at 112.

⁵ Pursuant to the request of the Economic and Social Council in resolution 2006/27 on strengthening international cooperation in preventing and combating trafficking in persons and protecting victims of such trafficking, and reinforced by the General Assembly in resolution 61/180, on improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons.

⁶ Created by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in partnership with the International Labour Organization, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the United Nations Children’s Fund, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the International Organization for Migration.

effective implementation of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children (United Nations Trafficking Protocol), supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC).

In April 2012, the President of the 66th Session of the UN General Assembly convened in cooperation with UNODC and the Group of Friends United Against Human Trafficking⁷, an Interactive Dialogue on "Prevention of Human Trafficking: Partnership and Innovation to End Violence against Women and Girls", which made clear that as a global phenomenon human trafficking requires a global approach and that partnerships at all levels are necessary to address this complex problem effectively. Seven key points/conclusions identified at that event and contained in the President's Summary pertain to the following areas: Coordination, The Law, Women, Demand, Victims, Integration, and, Funding. Participants suggested that the conclusions from that event be reviewed and discussed in the 2013 Appraisal of the Global Plan of Action.

Key Concrete Outcomes of the Global Plan of Action

Creation of the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children

The *Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking* is one of the most important aspects of the Global Plan of Action. Its focus is to provide humanitarian, legal and financial aid to victims of trafficking in persons, especially women and children, through established channels of assistance, such as governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations. The Fund is managed by UNODC with a board of trustees representing all regions of the world, appointed by the Secretary-General. Pledges to the Trust Fund will be acknowledged during the High Level Meeting.

The Fund operates, subject to the availability of funds, a Small Grants Facility which is open to all not-for-profit NGOs working to provide direct support to victims of human trafficking. The Small Grants Facility targets frontline organizations which provide tangible assistance directly to victims. From Cambodia to Costa Rica and Albania to the United States, the Fund assists organizations across the world in helping those who need it the most. Its work reflects the international nature of human trafficking as well as the differing services required to help victims of this crime. In promoting this inclusive approach, support is given to a range of NGOs who provide victim-focused services. These include running shelters and emergency housing, offering rehabilitation and reintegration services, providing income generation advice and legal support, and helping victims with psychosocial counseling and medical treatment. Donations directly help someone who has been victimized by human traffickers.

Member States wishing to make a pledge to the Trust Fund in advance of or during the high-level meeting are requested to contact Ms. Nadia Kalb, Second Secretary of the

⁷ Made up of 22 Member States.

Permanent Mission of Austria at +1-917-542-8434 (nadia.kalb@bmeia.gv.at), or Ms. Simone Monasebian, Director of the UNODC New York Office, at +1-212-963-5631 (monasebian@un.org).

Establishment of the Global Report on Trafficking in Persons 2012

The Global Report on Trafficking in Persons, released by UNODC in December 2012, (and presented to Member States in New York in February 2013), is one of the key outputs of the Global Plan of Action in which the General Assembly tasked UNODC with data collection and biennial reporting on patterns and flows of trafficking in persons at the global, regional and national levels.⁸

According to the Global Report, at least 136 different nationalities were trafficked and detected in 118 different countries. Human trafficking happens throughout the world with millions of victims falling through the cracks of their own societies only to be exploited by traffickers. They can be found in the world's restaurants, fisheries, brothels, farms and homes, among many other activities. One of the most worrying trends is the increase in child victims. From 2003-2006, 20 per cent of all detected victims were children. Between 2007 and 2010, the percentage of child victims had risen to 27 per cent. The Global Report also notes a worrying increase in the number of girl victims, who make up two thirds of all trafficked children. Girls now constitute 15 to 20 per cent of the total number of all detected victims, including adults, whereas boys comprise about 10 per cent.

The vast majority of trafficked persons are women, accounting for 55 to 60 per cent of victims detected globally. However, the total proportion of women and girls together soars to about 75 per cent, with men constituting about 14 per cent of the total of detected victims. Nonetheless, this is not a uniform picture as one in four detected victims is male. Between 2007 and 2010, almost half of victims detected worldwide were trafficked across borders within their region of origin. Some 24 per cent were trafficked inter-regionally (i.e. to a different region). Domestic trafficking accounts for 27 per cent of all detected cases of trafficking in persons worldwide. There are significant regional differences in the detected forms of exploitation. Countries in Africa and in Asia generally intercept more cases of trafficking for forced labour, while sexual exploitation is somewhat more frequently found in Europe and in the Americas. Additionally, trafficking for organ removal was detected in 16 countries around the world.

Trafficking originating from East Asia also remains the most conspicuous globally. Based on the Report, East Asian victims were found in 64 countries in all regions, and were often detected in large numbers. The Global Report raises concerns about low conviction rates - 16 per cent of reporting countries did not record a single conviction for trafficking in persons between 2007 and 2010. Conviction rates for trafficking are at the

⁸ See para. 60 of the Global Plan of Action. The Global Report can be found at <http://www.unodc.org/unodc/data-and-analysis/glotip.html>

same level as rare crimes such as homicides in Iceland or kidnappings in Norway. More focus must be placed on investigating, prosecuting and punishing this criminal activity while ensuring the integration of a human rights-based approach in the prosecution of cases of human trafficking, including proper identification of victims, enhanced cooperation between criminal justice and victim support agencies and supporting access to justice, safe return and reintegration for victims.

On the positive side, much progress has been made in the fight against trafficking in persons, particularly since the entry into force of the Trafficking in Persons Protocol in 2003. By 2012, 134 countries and territories had enacted legislation criminalizing trafficking. The percentage of countries without an offence criminalizing this activity halved between 2008 and 2012. There is also evidence that trafficking from Eastern Europe and Central Asia has been declining since 2000.

Although much has been achieved, gaps in knowledge remain and additional information about human trafficking continues to be needed. The Global Report is however a stepping stone in the right direction, and it highlights the dedication and commitment of Member States to tackle this crime, while calling on countries to do more. The data collection for the 2014 Global Report has started, and Member States are invited to contribute⁹

Strengthening of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons (ICAT)

The Global Plan of Action calls on Member States to strengthen and support the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons (ICAT) which is a policy forum mandated by the UN General Assembly to improve coordination and cooperation between UN agencies and other international organizations. ICAT is also intended to facilitate a holistic and comprehensive approach by the international community to preventing and combating trafficking in persons including protection and support for victims of trafficking. In response to this mandate, ICAT is publishing a series of five issue papers over the course of 2012 and 2013. Each issue paper examines one key issue that has been identified and agreed by ICAT's member organizations as a critical challenge to address for the international community to succeed in the fight against trafficking in persons in the coming decade. This series of ICAT papers provides an opportunity for international organizations to speak with one voice, and is intended to serve as a catalyst for the promotion of common strategic priorities and greater policy and programmatic coherence. An overview document, published in May 2012, provides an introduction to each of the five key challenges identified. The first issue paper entitled, *The International Legal Framework Relating to Trafficking in Persons*, was published in October 2012, and the second paper, *Preventing trafficking in persons by addressing demand*, will be published in May 2013.

⁹ A formal request from UNODC will soon be circulated, via note verbale.

II. THE APPRAISAL OF THE PROGRESS ACHIEVED IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GLOBAL PLAN OF ACTION TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS

The Global Plan of Action calls for the General Assembly to appraise in 2013 the progress achieved in its implementation.

In December 2012, the General Assembly passed resolution 67/190 on improving coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons and decided to convene a high-level meeting of the General Assembly no later than July 2013 in order to assess achievements, gaps and challenges including in the implementation of relevant legal instruments. Resolution 67/190 also requests the President of the General Assembly to prepare a summary of the high-level meeting.

In letters of the President of the General Assembly dated 7 and 28 February 2013, the Permanent Representatives of Cape Verde and Austria were appointed as Co-facilitators to conduct open-ended informal consultations with Member States with a view to determining the modalities of the 13 May 2013 high-level meeting of the General Assembly on Trafficking in Persons, including on participation of international, regional, and sub regional organizations as well as civil society, including non-governmental organizations, the private sector and the media, whose role is emphasized in the Global Plan of Action. The President's latter letter encourages Member States to participate at the highest level in the 13 May meeting, and further encourages Member States to donate to the "*United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, especially women and children*", established pursuant to paragraph 38 of the Global Plan of Action.

Food for Thought on the Appraisal

The high-level meeting provides an opportunity to:

- 1) Appraise the progress achieved in the implementation of the Global Plan of Action by assessing achievements, gaps and challenges including in the implementation of the relevant legal instruments;¹⁰
- 2) Review progress in the four pillars of the Global Plan of Action - Prevention, Protection, Prosecution, and Partnership – in light of objectives highlighted in the Global Plan:
 - a) Promoting universal ratification of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, as well as other relevant international instruments that address trafficking in persons, and reinforce the implementation of existing instruments against trafficking in persons,

¹⁰ A/RES/67/190, para 12

- b) Helping Member States to reinforce their political commitments and legal obligations to prevent and combat trafficking in persons,
 - c) Promoting comprehensive, coordinated and consistent responses, at the national, regional and international levels, to counter trafficking in persons,
 - d) Promoting a human rights-based, gender- and age-sensitive approach in addressing all factors that make people vulnerable to trafficking in persons and strengthening the criminal justice response, which are necessary to prevent trafficking in persons, protect its victims and prosecute its perpetrators,
 - e) Raising awareness within the United Nations system and also among States and other stakeholders, such as the private sector, civil society and the international and national mass media, and the public at large,
 - f) Fostering cooperation and coordination among all relevant stakeholders, including Member States, international organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector, and within various entities of the United Nations system, taking into account existing best practices and lessons learned;¹¹
- 3) Consider ways and means to improve cooperation and coordination within the United Nations in order to promote system-wide coherence and coordination of policies, in particular through strengthening the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons;
 - 4) Explore ways to strengthen the capacity of UNODC to implement the Global Plan of Action;
 - 5) Assess progress made in the seven key areas identified in the General Assembly Interactive Dialogue on human trafficking in April 2012 and reflected in its Presidential Summary: Coordination; The Law; Women; Demand; Victims; Integration; and, Funding;
 - 6) Provide political leadership, guidance and recommendations on the way forward in the fight against human trafficking;
 - 7) Provide a dynamic platform for dialogue, stocktaking and agenda-setting to advance efforts to combat human trafficking and consider new and emerging challenges;
 - 8) Promote the sharing of best practices and experiences relating to the implementation of the Global Plan, and facilitate sharing of experiences, including successes, challenges and lessons learned;
 - 9) Discuss the promotion of evidence-based solutions and contribute to strengthening capacity-building for data collection and analysis, particularly with regard to the best practices and lessons learned in the four pillars of the Global Plan of Action
 - 10) Assess progress of the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, established to provide humanitarian, legal and financial aid to victims of trafficking in persons through established channels of assistance, and consider ways and means to improve and strengthen it.

¹¹ A/RES/64/293, Preamble



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

7 May 2013

Excellency,

I wish to thank His Excellency Mr. Vuk Jeremić, President of the General Assembly, the President's co-facilitators, His Excellency Mr. Martin Sajdik, Permanent Representative of Austria, and His Excellency Mr. Antonio Pedro Monteiro Lima, Permanent Representative of Cape Verde, and all delegations for their important efforts in preparation of the High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Appraisal of the Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons, which will take place on 13 May 2013.

By adopting the Global Plan of Action, in July 2010 (A/RES/64/293), Governments resolved to take concrete action to prevent trafficking in persons, protect and assist victims, prosecute related crimes and strengthen partnership among Governments, civil society organizations and the private sector, including the media.

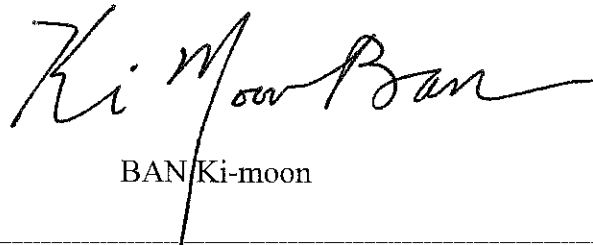
The Global Plan of Action also calls for the General Assembly to appraise in 2013 the progress achieved in the implementation of the Plan. In December 2012, the General Assembly passed resolution A/RES/67/190 on improving coordination of human trafficking which decided to convene a high-level meeting of the General Assembly in order to assess achievement, gaps and challenges in the Global Plan of Action, including in the implementation of relevant legal instruments. I was pleased to see consensus reached earlier this week on the modalities, format and organization of the High-level Meeting. I look forward to participating in the opening of this most important Meeting, and count on your active participation at the highest possible level.

His/Her Excellency
Title
Mission
City

One of the most crucial elements of the Global Plan of Action is the “United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children”. As you will recall, I appointed a Board of Directors for this Fund in 2010, and they, along with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, have worked tirelessly on behalf of this promising new Fund. The focus of the Fund to provide humanitarian, legal and financial aid to victims of trafficking in persons, especially women and children, through established channels of assistance, such as governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, is closely aligned with the priorities in my five-year action plan.

Human trafficking is a crime that strips people of their rights, exploits people’s dreams of a better future, and robs people of their dignity. I hope that the High-level Meeting will raise additional support for this important Trust Fund to which Member States and the public are encouraged to contribute. Pledges to the Trust Fund will be acknowledged during the High-level Meeting. I thank you for the support provided to the Trust Fund to date, and encourage you to keep the momentum and focus on this Fund so that survivors of this heinous crime stand a better chance to rebuild their lives.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.



BAN/Ki-moon

UNITED NATIONS  NATIONS UNIES

NEW YORK

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

10 May 2013

Excellency,

I would like to refer to my letter dated 7 May 2013 relating to the preparations for the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the Appraisal of the Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons.

Following consideration by Member States of a *"list of representatives of other relevant non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, the private sector and the media active in combating trafficking in persons"* on a non-objection basis, in accordance with operative paragraph 9 of resolution A/RES/67/260, I have the honour to bring on behalf of the President of the General Assembly, the list herewith to the attention of the General Assembly. Please note that the Khmer People Power Movement is deleted from in the list based on two objections.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.


Dejan Sahovic

Officer-in-Charge
Senior Special Advisor
OPGA

To all Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York

List: 2 Representatives of other relevant non-government organizations, civil society organizations, the private sector and the media active in combating trafficking in persons.

1. APROASE A.C, Mexico
2. Alliance Against Irregular Migration, Ghana
3. The Alliance of NGOs of the CCPJ
4. Al Jazeera, Qatar
5. Ambedkar Center for Justice and Peace, India
6. Apne Aap, India
7. Association Nationale pour L'évaluation Environnementale, DR Congo
8. Be the Change, United States
9. CAST, United States
10. Church of the Brethren, United States
11. Challenging Heights NGO, Ghana
12. CEFC Shanghai, China
13. CNN Freedom Project, United States
14. Damnok Toek, Cambodia
15. Disability Aid Organization, Kenya
16. Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, United States
17. End Human Trafficking Now, Switzerland
18. Foundation Cheick Aorema, Burkina Faso
19. Free the Slaves, United States
20. GEMS, United States
21. Harvard University's Program on Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery, United States
22. Human Rights Advocates International, Inc., United States
23. John Hopkins University Protection Project
24. Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary (IBVM), Italy
25. International Institute on Peace Education, United States
26. Kevoy Community Development Institute, Jamaica
27. Nigerian Network Of Women Exporters Of Services, Nigeria
28. ONG Maison d'Abraham, DR Congo
29. Organization for Research and Community Development, Afghanistan
30. Polaris Project, United States
31. Rutgers University, United States
32. Secretariat for Family, Laity, Women And Youth, National Conferences For Catholic Bishops, United States
33. Shana Alexander Charitable Foundation
34. Somaly Mam Foundation, Cambodia
35. Sunya Ward Education and Training, Tanzania
36. The Tronie Foundation
37. Together To Palestine, Lebanon
38. West Africa Development Society and African Friends of the United States



General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
30 April 2013

Original: English

Sixty-seventh session

Agenda item 103

Crime prevention and criminal justice

Draft resolution submitted by the President of the General Assembly

Modalities, format and organization of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the appraisal of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 67/190 of 20 December 2012, in which it referred to its decision to conduct, in 2013, an appraisal of the progress achieved in the implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons¹ and decided to convene, within existing resources, a high-level meeting of the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session, no later than July 2013, in order to assess achievements, gaps and challenges, including in the implementation of the relevant legal instruments,

Recalling also its resolution 64/293 of 30 July 2010, by which it adopted the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons,

Recalling further its resolution 55/25 of 15 November 2000, by which it adopted the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime² and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,³

Recalling its decision in paragraph 13 of resolution 67/190 to determine the modalities of the high-level meeting, including the participation of international, regional and subregional organizations, as well as civil society, including non-governmental organizations, the private sector and the media, whose role is emphasized in the United Nations Global Plan of Action,

1. *Decides* that the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the appraisal of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in

* Reissued for technical reasons on 1 May 2013.

¹ Resolution 64/293.

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.

³ *Ibid.*, vol. 2237, No. 39574.



