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REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Combating the traffic in persons and the exploitation
of the prostitution of others

Report of the Secretary-General

1. In Economic and Social Council resolution 1981/40 of 8 May 1982 entitled "Combating the traffic in persons and the exploitation of the prostitution of others", the Council requested the Secretary-General to undertake an inquiry among the Governments of Member States and the international organizations concerned on the status of the question and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session, "so that, with full knowledge of the facts, joint measures can be envisaged to put an end to this form of slavery".
2. It may be recalled in this connexion that the agenda of each session of the Working Group on Slavery of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities includes an item on the traffic in persons and the exploitation of the prostitution of others. A document relating to that item is submitted each year to the Working Group. That document contains a summary of replies received from Governments, specialized agencies, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations concerned, in response to a questionnaire transmitted to them.
3. The text of resolution 1981/40 was transmitted to the Governments and to the organizations mentioned in the resolution, for comments and observations. Communications received from States and other organizations in reply referred both to that resolution and to the questionnaire transmitted on behalf of the Working Group.

* A/37/150.

4. Replies were received from the following countries: Argentina, Belgium, China, Cyprus, Egypt, Germany, Federal Republic of, France, India, Ireland, Israel, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Luxembourg, Mauritius, Mexico, Norway, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Seychelles, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. A reply was received from the Organization of American States.

5. Replies were also received from INTERPOL and the following non-governmental organizations: Anti-Slavery Society for the Protection of Human Rights, the International Association of Chiefs of Police, the International Commission of Jurists, the International Humanist and Ethical Union, the Salvation Army, the World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations and the World Young Women's Christian Association.

6. A document summarizing these replies was transmitted to the Working Group at its eighth session. That document, E/CN.4/Sub.2/AC.2/1982/13 and Add.1, is now being submitted to the General Assembly in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1981/40.
