

Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime

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Working Group on Trafficking in Persons

Fourth session

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Draft report

Addendum

VI. International cooperation in combating trafficking in persons with respect to: addressing supply and demand; and capacity-building and awareness-raising

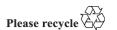
1. At its 4th and 5th meetings, on 11 and 12 October 2011, the Working Group considered agenda item 5, which reads as follows:

"International cooperation in combating trafficking in persons with respect to: addressing supply and demand; and capacity-building and awareness-raising."

- 2. For its consideration of item 5, the working group had before it the background paper prepared by the Secretariat on international cooperation in combating trafficking in persons with respect to: addressing supply and demand; and capacity-building and awareness-raising (CTOC/COP/WG.4/2011/5).
- 3. With the Chair presiding, the discussion under item 5 was led by the following panellists: Maryam Al-Malki (Qatar), Marie-Claude Arsenault (Canada), Fernanda Alves dos Anjos (Brazil), Andreas Schloenhardt (Australia), Tran Thi Ha Phuong (Viet Nam) and Chen Shiqu (China).
- 4. Statements were made by the representatives of the following States parties to the Trafficking in Persons Protocol: Belarus, Israel, India, Chile, Colombia, Argentina, Norway, United States of America, United Arab Emirates, Mexico, Egypt, Canada, Ireland, Nigeria, Ecuador, Indonesia and Russian Federation.
- 5. The observer for the signatory State Thailand made a statement.

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The working group adopted the following recommendations:

International cooperation

- 1. States parties should acknowledge the concept of shared responsibility in implementing anti-trafficking in persons measures, thus bringing together countries of origin, transit and destination in the development of evidence-based strategies and activities including awareness-raising.
- 2. States parties should assess, improve and simplify their international judicial cooperation efforts in trafficking in persons cases.
- 3. States parties should consider rendering criminal acts as defined in the trafficking in persons Protocol extraditable, irrespective whether the laws of the requesting and requested States parties define or not the acts constituting the offence within the same category of offences or denominate the offence by the same terminology or define or characterize it in the same way.
- 4. States parties should increase their efforts in exchanging information and intelligence to determine trafficking routes regionally, subregionally, as well as trans-regionally and to combat transnational organized criminal groups.
- 5. States parties should assess their involvement and contribution to the implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to combat trafficking in persons to ensure its effective and full implementation.

Awareness-raising

- 1. States parties that have not yet contributed to the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, should consider doing so.
- 2. States parties should consider joining the Group of Friends United against Trafficking in Persons.
- 3. States parties should provide exhaustive and objective information to be included in the Global Report on Trafficking in Persons, which is being prepared by UNODC for publication in 2012.
- 4. States parties should use new technologies to raise awareness on trafficking in persons through activities such as virtual teaching, thus reaching a wider audience and increasing the possibility of exchanges of good practices.
- 5. States parties should make use of the Blue Heart and the Blue Blindfold signs and include them as signs recognized as symbols of the fight against trafficking in persons in their awareness-raising campaigns.
- 6. States parties should consider mainstreaming anti human trafficking measures when they create or amend laws, strategies, programmes and policies of general application.
- 7. States parties should consider the possibility to implement measures to prohibit the dissemination, through any means of communication, of advertisements and publications that foster all forms of exploitation of persons, especially sexual exploitation in order to prevent trafficking in persons and combat socio-cultural patterns which sustain gender inequality and discrimination against women.

V.11-86320

Supply and demand

- 1. States parties should cooperate with countries of origin, including civil society in order to provide appropriate protection, assistance and rehabilitation to victims of trafficking in persons and ensure their reintegration upon return.
- 2. States parties should carry out capacity-building activities for law enforcement and judiciary officials, consular staff from countries of origin, transit and destination.
- 3. States parties should ensure that multi-dimensional measures are put in place to support coordination and cooperation at both the national and international levels taking into consideration the local specificities and needs identified on the ground.
- 4. States parties should take measures to advance the human rights, including poverty alleviation and employment programmes, with a view to addressing the supply side of the problem.

V.11-86320 3