Persons¹ will be held on Monday, 13 May, and Tuesday, 14 May 2013, and will consist of an opening plenary meeting on 13 May from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m., plenary meetings on 13 May from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and on 14 May from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., and a closing plenary meeting after the list of speakers has been exhausted, as well as two consecutive interactive panel discussions on 13 May in the afternoon;

2. *Also decides* that the opening plenary meeting will feature statements by the President of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General and the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime as well as an eminent person actively engaged in the fight against trafficking in persons and a representative from a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council who may be a survivor, both of whom are to be identified by the President of the General Assembly;

3. *Further decides* that the organizational arrangements for the interactive panel discussions to take place on Monday, 13 May 2013, in the afternoon and to be chaired by Member States at the invitation of the President of the General Assembly, after consultations with regional groups, will be as follows:

(a) Interactive panel discussion 1, which will take place from 3 p.m. to 4.30 p.m., will address the theme “The Global Plan of Action, relevant legal instruments and effective partnerships to protect and assist victims of human trafficking”;

(b) Interactive panel discussion 2, which will take place from 4.30 p.m. to 6 p.m., will address the theme “Sharing best practices and lessons learned for prevention and prosecution in the implementation of the Global Plan of Action and relevant legal instruments”;

(c) The Chairs of the interactive panel discussions will present summaries of the discussions at the closing plenary meeting, followed by final remarks by the President of the General Assembly;

(d) In order to promote interactive and substantive discussions, participation in each panel discussion will include Member States, observers, representatives of United Nations organizations and entities, and representatives of international, regional and subregional organizations, as well as civil society, including non-governmental organizations, the private sector and the media;

4. *Recalls* its request in paragraph 14 of resolution 67/190 that the President of the General Assembly prepare a summary of the high-level meeting, identifying achievements, gaps and challenges in the implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action and relevant legal instruments, and decides to bring the summary to the attention of relevant United Nations entities and other stakeholders;

5. *Invites* Member States, the Holy See and the State of Palestine, in their capacity as observer States, and the European Union, in its capacity as observer, to be represented at the highest possible level at the meeting;

6. *Encourages* Member States to consider including in their delegations to the high-level meeting representatives of civil society active in combating trafficking in persons and of the private sector;

7. *Invites* all relevant United Nations entities and other relevant intergovernmental, regional and subregional organizations to participate in the high-level meeting;

8. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to draw up a list of interested representatives of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council who may participate in the high-level meeting;

9. *Also requests* the President of the General Assembly to draw up a list of representatives of other relevant non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, the private sector and the media active in combating trafficking in persons, taking into account the principle of transparency and the principle of equitable geographical representation, to submit the proposed list to Member States for their consideration on a non-objection basis and to bring the list to the attention of the General Assembly;

10. *Further requests* the President of the General Assembly, in consultation with Member States, to finalize the organizational arrangements for the meetings, taking into account the duration of the meetings, the identification of the eminent person and the representative from a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council to speak at the opening plenary meeting and the identification of Chairs for the interactive panel discussions, bearing in mind the level of representation as well as equitable geographical representation;

11. *Encourages* Member States, United Nations entities, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, private sector entities and other relevant stakeholders to consider supporting the participation of representatives from developing countries, including representatives of non-governmental organizations from those countries, in order to ensure the broadest possible participation, and requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures in this regard;

12. *Decides* that the proceedings of the high-level meeting shall be webcast;

13. *Encourages* Member States and other stakeholders to continue to contribute to the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, which was established by the Global Plan of Action.



General Assembly

Distr.: General
12 August 2010

Sixty-fourth session
Agenda item 104

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[without reference to a Main Committee (A/64/L.64)]

64/293. United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and reaffirming its role under the Charter, including on issues related to development, peace and security and human rights,

Reiterating its strong condemnation of trafficking in persons, especially women and children, which constitutes a serious threat to human dignity, human rights and development,

Recognizing that poverty, unemployment, lack of socio-economic opportunities, gender-based violence, discrimination and marginalization are some of the contributing factors that make persons vulnerable to trafficking in persons,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration adopted on 8 September 2000,¹ in which Member States resolved to intensify efforts to fight transnational crime in all its dimensions, including trafficking in human beings,

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome adopted by the General Assembly on 16 September 2005,² noting that trafficking in persons continues to pose a serious challenge to humanity and requires a concerted international response, and urging all States to devise, enforce and strengthen effective measures to combat and eliminate all forms of trafficking in persons in order to counter the demand for trafficked victims and to protect them,

Reaffirming its resolution 55/25 of 15 November 2000, by which it adopted the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime³ and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,⁴ and recalling other related conventions and instruments, such as

¹ See resolution 55/2.

² See resolution 60/1.

³ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.

⁴ *Ibid.*, vol. 2237, No. 39574.



the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29) and the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182) of the International Labour Organization, the Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade, and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery,⁵ the Convention on the Rights of the Child⁶ and the Optional Protocols thereto on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography⁷ and on the involvement of children in armed conflict,⁸ and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,⁹

Recognizing the crucial importance of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, which entered into force on 25 December 2003 and provided for the first time an internationally agreed definition of the crime of trafficking in persons, aimed at the prevention of trafficking in persons, protection of its victims and prosecution of its perpetrators,

Recalling all General Assembly resolutions on measures to eliminate trafficking in persons, including resolutions 61/180 of 20 December 2006, 63/194 of 18 December 2008 and 64/178 of 18 December 2009 on improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons, resolution 61/144 of 19 December 2006 on trafficking in women and girls, and resolution 58/137 of 22 December 2003 on strengthening international cooperation in preventing and combating trafficking in persons and protecting victims of such trafficking,

Reaffirming Commission on Human Rights decision 2004/110 of 19 April 2004,¹⁰ by which the Commission appointed the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, to highlight the importance of a victim-centred, rights-based approach to combating trafficking in persons, especially women and children, Human Rights Council resolution 6/14 of 28 September 2007,¹¹ by which the Council appointed the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences, Commission on Human Rights resolution 1990/68 of 7 March 1990,¹² by which the Commission appointed the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, and General Assembly resolution 62/141 of 18 December 2007, in which the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to appoint a Special Representative on violence against children, and noting the appointment of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on sexual violence in conflict,

Recalling that, pursuant to the request of the Economic and Social Council in resolution 2006/27 of 27 July 2006 on strengthening international cooperation in preventing and combating trafficking in persons and protecting victims of such trafficking, reinforced by the General Assembly in resolution 61/180, on improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons, the Inter-Agency

⁵ Ibid., vol. 266, No. 3822.

⁶ Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.

⁷ Ibid., vol. 2171, No. 27531.

⁸ Ibid., vol. 2173, No. 27531.

⁹ Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

¹⁰ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2004, Supplement No. 3 (E/2004/23)*, chap. II, sect. B.

¹¹ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/63/53)*, chap. I, sect. A.

¹² See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1990, Supplement No. 2 and corrigendum (E/1990/22 and Corr.1)*, chap. II, sect. A.

Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons was established to foster coordination and cooperation among relevant United Nations agencies and other international organizations involved in combating human trafficking,

Recognizing that the launching in March 2007 of the United Nations Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in partnership with the International Labour Organization, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the United Nations Children's Fund, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the International Organization for Migration, and the Vienna Forum to Fight Human Trafficking, held from 13 to 15 February 2008, provided all anti-trafficking actors, including the United Nations, Governments and civil society organizations, with a global forum to share their respective experiences and further highlighted the need collectively to address human trafficking in a multifaceted and holistic manner,

Recalling the thematic debate on human trafficking held by the General Assembly on 3 June 2008, which gave Member States a forum for discussion concentrating on the three Ps, prevention, protection and prosecution, and the interactive thematic dialogue on the theme "Taking collective action to end human trafficking", held by the Assembly on 13 May 2009, which underlined the importance of strengthening collective action by Member States and other stakeholders, including regional and international organizations, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and the media,

Recognizing the importance of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, which was established to improve the capacity of States parties to combat transnational organized crime and to promote and review the implementation of the Convention and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children,

Recognizing also decisions 1/5 of 7 July 2004, 2/3 of 20 October 2005, 3/3 of 18 October 2006 and 4/4 of 17 October 2008 concerning the implementation of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention,¹³

Recalling relevant subregional, regional and cross-regional mechanisms and initiatives, such as the Arab Initiative for Building National Capacities to Combat Human Trafficking; the Doha Founding Forum; the Asia-Europe Meeting Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children; the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Declaration against Trafficking in Persons, Particularly Women and Children; the Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime; the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization Action Plan on Cooperation in Combating Crime, in particular in Its Organized Forms; the Council of the Baltic Sea States Task Force against Trafficking in Human Beings; the Commonwealth of Independent States Agreement on Cooperation in Combating Trafficking in Persons, Human Organs and Tissues; the Central American Coalition against Trafficking in Persons; the Coordinated Mekong Ministerial Initiative against Trafficking; the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings; the Declaration on the Fight against Trafficking in Persons of the Economic Community of West

¹³ See CTOC/COP/2004/6, chap. I, CTOC/COP/2005/8, chap. I, CTOC/COP/2006/14, chap. I, and CTOC/COP/2008/19, chap. I.

African States; the Joint Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, of the Economic Community of West African States and the Economic Community of Central African States; the Manama International Conference on Human Trafficking at the Crossroads: the Private-Public Partnership to Fight Human Trafficking; the Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR) Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons; the Organization of American States Work Plan to Combat Trafficking in Persons in the Western Hemisphere; the Ouagadougou Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings, Especially Women and Children; the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings; the Plan of Action of the Regional Conference on Migration; the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation Convention on Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Women and Children for Prostitution; the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe Task Force on Trafficking in Human Beings, of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe; and the Stockholm Programme for 2010–2014 of the European Union and its Action Plan setting up priorities in the field of justice and home affairs and establishing an anti-trafficking coordinator,

Recognizing the need to develop a global plan of action against trafficking in persons that will:

(a) Promote universal ratification of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, as well as other relevant international instruments that address trafficking in persons, and reinforce the implementation of existing instruments against trafficking in persons,

(b) Help Member States to reinforce their political commitments and legal obligations to prevent and combat trafficking in persons,

(c) Promote comprehensive, coordinated and consistent responses, at the national, regional and international levels, to counter trafficking in persons,

(d) Promote a human rights-based, gender- and age-sensitive approach in addressing all factors that make people vulnerable to trafficking in persons and strengthening the criminal justice response, which are necessary to prevent trafficking in persons, protect its victims and prosecute its perpetrators,

(e) Raise awareness within the United Nations system and also among States and other stakeholders, such as the private sector, civil society and the international and national mass media, and the public at large,

(f) Foster cooperation and coordination among all relevant stakeholders, including Member States, international organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector, and within various entities of the United Nations system, taking into account existing best practices and lessons learned,

1. *Adopts* the present resolution and its annex as the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons;

2. *Decides* to formally launch the Plan of Action at a one-day, high-level meeting of the General Assembly, and urges Member States, the United Nations and other international, regional and subregional organizations as well as civil society, including non-governmental organizations, the private sector and the media, to fully and effectively implement the relevant provisions of the Plan of Action and the activities outlined therein;

3. *Urges* Member States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to, as a matter of priority, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime³ and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,⁴ taking into consideration the central role of those instruments in the fight against trafficking in persons, and also urges States parties to those instruments to implement them fully and effectively;

4. *Decides* to establish, in accordance with paragraph 38 of the annex to the present resolution, the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, and requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures for its effective operation, and acknowledges previous and ongoing contributions to other funding sources that support efforts to combat trafficking in persons;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include a section on the implementation by the United Nations system of the Plan of Action, within already existing reporting obligations to the General Assembly under the item on crime prevention and criminal justice;

6. *Decides* to appraise in 2013 the progress achieved in the implementation of the Plan of Action, and requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures in that regard;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to present proposals to finance the staffing and programmatic requirements of the Secretariat necessary to strengthen the capacity of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime as described in the Plan of Action through a reallocation of resources in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012–2013.

*109th plenary meeting
30 July 2010*

Annex

United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons

We, the States Members of the United Nations, reaffirm our commitments to end the heinous crime of trafficking in persons, especially women and children, express our determination to prevent and combat trafficking in persons, protect and assist victims of trafficking in persons, prosecute crimes of trafficking in persons and promote partnerships to strengthen coordination and cooperation, and resolve to translate our political will into concrete actions by adopting an action plan to:

1. Consistently and strongly condemn trafficking in persons, which constitutes a criminal activity violating human dignity and has negative effects on development, peace and security and human rights;
2. Recognize that “trafficking in persons” shall mean the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation, which includes, at a minimum, the

exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs, as set forth in the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (hereinafter referred to as “the Trafficking Protocol”);⁴

3. Ensure that the promotion and protection of the human rights of victims of trafficking in persons, the prevention of trafficking in persons by addressing the social, economic, cultural, political and other contributing factors and the strengthening of the criminal justice response are at the centre of all efforts to prevent and combat trafficking in persons and to protect, assist and provide redress to victims;

4. Take urgent action to prevent trafficking in persons, protect its victims and prosecute its perpetrators and strengthen partnerships to these ends by promoting and considering, as a priority, ratifying or acceding to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime³ and the Trafficking Protocol, as well as other relevant international instruments, including the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29) and the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182) of the International Labour Organization, the Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade, and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery,⁵ the Convention on the Rights of the Child⁶ and the Optional Protocols thereto on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography⁷ and on the involvement of children in armed conflict,⁸ and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;⁹

5. Recognize that, in accordance with article 32 of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention is established to improve the capacity of States parties to promote and review the implementation of the Convention, including the Trafficking Protocol, and take note of ongoing initiatives aimed at exploring options regarding an appropriate and effective mechanism to assist the Conference of the Parties in the review of the implementation of the Convention;

6. Take into account the activities and recommendations of the open-ended interim Working Group on Trafficking in Persons established by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention;

7. Support the Human Rights Council and contribute to its work on the question of the promotion and protection of human rights for all in the fight against trafficking in persons;

8. Support the role and mandates of the Special Rapporteurs on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences, on violence against women, its causes and consequences, and on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, the Special Representatives of the Secretary-General on violence against children and on sexual violence in conflict, and other relevant special rapporteurs and representatives. The mandate holders should assist States by offering concrete advice, liaising with the United Nations and regional organizations and reporting on these issues;

9. Reaffirm the central role of the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the global fight against trafficking in persons, particularly in providing technical assistance to implement the Convention and the Trafficking Protocol, by making use of existing capacity-building tools, lessons learned and expertise

available in international organizations, including the International Framework for Action to Implement the Trafficking in Persons Protocol;¹⁴

10. Reaffirm the important work of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the United Nations Children's Fund, the International Labour Organization and the International Organization for Migration in the global fight against trafficking in persons;

11. Strongly urge all responsible United Nations entities to coordinate their efforts to fight trafficking in persons effectively and to protect the human rights of its victims, including by means of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons and the United Nations Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking;

I. Prevention of trafficking in persons

12. Address the social, economic, cultural, political and other factors that make people vulnerable to trafficking in persons, such as poverty, unemployment, inequality, humanitarian emergencies, including armed conflicts and natural disasters, sexual violence, gender discrimination, social exclusion and marginalization, as well as a culture of tolerance towards violence against women, youth and children;

13. Make a commitment to address all forms of trafficking in persons wherever they occur;

14. Mainstream the issue of trafficking in persons into the broader policies and programmes of the United Nations aimed at addressing economic and social development, human rights, the rule of law, good governance, education and natural disaster and post-conflict reconstruction;

15. Adopt and implement comprehensive policies and programmes at the national level and, as appropriate, at the subregional and regional levels to prevent all forms of trafficking in persons that are in line with relevant policies and programmes on migration, education, employment, gender equality, empowerment of women and crime prevention, in accordance with relevant international human rights instruments;

16. Conduct research and collect suitably disaggregated data that would enable proper analysis of the nature and extent of trafficking in persons;

17. Develop or strengthen processes for the identification of victims, such as those developed, inter alia, by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other organizations, including appropriate and non-discriminatory measures that help to identify victims of trafficking in persons among vulnerable populations;

18. Promote awareness-raising campaigns aimed at persons at risk of being trafficked and at the general public through education and the effective involvement of the mass media, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and community leaders with a view to discouraging the demand that fosters the exploitation of persons, especially women and children, and that leads to trafficking, and collect and disseminate best practices on the implementation of those campaigns;

¹⁴ Available from www.unodc.org/unodc/en/human-trafficking/publications.html.

19. Stress the role of education in raising awareness about the prevention of trafficking in persons, and promote education, in particular human rights education, and human rights learning as a sustainable way of preventing trafficking in persons;
20. Reinforce efforts regarding the provision of identity documents, such as the registration of births, in order to lower the risk of being trafficked and to help to identify victims of trafficking in persons;
21. Increase and support prevention efforts in countries of origin, transit and destination by focusing on the demand that fosters all forms of trafficking and the goods and services produced as a result of trafficking in persons;
22. Adopt and implement specific measures at the national level to combat trafficking for labour exploitation and strive to educate consumers on those measures;
23. Strengthen or continue to strengthen the capacity of law enforcement, immigration, education, social welfare, labour and other relevant officials in the prevention of trafficking in persons, taking into account the need to respect human rights and child- and gender-sensitive issues, and encourage cooperation, where appropriate, with civil society, non-governmental organizations and other relevant organizations;
24. Encourage the United Nations to intensify its work with Member States and relevant international, regional and subregional organizations to identify and share best practices to prevent trafficking in persons;

II. Protection of and assistance to victims of trafficking in persons

25. Reaffirm that the promotion and protection of human rights for all and effective measures to respond to trafficking in persons are complementary and mutually reinforcing;
26. Stress the need to promote and protect the rights of victims of trafficking in persons and to reintegrate victims into the community by taking into account the Recommended Principles and Guidelines on Human Rights and Human Trafficking developed by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights¹⁵ and the Guidelines on the Protection of Child Victims of Trafficking developed by the United Nations Children's Fund,¹⁶
27. Ensure that victims of trafficking in persons are treated as victims of crime and that national legislation effectively criminalizes all forms of trafficking;
28. Review existing national services available to victims of trafficking in persons, consistent with the Convention and the Trafficking Protocol, strengthen those services where needed, and support the establishment or strengthening of appropriate referral mechanisms;
29. Strengthen or continue to strengthen the capacity of relevant officials likely to encounter and identify possible victims of trafficking in persons, such as law enforcement personnel, border control officers, labour inspectors, consular or embassy officials, judges and prosecutors and peacekeepers, and ensure the availability of needed resources to the relevant sectors and institutions, including those of civil society;

¹⁵ E/2002/68/Add.1.

¹⁶ Available from www.unicef.org/ceecis/0610-Unicef_Victims_Guidelines_en.pdf.

30. Urge Governments to take all appropriate measures to ensure that identified victims of trafficking in persons are not penalized for having been trafficked and that they do not suffer from victimization as a result of actions taken by Government authorities;
31. Protect the privacy and identity and ensure the safety of victims of trafficking in persons before, during and after criminal proceedings and protect immediate family members and witnesses, as appropriate, from retaliation by traffickers by ensuring their safety in accordance with articles 24 and 25 of the Convention;
32. Provide assistance and services for the physical, psychological and social recovery and rehabilitation of trafficked persons, in cooperation with non-governmental organizations and other relevant organizations and sectors of civil society;
33. Urge States parties to consider adopting legislative or other appropriate measures that permit victims of trafficking in persons to remain in their territory, temporarily or permanently, in appropriate cases, consistent with the Convention and the Trafficking Protocol;
34. Ensure that countries of origin accept back their nationals who are victims of trafficking in persons and guarantee that such return is conducted with due regard for safety and shall preferably be voluntary, consistent with the Convention and the Trafficking Protocol;
35. Adopt labour laws in countries of origin, transit and destination which provide legal rights and protections for workers that would limit their risk of being trafficked;
36. Provide specialized services to identified victims of trafficking in persons, consistent with the Convention and the Trafficking Protocol and other relevant instruments, including access to health services, such as access to prevention, treatment, care and support services for HIV and AIDS and other blood-borne and communicable diseases for those victims of trafficking in persons that have been sexually exploited, taking into account the fact that human trafficking for the purposes of sexual exploitation has serious, immediate and long-term implications for health, including sexual and reproductive health;
37. Provide appropriate assistance and protection in the best interest of the child to child victims of trafficking in persons or to those at risk of being trafficked, including through appropriate services and measures for the physical and psychological well-being of child victims of trafficking in persons and for their education, rehabilitation and reintegration, in coordination with existing child protection systems;
38. Establish the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, to provide humanitarian, legal and financial aid to victims of trafficking in persons through established channels of assistance, such as governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, which shall operate as a subsidiary fund of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund managed by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and shall be administered in accordance with the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations¹⁷ and other relevant provisions, with

¹⁷ ST/SGB/2003/7.

the advice of a board of trustees composed of five persons with relevant experience in the field of trafficking in persons who shall be appointed with due regard to equitable geographical distribution by the Secretary-General in consultation with Member States and with the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

39. Adopt measures to ensure that victims of trafficking in persons can seek compensation for the damage suffered, consistent with the Convention and the Trafficking Protocol;

40. Acknowledge the important role of civil society organizations in providing assistance and empowerment to victims of trafficking in persons, helping them to seek redress and facilitating the care of and provision of appropriate services to victims, including close cooperation and coordination with law enforcement officials;

41. Ensure that domestic legal or administrative systems include measures to provide information to victims of trafficking in persons, in a language they understand, regarding their legal rights and the relevant court and administrative proceedings and facilitate their access to assistance in order to enable their views and concerns to be presented and considered at appropriate stages of such proceedings against offenders in a manner not prejudicial to the rights of the defence, consistent with the Convention and the Trafficking Protocol;

42. Provide victims of trafficking in persons with an adequate period of time to recover and the opportunity to consult with appropriate advisers to assist in decision-making regarding cooperation with law enforcement and their participation in judicial proceedings;

III. Prosecution of crimes of trafficking in persons

43. Implement all relevant legal instruments that criminalize trafficking in persons, including by:

(a) Prosecuting crimes of trafficking in persons that encompass all forms of exploitation and enacting, enforcing and strengthening legislation that criminalizes all trafficking in persons, especially women and children;

(b) Adopting legislation and other measures, as necessary, to establish as criminal offences attempting to commit an offence, participating as an accomplice in an offence and organizing or directing other persons to commit an offence, as set out in the Trafficking Protocol, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocols thereto and other relevant instruments, as applicable;

(c) Combating and prosecuting organized criminal groups engaged in trafficking in persons;

44. Ensure the liability of all categories of perpetrators of trafficking in persons, including the liability of legal persons and entities, as appropriate, in line with relevant international instruments;

45. Enhance efforts to investigate alleged cases of trafficking, strengthen means to combat trafficking, prosecute perpetrators, including through more systematic use of freezing assets for the purpose of eventual confiscation, in accordance with the provisions of article 12 of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, and ensure that penalties are proportionate to the gravity of the crime;

46. Make use of the available technical assistance provided to strengthen the criminal justice response to trafficking in persons, including by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

47. Investigate, prosecute and punish corrupt public officials who engage in or facilitate trafficking in persons and promote a zero-tolerance policy against those corrupt officials, consistent with the United Nations Convention against Corruption¹⁸ and the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;

48. Strengthen or continue to strengthen coordination and cooperation among States in combating crimes that might be connected with trafficking in persons, including money-laundering, corruption, smuggling of migrants and all forms of organized crime;

49. Encourage the law enforcement, immigration, border patrol or other relevant authorities of concerned States to cooperate with one another by exchanging information with full respect for domestic laws, such as data protection laws, and continue to promote cooperation among countries of origin, transit and destination in order to enhance investigations, prosecutions and detection of trafficking networks;

IV. Strengthening of partnerships against trafficking in persons

50. Recognize that capacity-building is a very important component in combating trafficking in persons and encourage and enhance coordination and coherence within the United Nations system;

51. Encourage effective cooperation and coordination of efforts at the national, bilateral, subregional, regional and international levels, especially among countries of origin, transit and destination, and take advantage of the networks provided by relevant organizations to share best practices in capacity-building for responding to and combating trafficking in persons, while stressing the importance of mutual legal assistance efforts and the exchange of information with full respect for domestic laws, such as data protection laws, including operational information, programmes and best practices in supplementing the Convention and the work done by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention;

52. Conclude and implement mutual legal assistance and extradition agreements, where appropriate, to apprehend and prosecute perpetrators of trafficking in persons, in accordance with the relevant provisions of national and international law, including the Convention;

53. Promote cooperation and coordination among governmental institutions, civil society and the private sector, including the media, as well as workers' and employers' organizations, to strengthen prevention and protection policies and programmes;

54. Strengthen cooperation among law enforcement agencies, regionally and internationally;

55. Intensify international, regional and subregional cooperation to combat trafficking in persons, as well as technical assistance for countries of origin, transit and destination aimed at strengthening their ability to prevent all forms of trafficking in persons;

¹⁸ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.

56. Strengthen and support the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons in order to improve coordination and cooperation among relevant United Nations bodies, including the human rights treaty bodies and mechanisms, and other international organizations;
57. Encourage the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, other agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and international and regional organizations to continue to assist Member States, upon request, to strengthen policymaking, legislative arrangements, border control and law enforcement cooperation, public awareness campaigns and capacity-building and to exchange and build upon best practices in assisting victims of trafficking in persons;
58. Further encourage agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system to continue to improve the coherence and efficiency of technical assistance delivery in the field of trafficking in persons, in accordance with the recommendations of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group of Governmental Experts on Technical Assistance established by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention;
59. Urge the Secretary-General to expedite the strengthening of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons under the coordination of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in order to ensure overall organization and coherence in the efforts of the United Nations system to respond to trafficking in persons;
60. Request the Secretary-General, as a matter of priority, to strengthen the capacity of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to collect information and report biennially, starting in 2012, on patterns and flows of trafficking in persons at the national, regional and international levels in a balanced, reliable and comprehensive manner, in close cooperation and collaboration with Member States, and share best practices and lessons learned from various initiatives and mechanisms;
61. Encourage Member States to consider making voluntary contributions to the work of the United Nations in combating human trafficking, and to explore additional sources of funding in this regard, including reaching out to the private sector for contributions.



General Assembly

Distr.: General
27 March 2013

Sixty-seventh session
Agenda item 103

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[on the report of the Third Committee (A/67/458)]

67/190. Improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons

The General Assembly,

Reiterating its concern that, despite sustained measures taken at the international, regional and national levels, trafficking in persons remains one of the grave challenges facing the international community, which also impairs the enjoyment of human rights and needs a more concerted collective and comprehensive international response,

Recalling the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime¹ and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,² which provided the definition of the crime of trafficking in persons, the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography³ and the Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade, and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery,⁴

Recalling also its resolution 64/178 of 18 December 2009 on improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons and other relevant General Assembly resolutions on trafficking in persons and other contemporary forms of slavery,⁵

Reaffirming its resolution 64/293 of 30 July 2010 on the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 2008/33 of 25 July 2008 on strengthening coordination of the United Nations and other efforts in fighting trafficking in persons and previous Council resolutions on trafficking in persons,

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.

² *Ibid.*, vol. 2237, No. 39574.

³ *Ibid.*, vol. 2171, No. 27531.

⁴ *Ibid.*, vol. 266, No. 3822.

⁵ Resolutions 55/67, 58/137, 59/166, 61/144, 61/180, 63/156 and 63/194.



Affirming Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 20/3 of 15 April 2011, entitled “Implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons”,⁶

Affirming also Human Rights Council resolution 20/1 of 5 July 2012, entitled “Trafficking in persons, especially women and children: access to effective remedies for trafficked persons and their right to an effective remedy for human rights violations”,⁷ and other relevant Council resolutions on trafficking in persons,⁸

Recognizing that, in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention is established to improve the capacity of States parties to combat transnational organized crime and to promote and review the implementation of the Convention, including the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, by facilitating the development and exchange of relevant information, programmes and practices and by cooperating with relevant international and regional organizations and non-governmental organizations, and recognizing also that each State party shall provide the Conference of the Parties with information on its programmes, plans and practices, as well as legislative and administrative measures to implement the Convention,

Recognizing also the importance of bilateral, subregional, regional and international cooperation mechanisms and initiatives, including information exchanges on good practices, of Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to address the problem of trafficking in persons, especially women and children,

Recognizing further that broad international cooperation between Member States and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations is essential for effectively countering the threat of trafficking in persons and other contemporary forms of slavery,

Recognizing that victims of trafficking are often subject to multiple forms of discrimination and violence, including on the grounds of gender, age, disability, ethnicity, culture and religion, as well as national or social origin, and that these forms of discrimination may themselves fuel trafficking in persons, and that women and children without nationality or without birth registration are particularly vulnerable to trafficking in persons,

Recognizing also the important role of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons in fostering coordination and cooperation in the global fight against trafficking in persons, in particular the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Children’s Fund, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), the International Labour Organization, the International Organization for Migration and other intergovernmental organizations, within their existing mandates,

⁶ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2011, Supplement No. 10 (E/2011/30)*, chap. I, sect. D.

⁷ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53 and corrigendum (A/67/53 and Corr.1)*, chap. IV, sect. A.

⁸ Human Rights Council resolutions 8/12, 11/3, 14/2 and 17/1.

Recognizing further the need to continue fostering a global partnership against trafficking in persons and other contemporary forms of slavery and the need to continue to work towards an enhanced comprehensive and coordinated approach to prevent and combat trafficking and to protect and assist victims of trafficking in persons through the appropriate national, regional and international mechanisms,

Stressing the need to promote and protect the rights of victims of trafficking in persons and to reintegrate victims into the community by taking into account the Recommended Principles and Guidelines on Human Rights and Human Trafficking⁹ and the commentary thereon developed by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, as well as the Guidelines on the Protection of Child Victims of Trafficking developed by the United Nations Children's Fund,

Recognizing that poverty, unemployment, lack of socioeconomic opportunities, gender-based violence, discrimination and marginalization are some of the contributing factors that make persons vulnerable to trafficking in persons,

Recognizing also that the ongoing global economic crises and increasing inequalities and social exclusion and their consequences are likely to further aggravate the conditions that render people and communities vulnerable to trafficking in persons and the smuggling of migrants,

Affirming that capacity-building is a very important component in combating trafficking in persons, and in this regard stressing the need to intensify international cooperation to combat trafficking in persons, as well as technical assistance for countries aimed at strengthening their ability to prevent all forms of trafficking, including supporting their development programmes,

Aware of the need to raise public awareness with the aim of eliminating the demand for trafficking in persons, in particular for the purpose of sexual exploitation and forced labour,

Reaffirming the commitment made by world leaders at the Millennium Summit, the 2005 World Summit and the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals, held in 2010, to devise, enforce and strengthen effective measures to combat and eliminate all forms of trafficking in persons, to counter the demand for trafficked victims and to protect the victims,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the mandates of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, with particular reference to the technical cooperation activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,¹⁰ which focuses, inter alia, on issues of trafficking in persons,

Welcoming the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on trafficking in persons, especially women and children,¹¹

Taking note of the outcomes of the sixth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, held in Vienna from 15 to 19 October 2012,¹² and the outcomes of the fourth session of the Working Group on Trafficking in Persons, held in Vienna from 10 to 12 October 2011,¹³

⁹ E/2002/68/Add.1.

¹⁰ A/67/156.

¹¹ A/67/261.

¹² See CTOC/COP/2012/15.

¹³ See CTOC/COP/WG.4/2011/8.

Reaffirming the importance of humanitarian, legal and financial aid to victims of trafficking in persons, including through governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, including the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, established in compliance with the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons, as well as the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery,

Welcoming the interactive dialogue of the General Assembly on the theme “Fighting human trafficking: partnership and innovation to end violence against women and girls”, held in New York on 3 April 2012, which provided an opportunity for Member States, international organizations, civil society and the private sector to unite as one in the global fight against trafficking in persons,

Welcoming also the signing, ratification and accession by a number of Member States in the period from 2010 to 2012 to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, which brings the number of parties to 172, and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, which brings the number of parties to 153,

1. *Affirms* that trafficking in persons violates and impairs the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms and requires a concerted international assessment and response and genuine multilateral cooperation among countries of origin, transit and destination for its eradication;

2. *Urges* Member States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to, as a matter of priority, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime¹ and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,² taking into consideration the central role of those instruments in the fight against trafficking in persons, and also urges States parties to those instruments to implement them fully and effectively;

3. *Also urges* Member States that have not yet done so to sign and ratify or accede to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography,³ the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,⁴ the Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade, and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery,⁴ and the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29),¹⁵ the Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957 (No. 105)¹⁶ and the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182),¹⁷ of the International Labour Organization, and also urges States parties to those instruments to implement them fully and effectively;

4. *Notes with appreciation* the steps taken by human rights treaty bodies and the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, the Special Rapporteur of the Council on violence against women, its causes and consequences, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children, the Special Rapporteur of the Council on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography and the

¹⁴ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

¹⁵ *Ibid.*, vol. 39, No. 612.

¹⁶ *Ibid.*, vol. 320, No. 4648.

¹⁷ *Ibid.*, vol. 2133, No. 37245.

Special Rapporteur of the Council on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences, and United Nations agencies and other concerned intergovernmental and governmental organizations, within their existing mandates, as well as civil society, to address the serious crime of trafficking in persons, and encourages them to continue doing so and to share their knowledge and best practices as widely as possible;

5. *Calls upon* Governments to continue their efforts to criminalize trafficking in persons in all its forms, including for labour exploitation and sexual exploitation of children, to take measures to criminalize child sex tourism, to condemn the practice of trafficking in persons and to investigate, prosecute, condemn and penalize traffickers and intermediaries while providing protection and assistance to the victims of trafficking with full respect for their human rights, and invites Member States to continue to support those United Nations agencies and international organizations that are actively involved in victim protection;

6. *Encourages* all stakeholders, including the private sector, to strengthen the coordination of efforts to prevent and combat trafficking and to protect, assist and provide effective remedies to the victims of trafficking, including through the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons and regional and bilateral initiatives that promote cooperation and collaboration;

7. *Recognizes* the importance of comparable data disaggregated by type of trafficking in persons, including sex and age, as well as of strengthening national capacity for gathering, analysing and reporting such data, and welcomes the efforts of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group, drawing on the comparative advantages of the respective agencies, to share information, experiences and good practices on anti-trafficking activities of the partner agencies with Governments, other international and regional organizations, non-governmental organizations and other relevant bodies;

8. *Acknowledges* the important work on data collection and analysis conducted by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime under its Global Programme against Trafficking in Human Beings, by the International Organization for Migration through its Global Counter-Trafficking Module database and by the International Labour Organization through its global database on forced labour, trafficking and slavery-like practice;

9. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to provide the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme with sufficient resources for the full implementation of its mandates on combating trafficking in persons, in conformity with its high priorities, and to provide adequate support to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and invites Member States to make voluntary contributions to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime for the purpose of providing assistance to Member States upon request;

10. *Welcomes* the work done by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and expresses its full support for its activities in fighting trafficking in persons, and looks forward to the launch, within existing resources, of the report on global patterns in trafficking in persons, produced by the Office, as called for by the General Assembly in resolution 64/293, at United Nations Headquarters no later than January 2013;

11. *Invites* States and all other relevant stakeholders to continue contributing to the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, and acknowledges previous and ongoing contributions to other funding sources that support efforts to combat trafficking in persons;

12. *Recalls* its decision to conduct, in 2013, an appraisal of the progress achieved in the implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons,¹⁸ and therefore decides to convene, within existing resources, a high-level meeting of the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session, no later than July 2013, in order to assess achievements, gaps and challenges, including in the implementation of the relevant legal instruments;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in close cooperation with Member States, to take all necessary measures to arrange the high-level meeting, and invites the President of the General Assembly to appoint two co-facilitators to assist him in conducting open-ended informal consultations with Member States with a view to determining the modalities of the meeting, including on the participation of international, regional and subregional organizations, as well as civil society, including non-governmental organizations, the private sector and the media, whose role is emphasized in the Global Plan of Action;

14. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to prepare a summary of the high-level meeting;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue, within existing reporting obligations, the practice of including a section on the implementation by the United Nations system of the Global Plan of Action in his report to the General Assembly under the item on crime prevention and criminal justice, and further requests the Secretary-General to include therein a section on the implementation of the present resolution, bearing in mind the scope of previous reports on this issue.¹⁹

*60th plenary meeting
20 December 2012*

¹⁸ Resolution 64/293.

¹⁹ A/63/90, A/64/130 and A/65/113.

13 May 2013

**Statement of H.E. Mr. Vuk Jeremić,
President of the 67th Session of the General Assembly,
at the High-level Meeting on the Appraisal of the Global Plan of
Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons**

Mr. Secretary-General,
Mr. Executive Director of UNODC,
Your Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It gives me a great pleasure to welcome you to the High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Appraisal of the Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons.

At the onset of my remarks, allow me to pay special tribute to the survivors, who are joining us here today.

Their courage commands profound respect, and their fortitude should be a source of inspiration for us all.

We highly appreciate your taking part in the afternoon panel discussions, together with some of the world's foremost activists—men and women who have devoted their careers to bringing to an end this appalling form of modern-day slavery.

I am indebted to our co-facilitators for this event, the Permanent Representative of Austria, H.E. Mr. Martin Sajdik, and the Permanent Representative of Cape Verde, H.E. Mr. Antonio Pedro Monteiro Lima. Gentlemen, I wholeheartedly thank you for your dedication and hard work.

I would also like to acknowledge the essential role of UNODC, and its Executive Director Mr. Yury Fedotov, in helping us organize today's meeting, and for their ongoing role in coordinating the international community's response to human trafficking.

Last but not least, I would also like to express my appreciation to Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon for his strong leadership in the fight against this heinous crime, and for his robust support for the implementation of the Plan of Action.

Excellencies,

Human trafficking has developed into a global criminal enterprise that generates an estimated 32 billion U.S. dollars in illicit revenue per year.

Today, perhaps as many as 25 million persons are victims of this barbarity.

The Plan of Action was put in place by the General Assembly to bring it to an end.

It was designed to enhance international coordination to protect and assist victims, prosecute alleged perpetrators, and strengthen relevant partnerships between governments, civil society, media, and the private sector.

The Plan of Action also provides a framework for how the fight against human trafficking can be properly integrated into the UN's longer-term comprehensive strategy. I believe this should become an integral part of the post-2015 sustainable development agenda, which will undoubtedly frame much of the UN's work for decades to come.

Excellencies,

Virtually every nation across the globe has been exposed to this atrocious practice—whether as a country of origin, transit, or destination.

Resolution 67/190, which was adopted last December, indicates that despite sustained measures taken at the international, regional and national levels, trafficking in persons remains one of the world's grimmest challenges.

This was also a central conclusion of the Interactive Dialogue on the Prevention of Human Trafficking, held in the General Assembly last April.

It underscored the fact that a more concerted and comprehensive global response is required if we are to address what one victims' rights advocate called a 'pandemic', in a more effective manner.

Today's high-level meeting provides us with an opportunity to examine how much progress has been achieved in building up the four pillars of the Plan of Action—namely Prevention, Protection, Prosecution, and Partnership—as well as explore ways to strengthen the role and capacity of UNODC in helping to implement it.

Participants will also have a chance to present concrete ideas about how to improve international cooperation in this field. In addition, they will be able to consider how to improve the effectiveness of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons, which was established by this body during the 61st Session.

As President of the General Assembly, allow me to extend an appeal not only to Member States, but also to philanthropic organizations as well as to the private sector, to increase their support for the UN Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children. Created by the Secretary-General as a result of a General Assembly resolution, it provides indispensable

humanitarian, legal, and financial aid for those most directly affected by this modern-day version of slavery.

Excellencies,

I believe we must place the victims of human trafficking at the center of our work.

No effort must be spared to bring to an end the servitude of millions, while helping the survivors rebuild their lives.

To achieve this, law enforcement officials, border control officers, labor inspectors, consular and embassy officials, judges and prosecutors, as well as peacekeepers, must not only increase their vigilance, but be further sensitized to the needs of victims. They should also come to work more closely with social service providers and other care-givers.

Excellencies,

In the last few years, one hundred and fifty-four Member States have become party to the United Nations Protocol to Prevent, Suppress, and Punish Traffickers in Persons, especially Women and Children—the first global, legally-binding instrument on this critically important issue.

I respectfully urge the Member States which have not yet done so to ratify it at the earliest opportunity. In coming to the end of my remarks, allow me to express my gratitude to Ms. Mira Sorvino, the UN's Goodwill Ambassador against Human Trafficking, for her efforts to rid the world of this atrocious practice.

On June 6th, 2012—two days before I was elected President of the General Assembly—I had the privilege of hearing her speak in this Great Hall, at the invitation of my predecessor as PGA, His Excellency Mr. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser.

She talked of the survivors she had met over the course of her work, recalling harrowing stories of their terrible ordeals.

Near the end of her remarks, she made a heartfelt appeal to the audience: “I hope that all of you here present will generate a sea change in your own countries, and help bring human trafficking to an end in our lifetime.”

Let us wholeheartedly support this earnest entreaty, and have it become our clarion call to action.

Let us stand as one on this issue, and purge the globe of this horrendous affront to human dignity.

Thank you for your attention.

High-level Meeting of the Group on the Appraisal of the progress achieved in the implementation of the Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons
New York, 13 May 2013

"Chk~k against delivery

Mr. President,

Three years ago we adopted the Global Plan of Action, reaffirming our resolve to continue our fight against human trafficking, as one of the most shameful manifestations of criminal activities. It is indeed highly regrettable that, as confirmed by the Global Report on Trafficking in Persons, trafficking in human beings is still estimated to be globally the fastest growing criminal activity in the world, which also results in gross violations of human rights and the dignity of the victims. We therefore welcome the convening of this High Level Meeting, which gives all opportunity to review the implementation of the Global Plan of Action.

Albania supported the establishment, through the Global Plan of Action, of a Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims, which provides for small grants to organizations helping survivors of trafficking in persons. As one of the countries in which frontline NGOs have benefited from the Trust Fund, we invite Member States to continue their contribution to the Fund. As one of the key outcomes of the Global Plan of Action, we would like to also thank the WODC for the comprehensive Global Report on Trafficking in Persons released last December. The report rightly points out several positive aspects on the progress made globally from the entry into force of the Palermo Protocol in 2003, such as the criminalisation of trafficking in line with the Protocol, by now 134 countries.

We are however extremely concerned on the worrying findings of the report concerning the increase in child and girl victims; which we believe represent a strong call for urgent action from the Member States, the United Nations, regional organisations, civil society and other stakeholders. The Republic of Albania remains strongly committed to the implementation of the Palermo Protocol and the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings.

The Albanian legal system defines trafficking as being first and foremost a violation of human rights and an assault to the dignity and integrity of the human being. In line with the Palermo Protocol and the Council of Europe Convention our approach to trafficking is based on human rights of the victims and it focuses on prevention, prosecution of perpetrators and protection of victims. With a view of addressing current trends in human trafficking in a holistic and comprehensive way, the improvement of legal and policy framework is currently under further consideration,

We are also aware that trafficking in human beings occurs both, within and across borders, the latter including crossing sometimes many borders to reach the final destination. Trafficking in human beings is often a transnational criminal activity perpetrated by organised networks which, typically, are mobile and adapt rapidly to change by redeploying. Collective actions are therefore a must to successfully combat human trafficking and we remain committed to increasing regional and international cooperation and also strengthen partnerships. In this context during 2012 our law enforcement agencies successfully conducted 11 joint operations with agencies from several countries across Europe, all of which resulting in prosecution processes against the perpetrators. Actual trends in the Republic of Albania show that during 2012 there has been a decline in the number of detected victims of trafficking; however there has been a significant increase in the number of detected foreign citizens trying to illegally transit the country towards the countries of Western Europe. To tackle the new trends the Office of the Coordinator against human trafficking is continuing the training of the Border Police personnel, aiming at a specialised timely detection of any possible victim of trafficking among foreign citizens and providing necessary protection.

Concluding we would like to reiterate that every country is affected by human trafficking in different forms. It is therefore our hope that this meeting will provide for increased cooperation, coordination and sharing of best practices among different actors engaged in combating this gruesome reality of the modern day slavery.

I thank you,



ASAMBLEA GENERAL

*Intervención de la Dra. Paula Honisch
Directora Nacional de Articulación y Enlace del Ministerio de Seguridad*

Reunión de Alto Nivel sobre la evaluación del Plan de Acción Mundial de Lucha
contra la Trata de Personas

Nueva York, 14 de mayo de 2013
Sírvasse verificar contra lectura



Misión Permanente de la
República Argentina
Naciones Unidas

Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores y Culto

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Statement by Dr. Paula Honisch
National Director of Coordination and Liaison of the Ministry of Security

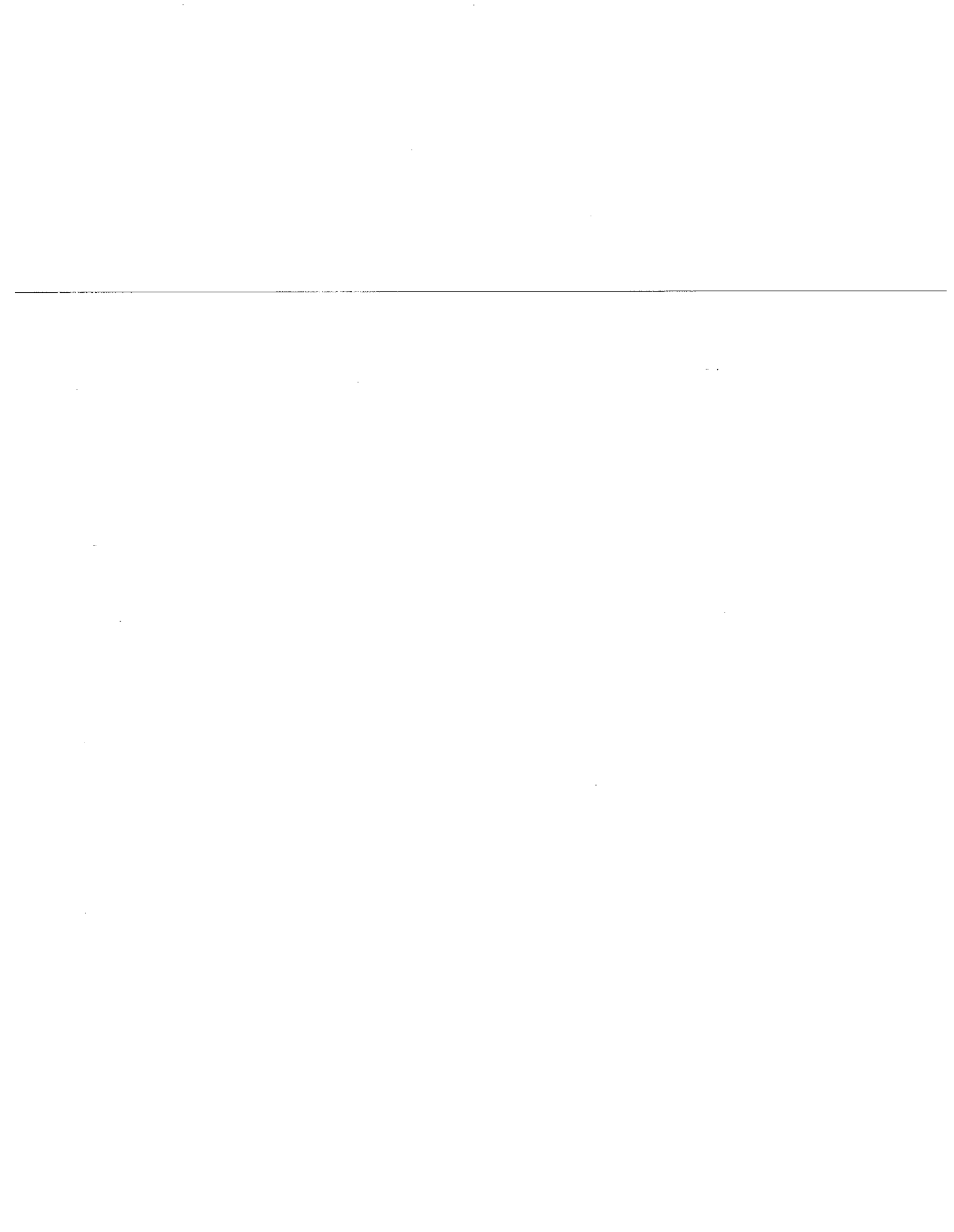
High Level Meeting on the appraisal of the Global Plan of Action to Combat
Trafficking in Persons

New York, 14 May 2013
Please check against delivery



Permanent Mission of
Argentine Republic
United Nations

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship



Muy buenos días a todos y a todas. Quiero, en primer lugar, agradecer en nombre del Estado Argentino la convocatoria de la Organización de las Naciones Unidas para participar de este nuevo encuentro que nos insta a seguir trabajando mancomunadamente en el combate de la trata de personas. Es una enorme satisfacción para mí estar hoy aquí con ustedes, en el diálogo directo con quienes diariamente se comprometen en la lucha contra este delito tan cruel, en todas sus formas, como es la trata de personas.

La Argentina asigna una alta prioridad a la lucha contra la trata de personas. La persecución de este delito se inscribe en el respeto de los derechos humanos y las libertades fundamentales de todos los habitantes del territorio nacional, independientemente de su condición migratoria. La normativa argentina prohíbe la criminalización de las víctimas, su deportación y su alojamiento en establecimientos policiales o penitenciarios, y el gobierno nacional ha establecido diversos mecanismos e instituciones para luchar contra la trata y asistir a sus víctimas.

La Argentina apoya activamente la labor que desarrolla la UNODC en la lucha contra la trata de personas.

A su vez, entendemos que la convención de Palermo sobre delincuencia organizada transnacional y su Protocolo Complementario para Prevenir, Reprimir y Sancionar la Trata de Personas, así como la conferencia de las partes y el grupo de trabajo sobre trata creado por ella constituyen el marco jurídico e institucional internacional de referencia para cooperar internacionalmente en la lucha contra este flagelo

En el año 2008, la República Argentina ha sancionado la Ley N° 26.364 de Prevención y Sanción de la Trata de Personas y Asistencia a sus Víctimas, que recepta ampliamente en el derecho interno los lineamientos establecidos en el Protocolo de Palermo. En lo que tiene que ver con la tipificación del delito, a través de esa ley se incorporó directamente al código penal –y no en una ley especial- el delito de trata y el tráfico ilícito de migrantes.

Esa norma fue recientemente modificada, recogiendo los reclamos formulados por distintos sectores de la sociedad y diferentes operadores que venían trabajando en la implementación de la Ley, como también muchas de las recomendaciones establecidas en la ley modelo contra la trata de personas elaborada por la Oficina de las Naciones Unidas contra la Droga y el Delito.

Los tres objetivos que se buscó con la reforma normativa, fueron: 1) garantizar la persecución eficaz del delito de trata de personas y sus delitos conexos; 2) garantizar la protección integral de las víctimas y 3) establecer mecanismos de coordinación que aseguren la actuación articulada de los diversos actores que deben intervenir. Para esos fines, se creó el Consejo Federal y un Comité Ejecutivo para la Lucha contra la Trata y Explotación de Personas y para la Protección y Asistencia a las Víctimas; quienes deberán elaborar el Plan Nacional.

Respecto de la reforma normativa, uno de los grandes cambios introducidos consiste en la eliminación del valor del “consentimiento” de la víctima, tanto mayor como menor de edad, para la configuración del delito de trata de personas, plasmando la idea de que “nadie consiente voluntariamente en el sufrimiento y la explotación que supone la trata de personas”.

La ley argentina, a su vez, garantiza a la víctima de los delitos de trata y a las víctimas de explotación una **asistencia integral**, a las que tienen derecho a acceder con absoluta prescindencia de su condición de denunciante o querellante en el proceso penal, y consagra la **no punibilidad** de la víctima de trata por los delitos que ésta pudiese haber cometido durante su explotación.

En este sentido, el Estado argentino adoptó una política amplia y comprometida con los derechos migratorios que le asisten a las personas víctimas de la trata, teniendo en consideración el estado de marginalidad y vulnerabilidad en que se encuentran. En virtud de ello, a las víctimas extranjeras que así lo deseen, se les brinda la posibilidad de establecerse en nuestro país, y se les otorga la documentación para hacerlo, sin que exista ningún periodo de reflexión. Además, cuando la persona decide retornar a su lugar de origen, el Estado argentino no solo financia el traslado, sino que un funcionario se ocupa, en forma personal, de contactar a su par en asistencia en el lugar de retorno y constatar que la víctima arribe sin problemas.

La asistencia a las víctimas ha sido un paradigma irrevocable del Estado argentino. Tanto la asistencia inmediata como la mediata son brindadas íntegramente por el Estado, de forma completa y gratuita, a través de organismos especializados en la materia que trabajan de forma articulada y secuencial, como ser el Programa nacional de acompañamiento a las víctimas del delito de trata de personas, del Ministerio de Justicia y Derechos Humanos de la Nación y en una etapa posterior, mediante la intervención de la Secretaría Nacional de Niñez, Adolescencia y Familia (SENAF).

Por otro lado, el Estado Argentino entiende que no es posible diseñar políticas eficaces para combatir este delito si no se cuenta con información confiable que permita diagnosticar el estado de situación y la medición del impacto de

las políticas que se implementan. Por ello, se ha creado el SISTEMA INTEGRADO DE INFORMACION CRIMINAL DEL DELITO DE TRATA DE PERSONAS (SISTRATA) que funciona en el ámbito del Ministerio De Seguridad de la Nación. De acuerdo al SISTRATA desde la sanción de la ley en el año 2008 se han rescatado más de 4500 víctimas de trata y delitos conexos, de las cuales casi 3600 fueron rescatadas en los dos últimos años; lo que coincide con la creación de un Ministerio de Seguridad.

El mayor incremento en el rescate entendemos que es consecuencia del éxito de las campañas impulsadas, que han permitido, entre otras cosas, la desnaturalización de prácticas que nada de naturales tienen.

En esta línea, cabe mencionar, por un lado, que también se ha trabajado en la creación y difusión de **canales de denuncia** para que el ciudadano pueda dar a conocer, de manera gratuita y anónima, hechos delictuales. Cualquiera sea el canal que el ciudadano elija, el Estado se ha organizado para llevar una gestión uniforme de esos hechos a través del Ministerio de Seguridad, que trabaja articuladamente con la fiscalía especializada en la investigación de este delito.

Por el otro, que por decisión directa de la Presidencia de la Nación se **prohibieron los avisos que promuevan la oferta sexual** o hagan explícita o implícita referencia a la solicitud de personas destinadas al comercio sexual, por cualquier medio, medida de orden concreto que se inscribe en la línea de la paulatina eliminación de todas las formas de discriminación contra las mujeres.

Asimismo, creemos que estos resultados también son consecuencia de la amplia capacitación que se le ha dado a distintos actores de la sociedad civil y a todas las áreas estratégicas del Estado, entre las que cabe mencionar a jueces y fiscales, oficinas consulares, agentes migratorios y agentes que integran las distintas fuerzas de seguridad.

Conforme surge del Plan Global, el Estado Argentino ha adoptado una actitud de **proactividad**, es decir, de generar herramientas que permitan la detección temprana del caso (incluso antes de que la explotación de las personas se concrete). Para esos fines ha diseñado distintas herramientas, como ser: el protocolo para la detección temprana de casos de trata en rutas y en pasos fronterizos (este último documento dio lugar a la aprobación de la guía de actuación para la detección temprana en el marco del MERCOSUR), el protocolo para la toma de denuncias, el protocolo para la asistencia de víctimas, y el protocolo para la realización de inspecciones laborales (el que está siendo diseñado para mejorar la planificación e implementación de las inspecciones, incrementando las posibilidades de detección de situaciones de explotación).

Las redes de crimen organizado constituyen, en muchos casos, verdaderas empresas transnacionales y su desarticulación resulta impracticable sin la realización de operaciones combinadas con fuerzas de seguridad de países de la región. Por ello el Estado argentino ha extendido las acciones de cooperación a un nivel regional e internacional, en especial a nivel de MERCOSUR y recientemente también se ha avanzado con el diseño de líneas de trabajo específicas en el marco de la UNASUR. Ello, sin perjuicio de que también se han celebrado convenios de cooperación específicos sobre el tema con países de la región.

Desde la sanción de la ley de prevención y sanción de la trata de personas y asistencia a sus víctimas, y de la creación de un Fiscalía especializada en el delito de trata de personas, en el año 2008 (PROTEX), hasta la actualidad, mas de 100 personas han sido condenadas por el delito de trata con fines de explotación tanto sexual como laboral y casi 500 se encuentran procesadas, lo cual evidencia el compromiso de todas las áreas del Estado por combatir este delito con toda la fuerza de la ley.

La realización de este debate demuestra el largo camino recorrido por la comunidad internacional en el reconocimiento de esta problemática y la necesidad de cooperar internacionalmente involucrando a todos los actores relevantes. Pero la lucha contra la trata, tanto a nivel nacional como internacional, no debe limitarse a las respuestas penales o la asistencia a las víctimas, sino debe abordar también como tema prioritario las causas de la trata, en especial las situaciones de desigualdad social y de género.

I thank, firstly, on behalf of the Argentine Government the convening of the United Nations to participate in this new meeting that urges us to continue working together in the combat of trafficking in persons. It is a great satisfaction for me to be here with you today, in direct dialogue with those who daily engage in the fight against this crime so cruel, in all its forms, such as trafficking in persons.

Argentina assigns a high priority to the fight against trafficking in persons. Prosecution of this crime is part of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms of all inhabitants of the national territory, regardless of their immigration status. Argentine legislation forbids the criminalization of victims, their deportation and their accommodation in police or prison establishments, and the national Government has established various mechanisms and institutions to combat trafficking and assist its victims.

Argentina actively supports the work that develops the UNODC in combating trafficking in persons and seeks to strengthen the approach to trafficking in persons as a crime incompatible with respect for human rights and the dignity of persons; and the conception of the person subject to trafficking as a victim - and the consequent promotion of measures - particularly awareness-raising and prevention, aimed at society in general, as the potential victims, but also as subjects that contribute to this criminal dynamics, through the consumption of human trafficking (both sexual and labor).

We understand that the Palermo Convention on transnational organized crime and its Supplementary Protocol to prevent, Suppress and punish trafficking in persons, as well as the Conference of the parties and the Working Group on trafficking created by it constitute the international legal and institutional framework of reference for international cooperation in the fight against this scourge

In 2008, the Republic of Argentina has sanctioned the law N ° 26.364 prevention and punishment of trafficking in people and assistance to its victims, which includes widely in domestic law the guidelines set out in the Palermo Protocol. That standard was recently amended by law N ° 26.842, who has picked up several of the claims made by various sectors of society and different operators who were working on the implementation of the law, and also model many of the recommendations set forth in the law against trafficking in persons developed by the United Nations Office on drugs and crime.

The three objectives sought by the reform, were: 1) to ensure the effective prosecution of the crime of trafficking and its related crimes, modifying the rules already laid down; 2) to ensure the protection of victims and 3) to establish coordination mechanisms that ensure the articulated action of the various actors which should intervene. For these purposes, a Federal Council and an Executive Committee for the fight against trafficking and exploitation of persons and for the protection and assistance to victims were created; these bodies are charged with the task of developing a national plan.

One of the major changes involves the removal of the value of the "consent" of the victim, both adults and minors, for the configuration of the crime of trafficking in persons, expressing the idea of "anyone agree voluntarily suffering and exploitation it involves trafficking in persons". I.e., the involvement of the consent is no longer a requirement for the characterization of the conduct. If consent was absent or if the trafficker had utilized one of the means provided for in the Protocol of Palermo, an aggravated case of trafficking in persons (with a sentence of 8 to 15 years) will then be configured.

Argentine law, in turn, guarantees to the victim of the crimes of trafficking and victims of exploitation a comprehensive assistance, which have right of access absolute irrespective of their status as complainant or complainant in the criminal process, and establishes the non-punishability of victim of trafficking for crimes that this could have committed during its exploitation.

In this regard, the Argentine Government adopted a broad policy committed to migrant rights that assist persons victims of trafficking, taking into consideration the State of marginalization and vulnerability in which they are. Under this, foreign victims who so wish, are given the possibility of settling in our country, and documentation are granted to do so, with no period of reflection. In addition, when the person decides to return to their place of origin, the Argentine State not only finances the transfer, but that an official personally contact his counterpart in attendance at the place of return and verify that the victim arrives without problems.

Assistance to the victims has been an irrevocable paradigm of the Argentine State. Both the mediate and immediate assistance are provided entirely by the State, of full and free of charge, through specialized agencies which work articulated and sequentially, such as the national accompanying programme to the victims of the crime of trafficking in persons, Ministry of Justice and human rights of the nation and at a later stage, through the intervention of the National Secretariat for childhood, adolescence and family (SENAF). These national bodies are also working to strengthen the capacity of provinces so that comprehensive assistance to victims may also occur locally.

On the other hand, the Argentine Government understands that it is not possible to design effective policies to combat this crime if there is no reliable information that allows diagnosing the situation and measuring the impact of the policies that are implemented. For this reason, has been created the system integrated of information CRIMINAL's crime of trafficking in people (SISTATA) that works in

the field of the security of the Ministry of. According to the SISTRATA since passage of the law in 2008 will have rescued more than 4500 victims of trafficking and related offences, of which almost 3600 were rescued in the last two years; which coincides with the creation of a Ministry of security.

The greatest increase in the rescue understand that it is a consequence of the success of driven campaigns, which have allowed, among other things, the de-naturalization of practices that are nothing but natural.

In this line, we can mention the creation and dissemination of complaint channels so that the citizen can report, freely and anonymously, instances of trafficking. Whatever channel chosen the citizen, the State has been organized to bring uniform management of those facts through the Ministry of security, which works jointly with the Prosecutor's office specializing in the investigation of this crime.

By express decision of the Presidency announcements in the media that promote sexual offer or make explicit or implicit reference to the request of people destined for the sex trade, by any means, are forbidden. This is an example of concrete measure which follows the line of the gradual elimination of all forms of discrimination against women.

In addition, we believe that these results are also a consequence of the extensive training that has been given to different actors of civil society and all strategic areas of the State, among which judges and prosecutors, consular, immigration agents and different security forces.

As it arises from the Global Plan, the Argentine Government has adopted a proactive attitude, i.e. generating tools that allow early detection of the case (even before the exploitation of persons is realized). For these purposes has designed several tools, such as: the Protocol for early detection of cases of trafficking routes and border crossings (this document resulted in the adoption of the guide of action for early detection in the framework of the MERCOSUR), the Protocol for making complaints (in such a way that any official be able to detect a case and manage it properly), Protocol for the support of victims, and the Protocol for labour inspections (which is being designed by different state areas in a way just to improve the planning and implementation of inspections, increasing the chances of detection of situations of exploitation).

Organized crime networks are, in many cases, transnational organizations and its dismantling is impracticable without the realization of combined operations with security forces of countries in the region. For this reason the Argentine State has extended cooperation actions at a regional and international level, in particular at the level of MERCOSUR and recently also has advanced with the design of specific lines of work in the framework of UNASUR. This without prejudice to that specific cooperation agreements on the subject with countries in the region were also held.

Since the enactment of the law for the prevention and punishment of trafficking in persons and assistance to its victims, and the creation of a public prosecutor's office specializing in the crime of trafficking in persons, in 2008 (PROTEX) - whose areas of intervention are focused on research, training, information analysis and follow-up of court cases, - more than 100 people have been convicted and almost 500 are processed, which demonstrates the commitment of all the areas of the State to combat this crime with all the force of law.

We are convinced that all, from the place where us performances, as national or international bodies such as citizens, as parents and teachers, we have an obligation to do everything in our power. Under this premise, we are working from the Argentine Government, and we are convinced that these spaces reinforce those commitments.

**Statement by H.E. Mr. Armen Gevorkian,
Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Territorial Administration of the Republic of Armenia
at the High Level Meeting
of the United Nations General Assembly
on Global Plan of Action against Trafficking in Persons**

Mr. President,
Mr. Secretary General
Excellences,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

First of all I would like to thank the President of the General Assembly for organizing this important event.

I would also like to thank the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) for their work in the field of fight against trafficking in persons. Armenia was among the countries which from the very beginning supported the adoption of UN Global Plan of Action against Trafficking in persons. It is worthy to mention that most of the actions foreseen by Global Plan are implemented by Armenia within its national programs.

Armenian Government declared fight against human trafficking as a priority more than a decade ago and during these years initiated reforms on national level as well as widely cooperated with all International Organizations active in the field. My country carries out productive cooperation with the said Organizations and takes consistent steps in order to fully implement the undertaken international commitments.

The Republic of Armenia has adopted all the international and regional legal documents of UN, Council of Europe, International Labour Organization (ILO) that are related to combating trafficking in human beings.

All the anti-trafficking activities implemented in Armenia are supervised by the State Council to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings. The structural approach is based on establishing collaboration among all the agencies and stakeholders dealing with the phenomenon. The Council highly appreciates the work of relevant NGOs and International Organizations present in Armenia. The anti-trafficking activities implemented in Armenia are based on 3P approach - prevention, prosecution, protection and their correlations.

The main goal of the first and second National Action Plans was to create the required legislative framework along with the implementation of preventive activities, carrying out assistance and protection projects for the victims of trafficking. Since 2010 the activities are mainly aimed at maximum enhancement of the state's efforts especially in the spheres of prevention and assistance, through establishing and strengthening the necessary structural, sub-legislative, financial basis, as well as through capacity building of the players active in the area.

During the last decade Armenia has drastically improved its national legislation in order to increase the effectiveness of its efforts towards combating all types of trafficking in persons. The amended Criminal Code, new laws and regulations allowed for a more complete and stricter oversight in this field, including prosecution of traffickers, as well as assistance to the victims of trafficking.

In the field of victims' protection the National Referral Mechanism for Trafficked Persons has been approved by the Government of Armenia. That document defines the cooperation framework through which the state governance bodies carry out their responsibilities related to protection and enhancement of the trafficked persons' rights, ensuring strategic collaboration with the civil society in the course of their activities. The National Referral Mechanism focuses on identifying an effective way for providing services to the victims of trafficking, including those related to provision of shelter, access to professional medical and psychological assistance, consultancy, educational or training programs.

By saying that, I would like to stress our deep conviction that the rights of victims of this terrible crime should be in the center of all anti-trafficking initiatives. That is why my Government is trying to apply the victim-oriented and victim-centered approach while designing its relevant national initiatives as well as while cooperating with other countries, in particular, with countries of destination.

One of the most important directions which are on highest agenda today in Armenia is combating child trafficking – unacceptable and new challenge for my country. Another, also relatively new direction is labor trafficking. Now my country is initiating the research process in order to identify the root causes, trends and real scale/extension of these problems.

The Government of Armenia has a strong commitment to continue its efforts both on national and international levels and in this respect I would also like to thank our international partners for supporting anti-trafficking activities implemented by Armenia.

In conclusion, Mr. President, allow me to empathize the importance of a close cooperation among countries on regional and international levels in order to achieve greater progress in implementation and further development of respective provisions of the UN Global Plan of Action against Trafficking in persons.

Thank you.

AUSTRALIAN MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

E-mail australia@un.int

150 East 42nd Street, New York NY 10017-5612 Ph 212 - 3516600 Fax 212 - 3516610 www.AustraliaUN.org

General Assembly

Monday, 13 May 2013

High Level Meeting on the appraisal of the Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking at the United Nations General Assembly

Statement by HE Gary Quinlan
Ambassador and Permanent Representative
of Australia to the United Nations

(Check against delivery)

Thank you, Mr President for convening this high level meeting on the appraisal of the Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons. It provides an important opportunity for us to assess our achievements, and to address ongoing challenges, in our global efforts to combat trafficking. Thank you also to Belarus, Austria and Cape Verde for their leadership.

Human trafficking and related exploitative practices are abhorrent crimes. Around the world, slavery, servitude and forced labour are the daily reality

for many millions of people. It is a deeply dehumanising practice from which no country is immune.

Australia is supportive of all global efforts to combat trafficking, and the UN's Global Plan of Action is an important initiative in this regard. We welcome the UN Office on Drugs and Crime's Global Report on Trafficking in Persons as an important outcome of the Global Plan of Action, that is helping to build our understanding of the patterns and flows of human trafficking, and to inform our global efforts.

Combating human trafficking requires a comprehensive response targeting activities across the trafficking cycle. Australia is working domestically, regionally and internationally in our collaborative efforts to address human trafficking. Since 2003, Australia has committed more than \$150 million to these efforts.

Our international efforts must support the full and effective implementation of the *United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime* and its Trafficking Protocol, which serve as the primary, legally binding international instruments for combating human trafficking. Australia strongly encourages States that have not yet done so to ratify and fully implement these instruments .

Strong criminal justice responses are critical to deterrence and prevention. Domestically, Australia has in place strong anti-trafficking laws with severe penalties, including for offences relating to slavery, slavery-like practices and trafficking in persons. We continue to work to strengthen these.

The Australian Parliament recently passed new legislation to enhance the capacity of investigators and prosecutors to address human trafficking. We broadened the scope of exploitative behaviour that is captured and criminalised under the law, and introduced new offences for forced marriage, harbouring a victim, forced labour and organ trafficking.

On 8 March, Prime Minister Gillard announced a new Anti-Slavery Initiative to address labour exploitation in business and Government procurement. This strategy aims to ensure no company tainted by human trafficking, slavery or forced labour anywhere in the supply chain can provide goods or services to the Government.

Regional efforts are also critical. Across the Asia-Pacific, Australia funds activities to combat human trafficking and to help build the capacity of States to meet their international obligations. In November 2012, Prime Minister Gillard announced a \$50 million investment to establish the *Australia-Asia Program to Combat Trafficking in Persons*. This Program will provide technical assistance in Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Myanmar, the Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam to help strengthen criminal justice capacities in South-East Asia.

Australia also co-Chairs with Indonesia the Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime - the preeminent regional body in the Asia-Pacific to address human trafficking, strengthen criminal justice responses, and provide protection and services support to survivors.

Of course, addressing the root causes that make people vulnerable to trafficking, including social and economic opportunity, is fundamental. The Global Report on Trafficking lays bare the critical gender dimensions of human trafficking, with women and girls accounting for over 70 percent of those trafficked. More must be done in the areas of protection, and service support to survivors.

Building on our contribution last year of \$200,000 to the Global Voluntary Trust Fund, Australia is pleased to announce a further grant of \$70,000 to support on-the-ground humanitarian, legal and financial assistance to survivors, much of which is implemented by NGOs providing critical services on the ground.

Addressing transnational crimes of this scale of course requires Governments, civil society organisations, regional and international bodies, and the private sector to work together.

We look forward to continuing to work with other stakeholders on the Global Plan of Action and other international efforts to address this heinous crime.

Thank you, Mr President.

AUSTRIA



PERMANENT MISSION OF AUSTRIA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

Statement

by

Federal Minister of the Interior Johanna Mikl-Leitner

at the

**High-level meeting of the General Assembly on the
appraisal of the Global Plan of Action to combat Trafficking
in Persons**

New York, 13 May 2013

Check against delivery

Mr. President,
Mr. Secretary-General,
Executive Director of UNODC,
Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen!

It's my great pleasure to address you here at the UN General Assembly.

As we all know, Trafficking in Persons is a serious crime and a gross violation of human rights: Often, even young girls and boys are lured to other countries with false promises of a better future, and end up being physically and sexually exploited. And although victims seem to be "free" in many cases, they are nevertheless under heavy psychological pressure. Additionally, rape and beatings are commonly used in order to make these victims more submissive and to keep them under control. However, human trafficking does not only involve sexual exploitation, but also includes other forms of criminal actions, such as forced labour or illegal organ removals.

Unfortunately, like many other countries, Austria is both – a transit and targeted country for human trafficking. In 2012 more than 24,000 people were detected on the Austrian territory, while staying in Austria illegally. In comparison with 2011, this was a major increase by 15 %. And the very sad thing is that there were about 4,000 juveniles under the age of 18 among these victims of human trafficking. Additionally, as the identified victims of human trafficking found in Austria primarily come from Rumania, Bulgaria, Hungary, Moldavia and Nigeria, you can see that human trafficking is a problem within the EU as well as on an international level.

Austria's message is clear: We must not look away from any kind of abuse. We need to take joint actions to support and protect the victims from exploitation and we also need to compensate them for their suffering. In many cases police officers play a crucial role in identifying and freeing the victims that are trapped in this vicious cycle. Often, they are the first ones on site and stand face to face with the victims.

The Austrian Federal Ministry of the Interior is well aware of the essential role police officers play in combatting human trafficking: This is why one of our main goals is to provide further trainings and to enhance the knowledge and understanding of this

fundamental crime at the same time. A further priority in Austria's fight against trafficking in human beings is the set-up of a multilateral cooperation.

Subsequently, Austria is a party to all international legal instruments to combat human trafficking, in particular the "UN Convention on Transnational Organized Crime" and its "Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children".

In fact, the Protocol remains the cornerstone of all global action against Human Trafficking, as it currently includes 154 State Parties, and is therefore is a nearly universal ratification. Having been adopted by the General Assembly by consensus in 2010, the "Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons", has also been serving as a useful instrument in many ways. It has kept the issue of trafficking high up on the international agenda on the one hand. And it has moreover encouraged the further ratification and effective implementation of the Protocol.

Ladies and Gentlemen, looking at the increasing numbers of Protocol ratifications and requests for technical assistance on its implementation, we can see that the "Global Plan of Action" has certainly fulfilled its objective.

However, there are two other concrete and useful outcomes of the Global Plan of Action: I am first of all referring to the establishment of the Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking, which is managed by UNODC. Additionally, I would also like to highlight the mandate given to UNODC to conduct a Global Report on Trafficking in Persons. This report that was published in late 2012, has provided us with some important insights and figures.

And I'm happy to inform you that Austria has already contributed to the Trust Fund in the past and is going to financially contribute again this year.

Apart from all this, the "Global Plan of Action" also provides added value by recognizing the central role of civil society, and by including non-governmental organizations, the private sector and the media. It not only urges Member States, the UN and other international, regional and sub-regional organizations, but also the civil society to fully implement the relevant provisions of the Plan of Action and the activities outlined therein.

However, I would also like to point out that NGOs are vital partners, especially in the context of the protection of victims and the prevention of human trafficking. We must not forget that without the NGO's active participation, no government would be able to meet the commitments to fight and eventually end the crime of trafficking in persons. I therefore also especially welcome their important contribution to today's high level meeting. The human rights perspective and the three P's - Prevention, Protection and Prosecution - guide Austria's activities at the national as well as international level.

Having said that, prevention has always been a focus area in projects with partner countries of the "Austrian Development Cooperation". Subsequently, we are jointly aiming at fighting poverty and are thus targeting at increasing human security at the same time, too. I would also like to point out that Austria has been acting as co-sponsor of all relevant resolutions on trafficking in human beings since the creation of the UN Human Rights Council. Furthermore, we also fully support the important work of the "Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights" and the Special Procedures on this issue. In fact, Austria contributes actively to all discussions at the General Assembly, thus including the negotiations of the Global Plan of Action and its appraisal.

I would now like to take the opportunity to thank the President of the General Assembly for showing the trust he has in Austria by appointing our Permanent Representative, as well as the Permanent Representative of Cape Verde, as co-facilitator to negotiate the modalities for this high level meeting.

However, while we are now taking stock of the progress achieved during the past years, there is still a lot of work waiting ahead of us. As we all know, there are still serious challenges for all UN member states. More efforts need to be made to end the suffering of all the victims of human trafficking. And – needless to say - we must bring the traffickers to justice.

Ladies and gentlemen, the political will that is shown at this meeting today, will have to be translated into concrete action and the central role of UNODC cannot be emphasized enough: As we know, UNODC does not only lead the global fight against trafficking and improve the coordination of multilateral efforts through the

Interagency Coordination Group. But it also provides technical assistance on the ratification and implementation of the Convention and its Protocol.

Ladies and Gentlemen, as Austria reaffirms its commitment to eliminate the crime of trafficking in persons, I would like to point out that we will continue to support all international action, and especially so the activities of UNODC. I would now like to conclude by wishing all a very productive session and reiterate our commitment and common goal of combating human trafficking.

Thank you for your attention.

Azerbaycan
Mr. Vilayat Eyvazov
Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs

ВЫСТУПЛЕНИЕ

Заместителя Министра внутренних дел

Азербайджанской Республики

генерал-лейтенанта полиции

Эйвазова Вилята Сулейман оглу

**на заседания высокого уровня Генеральной
Ассамблеи ООН по обзору выполнения Глобального плана
действий по борьбе с торговлей людьми**

Нью-Йорк

13-14 мая 2013 г.

Уважаемый господин Председатель!
Уважаемые дамы и господа!

Глубоко признателен за представленную возможность высказать позицию Азербайджанской Республики по обсуждаемой теме и благодарю организаторов данного мероприятия за вынесение на его обсуждение столь актуального вопроса.

Конечно же, в нынешнем мире современной формой рабства является торговля людьми, особенно женщинами и детьми для принудительного труда, всевозможной эксплуатации, трансплантации органов, превратившаяся в очень большую проблему для мирового сообщества.

Очевидные вызовы и угрозы, исходящие от них определяют заинтересованность мирового сообщества в поиске наиболее эффективных и реальных подходов к решению указанной проблемы на основе согласованных действий.

Противодействие этому социальному злу рассматривается в Азербайджанской Республике в качестве одного из приоритетов обеспечения безопасности. Создана и совершенствуется национальная законодательная база. Наша страна является участником международно-правового компонента касающегося борьбы с торговлей людьми, принимает необходимые меры по выполнению положений известных Конвенций ООН в данной сфере и протоколов к ним.

Решение столь актуальной и многогранной проблемы осуществляется государственными органами комплексно.

Поставлена конкретная задача на системной основе:

- выявлять и устранять причины и условия, способствующие торговле людьми и нередко сопутствующей ей незаконной миграции;
- обеспечивать выявление, разоблачение и неотвратимое уголовное преследование лиц, причастных к организации и осуществлению данных видов криминальных посягательств, исследовать способы и формы их деяний, учитывая высокую степень латентности, интенсифицировать информационно - аналитическую работу, криминогенную разведку;
- укреплять пограничный контроль;
- наращивать административное влияние, повышать качество оперативно-профилактических мер по разоблачению физических и юридических лиц занимающихся незаконным изготовлением паспортов, виз и выездных документов, предлагающих услуги по организации выезда за границу под различными предлогами;

- проводить целевые исследования - анализ, анкетирование, изучение маршрутов трафика с целью выработки наиболее оптимальных стратегий по противодействию торговле людьми, снижению уязвимости определенных категорий лиц, устранению рисков применения насильственного труда и незаконной перевозки, сексуальной эксплуатации, использования в качестве донора;
- осуществлять широкомасштабную разъяснительную работу среди населения, в том числе с использованием средств массовой информации в контакте с неправительственными, международными организациями, общественными формированиями;
- обеспечивать надежную правовую, социальную защиту и реабилитацию жертв торговли людьми;

Важным элементом повышения уровня безопасности мы также считаем создание системы биометрической идентификации документов удостоверяющих личность и дающих право на выезд и въезд.

В основе проводимой в Азербайджане всей этой многоаспектной деятельности заложена система правовых, социально-экономических, превентивных мер, предусмотренных всеобъемлющей, эффективной стратегией в виде специального национального Плана.

В конце текущего года мы подведем итоги работы действующего национального плана, предусмотренного на 2009-2013 годы.

В течении ряда лет функционирует Управление по борьбе с торговлей людьми, которое строит свою работу совместно с компетентными органами, общественными организациями. Положительно зарекомендовала себя деятельность службы «горячей линии».

Создан фонд помощи жертвам и имеется соответствующий банковский счет, действует отвечающий международным стандартам с квалифицированным персоналом, Центр поддержки для жертв торговли людьми, обеспечивающий безопасность в ходе временного проживания.

Проведена соответствующая работа по внесению должных изменений в законодательные акты регулирующие область борьбы с торговлей людьми. Продолжается активная деятельность по налаживанию тесного международного сотрудничества с отраслевыми службами других государств.

Вместе с тем, мы отчетливо осознаем всю сложность проблемы, обусловленную ее глобализацией, латентностью, прибыльностью для криминалитета, постоянно изыскивающего новые изощренные способы действий.

В настоящее время продолжается работа по разработке и согласованию третьего по счету плана, и нет сомнений в том, что работа по его подготовке пройдет конструктивно и обдуманно, и нам удастся подготовить новый действенный план, в котором будет охвачен весь комплекс мер, в целях осуществления эффективной борьбы с торговлей людьми.

Пользуясь случаем хочу поблагодарить представителей международных организаций, в особенности Организации Объединенных Наций, Международной Организации по миграции, ОБСЕ и других, которые оказывали и продолжают оказывать нам поддержку в данном деле.

Можно с удовлетворением отметить, что у нас за прошедшие годы с ними сложилась хорошая практика взаимодействия в самых различных формах, и она приносит свои результаты.

Приоритетом во всей этой работе, на наш взгляд является укрепление международно-правовой базы сотрудничества, многосторонних, региональных, двусторонних связей между странами происхождения, транзита, назначения трафика, с уклоном на своевременный обмен, в том числе конфиденциальной информацией, выявление изощренных способов действий преступников, создание практических механизмов снижения виктимности и внедрения положительного опыта в подготовке сотрудников.

Мы готовы к конструктивной работе, открыты и призываем все заинтересованные стороны к сотрудничеству.

Уважаемые дамы и господа !

Глубоко убежден, что совместные усилия мирового сообщества будут способствовать обеспечению адекватного ответа вызовам и угрозам транснациональной организованной преступности во всех ее проявлениях, укреплению общественной безопасности, защите базовых принципов демократии.

Благодарю за внимание.



Please check against delivery

**Statement to be delivered by
Dr. Dipu Moni, MP, Hon'ble Foreign Minister,
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
at the High-level Meeting on the Appraisal of the Global Plan of Action
to Combat Trafficking in Persons
13 May 2013, New York**

**Mr. President,
Excellencies,
Ladies and gentlemen,**

A very good morning to you all!

I thank you, Mr. President, for convening this High-level Meeting for appraising the progress of the Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons. I also thank our colleagues from Belarus, Austria and Cape Verde for facilitating this meeting.

The scourge of trafficking constitutes a heart of darkness in our midst. It still features as the fastest growing organised crime in the world and thrives on enslaving an estimated 2.5 million people globally. Its victims come from 136 different nationalities, with a growing number of children, especially girls, falling prey to its tentacles.

THIS MUST BE REVERSED. The Global Plan of Action has been our collective and determined response to combating trafficking in persons. It is indeed crucial that three years after its adoption we take stock of how far we have gone to live up to our commitments.

Mr. President,

We do feel encouraged to see some tangible outcomes from the Global Plan of Action.

First, it has become a seminal reference point for strengthening international cooperation around its four pillars of prevention, prosecution, protection and partnership. We need to ensure greater interface between the Global Plan and the various ongoing regional initiatives to combat human trafficking. This need not be a 'one size fits all'; but a customized regional approach can be complementary to implementing the global blueprint.

Second, the UN Voluntary Trust Fund has taken a definitive shape. We would urge UNODC to enhance access to the Small Grants Facility for NGOs with demonstrable

expertise in providing assistance to victims, especially those operating in resource-constrained settings.

Third, the 2012 Global Report on Trafficking in Persons highlights some critical facts and figures about the worldwide trend of trafficking, based on evidence. This Meeting should make a compelling case for Member States to further scale up their data inputs for the next biennial Report. We must strive to fill in the knowledge gaps about human trafficking, particularly its demand-supply nexus and the *modus operandi* of the global and regional trafficking networks.

Mr. President,

As a country of origin, transit and destination, Bangladesh has positioned itself at the forefront of global and regional anti-trafficking initiatives. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's personal commitment to combating this vice has translated into a string of bold and affirmative actions. Under our Government's watch, Bangladesh has become Party to the Palermo Convention and has remained consistently active within the Group of Friends united against Human Trafficking. We are currently considering possible accession to the UNTOC Protocols on trafficking in persons and migrants' smuggling.

At the regional level, we have spearheaded an initiative to further broaden the scope of the SAARC *Convention on Prevention and Combating Trafficking in Women and Children for Prostitution* to make it more comprehensive. We remain supportive of the Regional Cooperation Framework within the Bali Process to help it deliver capacity building support to member states in light of global good practices.

At the bilateral level, we have intensified cooperation with India under the Joint Committee on Rescue, Recovery, Repatriation and Integration (RRRI). We are seeking to engage further with the Government of Myanmar to address the issue of irregular movements and trafficking in persons into Bangladesh through our shared land and river borders.

At the national level, we have enacted the Human Trafficking Deterrence and Suppression Act, 2012 and also adopted the National Plan of Action 2012-14 to implement this comprehensive law. Under the Plan of Action, regular monitoring and coordination mechanisms have been operationalized at the national, district and sub-district levels through GO-NGO partnership. A set of procedural rules under the law has also been finalized, with focus on rescue, rehabilitation and reintegration of victims of trafficking. Victims placed under Government or NGO-run safe homes are offered a range of services, including counseling, legal aid and skills development. The local administrations, along with NGOs, are tasked with monitoring the rehabilitation of victims and prevent their slippage once again into the trafficking dragnet. The grass

roots motivational committees organize public meetings, folk theatres and musical concerts in open, market places to generate awareness about the perils of trafficking.

Particular attention is being given to ensure prosecution and conviction of the perpetrators of trafficking. The Special Tribunals for Prevention of Violence against Women and Children deal with trafficking cases under the jurisdiction. A Deputy Attorney General has been designated, in particular, to handle cases concerning trafficking of women and children. An Inter-ministerial Committee follows a select number of trafficking cases under trial through to their disposal. A similar mechanism also operates at the district level. A monitoring cell remains operational at the Police headquarters to regularly collect and analyse data on trafficking, including intelligence on criminal operations, rescue and rehabilitation of victims and disposal of cases. Anti-trafficking issues have been incorporated into the training manuals of law enforcement and immigration personnel. The enactment of the Money Laundering Prevention Act, 2012 and other related measures have also strengthened capacity for legal actions against criminal outfits involved in human trafficking.

Mr. President,

Trafficking is, nevertheless, much more than a law and order issue. We can hardly win our battle against it without a comprehensive approach to address its underlying social, economic, cultural and other factors. While that remains a race against time, we must build on the progress made so far and make certain that the Global Plan of Action sustains its momentum through meaningful and effective global partnerships.

In order to contribute our share into making the Global Plan a true platform for action, we would like to make the following commitments here in line with some of our priorities in the anti-trafficking agenda:

First, we would continue to work towards developing enabling legislations at national and regional levels for stringent legal actions against the purveyors of trafficking and to ensure enhanced protection for victims;

Second, we would continue to invest in promoting a seamless intelligence network across the Asia Pacific region to detect and monitor the changing flows and patterns of trafficking;

Third, we would continue to press for mobilizing sufficient resources through international cooperation for, *inter alia*, improving data collection and management, developing an effective information campaign strategy and enhancing capacity for prosecution and early disposal of trafficking cases;

Fourth, we would pursue a coherent and consistent policy response to address the underlying demand and supply factors of human trafficking, in coordination among the countries of origin, transit and destination; and

Lastly, we would continue to work towards addressing the issue of human trafficking within the broader context of 'population dynamics' as part of the ongoing discussions on the post-2015 development agenda.

In addition, we would maintain our robust engagement with civil society, NGOs, media and other partners to rally behind our common purpose to fight human trafficking. We would also consider making token contributions to the UN Voluntary Trust Fund following further consultations within our Government.

Mr. President,

The Global Plan of Action to combat trafficking must be all about action. We hope this appraisal meeting would chart the way forward for further sustained and results-oriented actions through our individual and collective efforts. Let this gathering redouble our resolve to see the end to this most ignominious of crimes within our lifetime.

I thank you.

High-level meeting on the appraisal of the
Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons

Statement by Ms Joyce Bourne
Deputy Permanent Representative, Charge d'affaires
Permanent Mission of Barbados to the United Nations
14 May 2013

Mr President,

As a signatory to the *UN Convention Against Transnational Organised Crime* and to the *Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children*, Barbados fully supports the UN Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons.

Trafficking in Persons is a heinous crime which requires a forceful response internationally as well as at the national and regional levels. It is therefore heartening to participate in this meeting and to hear the strong commitment expressed by Member States to the Global Plan of Action.

It is recognised the trafficking in persons is a vicious cycle which affects women disproportionately. It thrives in conditions of poverty, where respect for the rule of law and human rights is at its weakest.

It is also recognised that because we live in an inter-connected world, no country or region is immune from Trafficking in Persons. It is a global phenomenon which requires global collaboration if the cycle is to be broken.

The goal of the UN Global Plan of Action is to do just that, to break the cycle and eradicate the scourge of Trafficking in Persons, focussing on four pillars ""

prevention, protection of victims, prosecution of perpetrators and forging partnerships.

Mr. President,

For its part, Barbados has implemented a number of measures at the national level to enable it to meet its obligations at the international level. These include the following:

- ~ In 2011, Barbados passed legislation providing for the prosecution of suspected offenders, thus making Trafficking in Persons a criminal offence, in line with the Protocol.
- ~ In February 2012, Barbados established a National Task Force for the Prevention of Trafficking in Persons. This entity, chaired by the Attorney-General, comprises representatives from the Ministries and agencies with responsibility for public prosecutions, gender affairs, immigration, law enforcement, labour and social security, and civil society.
- ~ Barbados has established a dedicated Sex Crimes and Human Trafficking Unit within the police force to investigate all suspected cases of trafficking.
- ~ Immigration officials, officers of the police force and the coast guard, and representatives of other relevant stakeholders, have benefited from specialised training through technical cooperation programmes funded by regional and bilateral partners.
- ~ There are on-going public awareness programmes on human trafficking to assist in-the recognition of instances of trafficking, and to educate the general public and potential victims and their families.

~ In addition, the Government of Barbados is continuing its longstanding partnership with civil society to provide services for the recovery of trafficked persons, including the provision of health services and safe shelter.

Mr. President,

Barbados is encouraged that our efforts have started to show results. Challenges remain, however. We must emphasise the critical importance of technical cooperation and international assistance in building and strengthening the national capacity to respond to human trafficking. This is especially the case in small, vulnerable developing countries such as Barbados and the countries of the Caribbean.

In closing, I reiterate Barbados' strong commitment to continuing to play an active role in combatting Trafficking in Persons at the national level and to working with regional and international partners with a view to achieving full implementation of the *Global Plan of Action*.

I thank you.

1. The first part of the document is a list of names and titles.

2.

3.

4. The second part of the document is a list of names and titles.

5.

6. The third part of the document is a list of names and titles.

7.

8.

9. The fourth part of the document is a list of names and titles.

10. The fifth part of the document is a list of names and titles.

11.



B E L A R U S

Генеральная Ассамблея ООН
67-я сессия
Заседание высокого уровня по обзору хода
выполнения Глобального плана действий
по борьбе с торговлей людьми
13 мая 2013 года

**Выступление
Валентина Рыбакова
Заместителя Министра иностранных дел
Республики Беларусь**

Уважаемый господин Председатель,

Великий мыслитель человечества Жан-Жак Руссо в своем известном **«Общественном Договоре»** сказал: «Человек рожден, чтобы быть свободным, но везде он в цепях».

К сожалению, это изречение, произнесенное более двух с половиной веков назад, верно и сегодня. Десятки миллионов людей находятся в «цепях» современного рабства – торговли людьми. Некоторые источники даже утверждают, что в современном мире число «рабов» больше, чем их было во времена, когда рабство официально существовало и процветало.

Все же ситуация не выглядит сегодня безнадежной. В действительности нынешнее поколение человечества идет к своему собственному, а бы сказал условному **«Общественному Договору»** против этого зла.

Наш «Договор» – это комплекс международно-правовых документов, различных практик и объединений. По сути, это то, что международное сообщество часто называет **Глобальным партнерством против рабства и торговли людьми.** Мы оформляем наш **«Договор» постепенно** – по мере того, как мы осознаем масштабы угрозы, исходящей от феномена торговли людьми.

Эпохальным событием в борьбе против этого зла стали принятые в 2000 году **Конвенция ООН против транснациональной организованной преступности и Протокол о предупреждении и пресечении торговли людьми.** Эти документы – по широкому признанию – придали нашей работе ярко выраженную «правоохранительную» парадигму.

Давайте будем объективны. Наверное, на рубеже тысячелетий – в той ужасной атмосфере нарастающего международного терроризма – такой подход был и необходим и обоснован.

Но важно, что мы не остановились с нашим антитраффикинговым **«Общественным Договором»** на этой парадигме. Поиск новых идей и форм борьбы продолжался.

Венский форум по борьбе с торговлей людьми 2008 года – крупнейшее событие современности по этой теме – однозначно придал новый импульс нашим усилиям. Как результат, встал вопрос о разработке **всеобъемлющего глобального документа по борьбе с торговлей людьми.** Таковым был призван стать **Глобальный план действий ООН по борьбе с торговлей людьми.**

Я горжусь тем, что **Беларусь стояла у истоков** этой судьбоносной инициативы. Масштабная работа по искоренению торговли людьми на национальном уровне стала одним из важных направлений государственной политики Республики Беларусь, находящимся под особым контролем Президента.

К 2005 году под патронажем Главы государства были приняты и реализованы ключевые **всеохватывающие национальные решения,** позволившие коренным образом изменить ситуацию в этой области к лучшему. Этот факт, кстати, был признан соответствующими международными организациями.

Как следствие, Беларусь решила предложить свои подходы и свое понимание проблемы на международном уровне. В 2005 году на Саммите тысячелетия ООН Президент Республики Беларусь А.Г.Лукашенко выдвинул инициативу об улучшении координации международных усилий по борьбе с одной из самых острых проблем современности – торговлей людьми. В процессе продвижения этой инициативы естественно родилась и оформилась идея о необходимости формирования глобального плана действий, который стал реальностью в 2010 г.

Безусловно, что усилий лишь одного государства в реализации идеи Глобального плана было недостаточно. Эта инициатива была реализована потому, что появилось приверженное ей объединение государств, а именно **Группа друзей, объединившихся в борьбе с торговлей людьми.**

В чем **преимущества Глобального плана**? Я хотел бы особенно **выделить четыре** из них.

Во-первых, мы впервые получили **действительно глобальный документ** в области противодействия торговле людьми, поскольку все прежние международные инструменты были разработаны в рамках или специализированных или региональных учреждений. Неудивительно, что все они носили или «специализированный» или «региональный уклон».

Во-вторых, Глобальный план обеспечил **всеобъемлющий подход** к проблеме торговли людьми. Действительно, все три основные анти-трафикинговые составляющие – предотвращение, преследование и защита – адекватно присутствуют в этом документе. Более того, Глобальный план – через созданный им **Целевой фонд по защите жертв торговли людьми** – особо подчеркивает актуальность элемента «защиты». Наверное, это произошло в силу того, что этот элемент не находился на «переднем» плане в прежних документах по борьбе с торговлей людьми. Пользуясь случаем, хотел бы сообщить, что **Республика Беларусь выделяет второй взнос в Целевой фонд – 50 тысяч долларов**. Надеюсь, что и другие государства последуют такому примеру.

В-третьих, в Глобальном плане мы получили важный инструмент для **координации международных усилий** в деле противодействия торговле людьми. Действительно, сегодня мы имеем многочисленных участников борьбы с этим злом – государства, международные организации, межучрежденческие механизмы, гражданское общество и частный сектор. В то же время все прежние международные документы по анти-траффикингу ставили в основном цель гармонизировать определенные аспекты национальных законодательств. Они не касались вопросов координации. Глобальный план устранил этот недостаток, определив направления деятельности «игроков» и механизмы координации их работы. В этой связи хочу подчеркнуть особую важность, придаваемую в Глобальном плане укреплению глобальной координации через **Межучрежденческую координационную группу по борьбе с торговлей людьми**.

В-четвертых, Глобальный план значительно повышает как **глобальную осведомленность**, так и **понимание** феномена торговли людьми. В частности, Управление ООН по наркотикам и преступности начало издавать на двухгодичной основе глобальный доклад по теме борьбы с торговлей людьми, а также создало соответствующую базу данных.

Вместе с тем, Глобальный план, конечно же, не ставит точку в нашем условном «Общественном Договоре» против торговли людьми. Как и раньше, мы должны постепенно двигаться вперед, осознавая и выявляя новые элементы этой проблемы, а затем – эффективно решая их.

История нас учит, что в «войне» против «существительных», будь то торговля людьми, наркотрафик или терроризм, **не может быть окончательных побед**. Поэтому, наша задача – свести эти вызовы к минимуму, сделать их такими, чтобы общество их по большому счету не ощущало. Такое понимание, в свою очередь, требует от всех «игроков» **постоянного и неослабного внимания** к вызовам, а также **новых идей и инициатив** по их решению.

Касательно торговли людьми, в качестве следующего шага в «войне» с этим «существительным» Беларусь видит необходимость серьезно заняться **темой торговли людьми, осуществляемой в целях извлечения человеческих органов, клеток и тканей**. Действительно, доступная информация во все большей степени указывает на рост данной проблемы.

В этой связи мы предлагаем придерживаться двойного подхода. Во-первых, заинтересованным международным организациям необходимо в значительной степени активизировать исследования по этой теме. Во-вторых, государства-члены должны начать дискуссию по поводу разработки возможного отдельного соответствующего международного документа. При этом, безусловно, необходимо активно привлекать к дискуссии всех остальных «игроков».

Господин Председатель,

Я начал свое выступление с исторической параллели. С ней же я хочу его и закончить.

Два столетия назад успех в борьбе с рабством был достигнут благодаря таким выдающимся британским аболиционистам, как Вильям Вилберфос, Грэнвиль Шарп, Томас Кларксон. Эти люди практически в одиночку набросились на «стену» рабства и «опрокинули» ее.

Сегодняшнее аболиционистское движение включает миллионы. Оно «вооружено» самыми различными международно-правовыми инструментами. И ему противостоит не «стена», а кучка преступников, хотя надо признать, весьма изощренных. Следовательно, **борьба с торговлей людьми это не проблема наших возможностей**. Скорее, это **вопрос нашего желания эффективно использовать имеющиеся возможности**. Давайте серьезно задумаемся над этим.

Спасибо за внимание.

*Mission Permanente
de la République du Bénin
Auprès des Nations Unies*



*Permanent Mission of
the Republic of Benin
to the United Nations*

67E SESSION DE L'ASSEMBLEE GENERALE

REUNION DE HAUT NIVEAU

SUR

**L'EVALUATION DE LA MISE EN APPLICATION DU PLAN MONDIAL DE LUTTE
CONTRE LA TRAITE DES PERSONNES**

INTERVENTION

DE

**S.E.M. JEAN - FRANCIS R. ZINSOU,
AMBASSADEUR, REPRESENTANT PERMANENT DU BENIN
AUPRES DES NATIONS UNIES**

(PRONONCE)

NEW YORK, LES 13 ET 14 MAI 2013

Monsieur le Président,

Je voudrais, avant tout propos, me réjouir de la tenue de cette Réunion de haut niveau sur la traite des personnes, pour faire le point de la mise en application du Plan mondial d'action pour combattre la traite des personnes, adopté en juillet 2010, et identifier les voies, les meilleures pour élever le niveau de coordination en vue d'une lutte plus efficace contre ce fléau.

Le Bénin s'aligne sur la déclaration du Groupe africain.

La traite des personnes, en particulier des femmes et des enfants, constitue une grave menace pour la dignité humaine, les droits de l'homme et le développement. C'est à juste titre que les Nations Unies et l'ensemble de la Communauté internationale s'en préoccupent au plus haut point, comme en témoignent les multiples résolutions et engagements internationaux contenant des recommandations fort utiles pour lutter efficacement contre la menace.

Depuis l'adoption du Document final du Sommet mondial de 2005 qui a souligné que la traite d'êtres humains demeure pour l'humanité un problème grave dont la solution exige une action internationale concertée, les efforts inlassables sont entrepris pour mettre au point et faire appliquer des mesures efficaces visant à combattre et éliminer la traite d'êtres humains sous toutes ses formes.

La Résolution 55/25 du 15 novembre 2000 adoptant la Convention des Nations Unies contre la criminalité transnationale organisée et son Protocole additionnel visant à prévenir, réprimer et punir la traite, le Plan mondial d'action pour combattre la traite des personnes de 2010, constituent des avancées majeures à cet égard, toutes choses ayant permis aux Etats d'inscrire davantage la lutte contre la traite et l'exploitation des êtres humains dans leurs politiques nationales et d'en faire, à des degrés divers, une priorité.

C'est le lieu de saluer les actions de l'Office des Nations Unies contre la drogue et le crime (UNODC), qui constitue le cœur de l'action mondiale en matière de lutte contre la traite d'êtres humains et le trafic illicite des migrants. Ses quatre initiatives phares en la matière méritent une attention particulière;

- Le programme mondial de lutte contre la traite des personnes;

- Le programme mondial de lutte contre le trafic illicite des migrants;
- Le programme visant à promouvoir l'application de la Convention de Palerme et de ses Protocoles; et
- Le programme "Initiative Globale des Nations Unies pour lutter contre la traite des êtres humains, UN-GIFT".

L'ensemble des Etats devraient soutenir plus activement le Fonds assistance spécial des Nations Unies pour l'assistance aux victimes de la traite des personnes, en particulier, les femmes et les enfants, le Fonds d'affection spécial, créé pour appuyer la mise en œuvre de ces programmes essentiels pour une lutte efficace contre le fléau de la traite des personnes.

Monsieur le Président,

La pauvreté, le chômage, l'absence de perspectives socioéconomiques, la violence sexiste, la discrimination, la marginalisation voire l'exclusion sociale, sont quelques-uns des facteurs qui exposent les personnes à la traite. Les milieux sociaux les plus vulnérables du fait de la pauvreté et du chômage constituent les zones à haut risque où devraient se concentrer les actions de lutte contre le fléau; une lutte qui ne peut réussir, sans la mise en place d'un plan national d'action dans chaque pays et une véritable coordination de ces plans au niveau sous-régional et régional.

Le Gouvernement béninois a érigé la lutte contre le fléau au rang de ses priorités de premier ordre. Cet engagement s'est traduit par l'adoption, le 05 Avril 2006, de la Loi N°2006-04 du portant conditions de déplacement des mineurs et de répression de la traite d'enfants en République du Bénin, assortie de l'élaboration de ses décrets d'application.

Le Bénin s'est également doté d'un Document de politique et de stratégies nationales de protection sociale au Bénin (2004-2013), qui a identifié les cibles les plus vulnérables nécessitant une attention plus soutenue. Il s'agit en particulier des enfants abandonnés, des enfants de la rue ou dans la rue, des enfants travailleurs et des enfants déscolarisés.

Ce dispositif législatif et réglementaire a été renforcé par l'adoption du Code des personnes et de la famille et la création de la brigade de protection des mineurs au Ministère de l'Intérieur. Les efforts sont en cours pour doter le Bénin d'un Code de l'Enfant afin de mieux asseoir les normes juridiques de protection et de promotion de l'épanouissement de l'Enfant.

En outre, différents acteurs de la société civile initient des projets et actions de lutte contre le trafic des enfants, parmi lesquels on peut citer des campagnes de sensibilisation et d'éveil, destinées aux jeunes, aux parents et aux autorités, la fourniture aux enfants rapatriés et à certains jeunes estimés en risque d'être trafiqués, d'assistance alimentaire, de vêtements, de kits scolaires, et la création des comités locaux de lutte contre le trafic.

En plus de la Charte Africaine des Droits et du Bien-être de l'Enfant de l'Union Africaine, le Bénin applique l'Accord multilatéral de coopération régionale de lutte contre la traite des personnes en Afrique de l'Ouest et du Centre, adopté à Abuja le 6 juillet 2006. Cet Accord inter-régional constitue un véritable cadre de coopération et d'entraide judiciaire pour une lutte efficace et intégrée contre le fléau.

Monsieur le Président,

Les progrès enregistrés ne peuvent occulter les nombreux défis qui restent à relever pour une lutte efficace contre ce phénomène qui ne connaît aucune frontière.

A cet égard, le Bénin estime que l'accent devra davantage être mis sur la protection et l'aide aux victimes de la traite des personnes, à travers un renforcement des capacités du Fonds d'affection spécial.

Dans ce cadre, j'ai le plaisir d'annoncer que le Gouvernement béninois s'est engagé à apporter une modeste contribution à ce fonds, pour marquer son appréciation des actions de l'UNODC dans le domaine de la traite des personnes et les progrès faits en matière d'assistance aux victimes depuis la mise en place en 2010 de ce Fonds.

Nous pensons également qu'il est nécessaire d'adopter et de mettre en œuvre, à l'échelle nationale, et aux niveaux sous-régional et régional, des politiques et programmes intégrés visant à prévenir toutes les formes de traite

des personnes. Ces politiques et programmes devront être en cohérence avec les orientations pertinentes en matière de migration, d'éducation, d'emploi, d'égalité des sexes, d'autonomisation des femmes et de prévention de la criminalité.

Nous pensons en outre qu'il faudra un renforcement de la mise en œuvre de tous les instruments juridiques qui érigent la traite des personnes en infraction pénale et promouvoir la coopération et l'entraide judiciaire dans la traque du trafic.

Le Bénin estime qu'il faut davantage se rendre à l'évidence que le renforcement des capacités est un élément très important de la lutte contre la traite des personnes et qu'il faut appuyer plus efficacement les Etats en développement, en particulier les pays africains.

Au demeurant, le Bénin estime que la prévention devra constituer un pilier fondamental de la stratégie mondiale contre la traite des personnes. Ceci suppose qu'il faut promouvoir le développement durable en s'attaquant encore plus aux facteurs sociaux, économiques, culturels, politiques qui exposent les personnes à la traite.

Je vous remercie



БОСНА И ХЕРЦЕГОВИНА
Стална мисија при Уједињеним нацијама
Њујорк

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA
Permanent Mission to the United Nations
New York

BOSNA I HERCEGOVINA
Stalna misija pri Ujedinjenim narodima
New York

United Nations General Assembly

High-Level Meeting
on the appraisal of the Global Plan of Action
to Combat Trafficking in Persons
13-14 May 2013

Address by

**H.E. Mirsada ČOLAKOVIĆ, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of
Bosnia and Herzegovina to the United Nations**

New York, 14 May 2013

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Mr. President,

1. We thank you very much for organising the High Level Meeting on the appraisal of the Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons and express our gratitude for the opportunity to discuss such important issue. The implementation of the provisions of the UN Global Plan of Action as well as of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its Protocols is the key issue of this gathering. I hope that today's session will provide an additional impetus and a result-oriented response to contemporary challenges. This is also additional opportunity to raise awareness of, and gather support for the UN Voluntary Trust Fund as well as to commend significant and efficient work of the UNODC (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime).
2. Human trafficking is serious a crime against humanity, one of the most flagrant forms of violation of human rights and fundamental freedoms. Every country in the world is affected by trafficking whether as a country of origin, transit or destination for victims. The most volatile countries are those going through an economic and political transition.
3. Despite the fact that many efforts have been made up to this time, trafficking in human beings persistently continues so that serious challenges remain. Reasons for this situation primarily lie in the fact that trafficking in human beings represents a form of crime, often organized, which enables the perpetrators to acquire enormous illegal benefit and, through it, power and influence in society.
4. Additional reasons for such crime are high level of unemployment, poverty, lack of opportunities for the younger generations and in general grave socio-economic situation. When confronted with such stalemate situation, the persons/victims who come from these kinds of environments are recruited by the human traffickers while trying to ensure their livelihood.
5. The ways of recruitment are numerous. The most common way is deceiving the victim by giving false promises of a better life, finding employment, economic independence and consequent acceptance of such promises. Apart from this, there are also graver forms of recruitment which include crude psychological, physical abuses, blackmail and threats.
6. We underline the genuine commitment of Bosnia and Herzegovina to fight human trafficking. However this phenomenon has still not been placed under full control. We continue to actively implement the State Action Plan for Combating Trafficking in Humans. These activities include: strengthening of the supporting framework, building of capacities of the competent institutions and organizations, prevention of trafficking, protection of victims, criminal prosecution of perpetrators of these

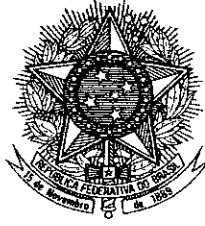
criminal offences, strengthening of partnership between the government and non-government sectors, and improvement of international cooperation.

7. Furthermore, the Ministry of Security of Bosnia and Herzegovina prepared a new Strategy and Action Plan for combating trafficking in human beings for the period 2013-2015 on the basis and analysis of the implementation and achievements of the previous Action Plan.
8. During the development of the strategy and Action Plan opinions of numerous relevant institutions, NGO sector and international organisations which deal with trafficking in human beings were collected and a public discussion was held. Expert assistance was provided by the European Commission (through TAIEX instrument) aimed at harmonization of the documents with the European Union standards.
9. After determining deficiencies in the criminal legislation of Bosnia and Herzegovina during the previous period in regard to the criminal offences connected with trafficking in human beings, the competent authorities made additional efforts toward proposal of a possible solution concerning amendments to the criminal codes, which would harmonize the criminal legislation within the area, as well as with the international standards.
10. The Ministry of Security has signed a protocol with two non-governmental organizations that provide assistance and accommodation to foreign victims of human trafficking, while the Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees has signed a protocol with three non-governmental organizations that provide support and accommodation to domestic victims of human trafficking.
11. In addition, Bosnia and Herzegovina has a few shelters and safe houses that primarily take care of women and children victims of domestic violence and, if necessary, provide shelter to victims of trafficking and prostitution. There are special projects with the aim to remove the causes of trafficking and support prevention programs in the areas of the municipality where cases of human trafficking are found. Furthermore, all data on possible victims of trafficking in human beings are collected by the prosecutor's offices, law enforcement agencies and non-governmental organizations.

Mr. President,

12. There is a lot of work which should be done in combating human trafficking and protection of its victims. We look forward to interactive debate during this high level event.

Thank you.



Statement by H. E. Paulo Abrão Pires Junior
National Secretary of Justice of Brazil

High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Appraisal of the
United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons

New York, May 13-14, 2013

(Please, check against delivery)

H.E. Mr. Vuk Jeremić, President of the General Assembly
H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General
Mr. Yury Fedotov, Executive Director of UNODC
Ms. Mira Sorvino, Goodwill Ambassador against Human Trafficking
Ms. Alyse Nelson, President of Vital Voices Global Partnership

Brazil welcomes this opportunity to conduct an appraisal of the implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons. We believe that a periodic review of the progress made is essential to better coordinate our efforts in this regard.

We appreciate the ongoing efforts of all Member States, as well as those of the Secretary-General, the UNODC and other related bodies of the Organization to enhance international cooperation on the issue of human trafficking.

In our view, the adoption of the Plan of Action constituted an important step forward in the fight against the heinous crime of trafficking in persons. Especially important is the fact that the Plan complements the framework established in the Palermo Convention and its Protocol on trafficking of persons. Not only must we address the issue from the law enforcement perspective but also take into account the human rights and socioeconomic dimensions.

The multifaceted nature of the problem demands a comprehensive approach that also tackles the underlying causes of the phenomenon that are grounded on cultural, economic and political aspects. Furthermore, immigration policies and the lack of adequate capability to effectively deal with this issue can compound the effects of human trafficking.

The United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) and its three Protocols emphasize the need to combat crime. Brazil advocates that, in order to effectively deal with trafficking in persons, public policies should focus not only on enforcement actions, but also on prevention, as well as providing aid to victims. Moreover, an adequate and effective strategy to deal with trafficking in persons must ensure that fundamental rights are respected. It should be noted that Brazil is committed to increasing the protection offered to undocumented foreigners and other vulnerable groups, such as the LGBTI community, that are victims of human trafficking.

We would like to stress the need to pay special attention to gender inequality and all forms of discrimination against women, which are important causes of trafficking in persons, both in countries of origin and of destination. Moreover, sexism and gender discrimination are particularly cruel to women survivors of trafficking, who often find themselves as social pariahs after surviving their plight, unable to reintegrate and sometimes are forced back into the trafficking rings.

Brazil's policy to tackle trafficking in persons is formulated and implemented by a wide range of actors, which include governmental agencies as well as non-governmental

actors. Brazil's governance model also allows for large-scale participation of civil society. This is a cross-cutting issue and the solution to problems should rely on efforts by society as whole.

Trafficking in persons, due to its characteristics, requires a coordinated strategy. This is true at the national level as well as in the international arena. In the UN System, the issue is considered in New York, Geneva and Vienna, albeit under different perspectives. We must strive to ensure coherence to these efforts in order to unlock the synergies among development, protection of Human Rights and law enforcement in the fight against trafficking in persons.

Bearing in mind that trafficking knows no borders, we must also strengthen bilateral cooperation, where appropriate. Regional or sub-regional initiatives are also be effective. The Meeting of Ministers and High Authorities of Women of MERCOSUR, RMAMM, has commissioned a Regional Diagnosis of Trafficking in Women for Sexual Exploitation in MERCOSUR and is about to issue a Guide on Assistance to Women in Situation of Trafficking for Sexual Exploitation, as a pioneer step to streamline assistance procedures in the region.

Mr President,

My delegation will continue to support all efforts at the United Nations to ensure an effective response to human trafficking. International cooperation, including enhancing the UN Global Plan of Action, must be based on shared responsibility and better coordination among countries of destination, transit and origin, aiming at the protection of the victims and the prosecution of human traffickers and those that benefit from these crimes.

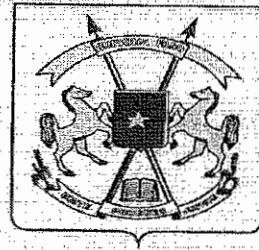
We believe that a consistent global network to protect and assist victims would discourage demand and prevent re-victimization. Furthermore, in our view, our common responsibility towards fighting human trafficking should not affect those that legitimately seek better living standards in other countries. We will continue to do our part, working with all Member States and the United Nations system in order to achieve these goals.

The most recent example of our commitment to multilateral cooperation is launch, in Brazil, of the campaign "Blue heart" that was honoured by the presence of the Executive Director of UNODC, Ambassador Yury Fedotov. This campaign, based on the slogan "Freedom can not be bought, dignity can not be sold", encourages public participation in the efforts to combat trafficking in persons.

Thank you, Mr. President.

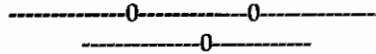
BURKINA FASO

*Mission Permanente auprès
des Nations Unies*



Unité - Progrès - Justice

**SOIXANTE-SEPTIEME SESSION ORDINAIRE DE
L'ASSEMBLEE GENERALE DES NATIONS UNIES**



**REUNION DE HAUT NIVEAU SUR L'EVALUATION DU PLAN
D'ACTION MONDIAL DES NATIONS UNIES POUR LA LUTTE
CONTRE LA TRAITE DES PERSONNES
(13 - 14 mai 2013)**

POINT 103 DE L'ORDRE DU JOUR

**PREVENTION DU CRIME
ET JUSTICE PENALE**

DECLARATION DU BURKINA FASO

Prononcée par

**Son Excellence Monsieur Der KOGDA
*Ambassadeur, Représentant Permanent***

New York, le 14 mai 2013

(Vérifier au prononcé)

Monsieur le Président,

Ma délégation se réjouit de la tenue de cette réunion de haut niveau, sur l'évaluation de la mise en œuvre du plan d'action mondial des Nations Unies, pour la lutte contre la traite des personnes.

Ma délégation souscrit à la déclaration faite par le représentant de la Côte d'Ivoire au nom du Groupe Africain.

Monsieur le Président,

De nombreux pays à travers le monde comme le Burkina Faso, ont promulgué des lois et adhéré à des instruments juridiques internationaux, pour l'abolition totale de la traite des êtres humains. Mais force est de constater, que des millions de personnes continuent toujours d'être victimes de cette pratique.

En témoigne les statistiques en la matière, qui évaluent à 2,5 millions le nombre de victimes de la traite des personnes, dont seulement 1 sur 100 avaient pu être sauvé de leur situation en 2012.

Les causes de cette pratique humaine ignoble d'un autre âge, découlent intrinsèquement de l'effondrement des valeurs humaines, de la déliquescence de la morale sociale, mais aussi de l'aggravation de la pauvreté, de la prédominance de l'esprit mercantiliste et de la recrudescence des conflits.

Malheureusement, la plupart du temps, les femmes et les enfants sont les plus exposés à ce fléau qui les réduit à l'état de « marchandises » achetées, vendues, à des fins d'exploitation commerciale, sexuelle ou de main d'œuvre. Plus grave encore, les enfants sont de plus en plus utilisés à travers ce trafic, comme des appâts dans des actions criminelles et terroristes, ou de chaire à canon dans des conflits armés.

De ce fait, cette question cruciale de la traite humaine qualifiée de violation grave des droits de l'homme s'affiche comme un impératif primordial sur l'échiquier mondial.

C'est pourquoi, la tenue de cette réunion de haut niveau, constitue une occasion propice pour la communauté internationale et particulièrement les Nations Unies, de jauger les efforts entrepris pour lutter contre la traite des humains et surtout, d'évaluer la mise en œuvre du plan d'action mondial, adopté en 2010 à cet effet.

Monsieur le Président,

Au Burkina Faso, le Gouvernement s'est résolument engagé depuis 1999 dans la lutte contre la traite des êtres humains à plusieurs niveaux.

Au plan interne, le Gouvernement a ratifié en 2002, la Convention des Nations Unies contre la criminalité transnationale organisée et les protocoles s'y rapportant et a entrepris des actions de prévention, et de protection des victimes, à travers :

- la création d'un comité national de vigilance et de surveillance (CNVS) contre la traite des personnes et les pratiques assimilées ;
- l'adoption d'une loi en 2008, portant lutte contre la traite des personnes et les pratiques assimilées, comportant des sanctions contre les coupables de la traite des personnes ;
- la sensibilisation et la formation des acteurs étatiques, non étatiques et les leaders d'opinion, sur les effets néfastes de l'exode des enfants;
- la mise en place d'un fonds d'assistance judiciaire, pour permettre aux victimes d'accéder aux juridictions, sans avoir à payer les frais de justice ;
- l'adoption d'une procédure de rapatriement des femmes et enfants, victimes de trafic aux conditions protectrices de tous leurs droits ;

Au niveau de la coopération internationale, le Burkina Faso participe au programme BIT/IPEC-LUTRENA. En outre, dans le contexte du partenariat Union Européenne - Afrique, le Burkina Faso a servi de cadre de négociations et d'élaboration du plan d'action de Ouagadougou, contre la Traite des êtres humains, en particulier des femmes et des enfants, qui a été adopté en novembre 2006 à Tripoli.

Il convient de souligner également que le rapport mondial sur la traite des personnes de juin 2012 classe le Burkina Faso dans la catégorie 2, traduisant ainsi les efforts et les progrès importants réalisés par le Gouvernement sur cette question, en dépit de ses moyens limités.

Monsieur le Président,

Nous devons redoubler d'efforts et de volonté politique à tous les niveaux pour éradiquer cette pratique surannée de la traite des personnes ; ceci est un impératif en matière de promotion et de protection des droits humains.

Que ce soit la communauté internationale, les Etats, les organisations internationales et régionales, ainsi que les autres parties prenantes de la société civile, tous doivent jouer leur partition.

De nombreuses lois nationales ont été adoptées ; plusieurs accords bilatéraux et régionaux ont été signés ; ainsi que de nombreux instruments juridiques internationaux et régionaux ratifiés. Tous ceux-ci ne demandent qu'à être appliqués. Respectons tous les engagements que nous prenons dans cette lutte contre le trafic des êtres humains et ce fléau disparaîtra. Le combat est à notre portée, engageons nous donc.

Je vous remercie.



CZECH REPUBLIC

Statement by

H.E. Mrs. Edita Hrdá

Permanent Representative of the Czech Republic to the UN

**at the High-level Meeting of the General Assembly of the United Nations on
the Appraisal of the Global Plan of Action
to Combat Trafficking in Persons**

New York, 14 May 2013

Check against delivery

Mr. President,

The Czech Republic aligns itself with the statement of the European Union.

Combating human trafficking is a major challenge for today's globalized world. We would like to emphasize that the Czech Republic puts special attention to this topic, and highly appreciates systematic activities at international level in this regard.

Since 2003, this area has become a priority within the fight against organized crime, when a special *Program on Support and Protection of Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings of the Ministry of Interior of the Czech Republic* was developed. Currently, the Program focuses on all types of victims regardless the form of exploitation.

Additionally, the *Inter-ministerial Coordination Group* was established in 2008, which serves as a platform for information exchange and coordination activities in the area of the fight against trafficking in persons at national level. Members of this group – NGOs and governmental organizations – also contribute to annual status reports and comment on strategic documents in this regard.

In 2012, the Czech Republic adopted a new strategic document called *National Strategy to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings in the Czech Republic for the period 2012 – 2015*, which sets out a number of measures in the area of trafficking in persons, focusing among others on description of the situation in socially excluded areas, systematic education in the area of trafficking, ratification of important international instruments, or evaluation of the *Program on Support and Protection of Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings*.

Ratification of international instruments in the area of trafficking in persons, including the Palermo Protocols, has been one of the measures defined in the Strategy. Since the main obstacle to their ratification has been recently removed and the criminal liability of legal persons has been introduced into the Czech legal system, the Czech Republic is now able to ratify these instruments and to join a number of states claiming their interest in combat of trafficking in persons.

Thank you, Mr. President.

13 May 2013

**Statement of H.E. Mr. Vuk Jeremić,
President of the 67th Session of the General Assembly,
at the Closing of the High-level Meeting on the Appraisal of the
Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons**

Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

We have come to the end of a thought and action provoking High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Appraisal of the Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons, but we still have miles to go before we can proclaim that all human beings are born free and that none are held in slavery or servitude, as this General Assembly envisaged in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights over six decades ago. It is not often that a meeting of this kind lasts two days: this in itself is testimony of the increased focus and dedication that Member States are committing to the issue of modern day slavery, but we must go further.

First allow me to take this opportunity to once again thank the co-facilitators for this event, the Permanent Representative of Cape Verde, H.E. Mr. Antonio Pedro Monteiro Lima and the Permanent Representative of Austria, H.E. Mr. Martin Sajdik, for their excellent efforts in making this High Level Meeting a productive and illuminating one. Their important chair summaries highlight the illuminating and frank discussion in which Member States and Civil Society engaged yesterday. I also wish to thank the Secretary General for his commitment to this meeting and this cause and the Executive Director of UN Office on Drugs and Crime and his team for their expertise and invaluable contribution. Finally, I thank all of you, Excellencies, Civil Society, and participants in the panels, plenary and side events, for having ensured that this event was well attended by Ministers and other distinguished representatives near and far.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your testimonies and proposals in the course of this meeting have been enlightening. It reminded us how much we can do to tackle this heinous crime despite the divergent contexts in which we all operate. Some of us are transit countries, others countries of origin or destination, and some of us may face two or three of these challenges in our countries at the same time. Many best practices were exchanged in the course of the Meeting as were the challenges in the implementation of the Global Plan of Action. In accordance with Resolution 67/190 I will soon disseminate a summary of the high-level meeting, identifying achievements, gaps and challenges in the implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action and relevant legal instruments, but now I will quickly highlight five.

First, still too many Member States have not ratified the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, and implementation is lacking among many who have ratified it years ago. Passing legislation that criminalizes trafficking in persons, and at the same time protects the rights of

victims, is one step in the right direction. However, such legislation means nothing if it is not being implemented by our law enforcement agencies, lawyers and judges. As a result, impunity for trafficking in persons crimes remains a considerable problem – we must phase this out in our life time.

Second, the role of NGOs is indispensable in our fight against human trafficking. It is mostly NGOs who work with - and through - survivors on the ground: Member States must continue to learn from civil society and redouble their efforts to seek their input and guidance as we implement the Global Plan of Action.

Third, there is a real need for increased cooperation, partnerships and technical assistance to better implement the Global Plan of Action and relevant legal instruments. In addition to bilateral and multilateral exchanges and better coordination among UN entities, particularly the 16 entities that form the Interagency Coordination group Against Trafficking in Persons (or ICAT), there is a dire need to develop partnerships with the media and private sector, and to focus on a “bottom up” approach where appropriate. This will ensure that our prevention work focuses on the villages and towns where sophisticated trafficking routes often start.

Fourth, many of you reflected on the need for increased coordination, research and data. More must be done in these areas. Many of you also noted the extent to which you rely on the UN Office on Drugs and Crime for the same - on the ground as well as at the intergovernmental level. As the main UN entity mandated to fight human trafficking, it currently has only two regular budget posts dedicated to this cause. I echo the call of many to strengthen the capacity of UNODC so that it can continue to assist us with the grandiose task ahead of us all.

Fifth, the disparity between the criminal income of the trafficking in persons industry -- some billions of dollars a year -- and the comparatively meager funds dedicated to preventing and responding to this crime. The United Nations Trust Fund for Victims of Human Trafficking, Especially Women and Children, one of the most important aspects of the Global Plan of Action, has done much with the very little in resources its received, and cannot continue to meet its mandate absent robust and reliable funding. I sincerely thank Saudi Arabia, Sweden, Belarus, the United Arab Emirates, Australia, Austria the Kingdom of Thailand, and Singapore for pledges made to the Trust Fund during this meeting and hope this will inspire others to contribute to the Fund.

We owe it to our young girls, boys, women and men to provide alternatives to - as Goodwill Ambassador Mira Sorvino put it - “being swept up by traffickers into a sea of anonymous suffering”. The survivors count on us today.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Despite the challenges ahead of us I am encouraged by the overwhelming political will heard in this room to step up efforts against trafficking in persons. Let us capitalize on this momentum and re-energize ourselves to eradicate this atrocious phenomenon for once and for all.

Thank you.