



# General Assembly

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Agenda item 108

**Crime prevention and criminal justice**

**Belarus: draft resolution**

## **Improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons**

*The General Assembly,*

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

*Expressing its serious 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,

*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,

*Recognizing* the significance of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution [64/293](#) of 30 July 2010, and underlining the importance of its full implementation,

*Reaffirming* that the Global Plan of Action was developed:

(a) To 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, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, as well as other relevant international instruments that address trafficking in persons, and to reinforce the implementation of existing instruments against trafficking in persons;



(b) To help Member States reinforce their political commitments and legal obligations to prevent and combat trafficking in persons;

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

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

(e) To 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) To foster cooperation and coordination among all relevant stakeholders, including Member States, international organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector, as well as among the various entities of the United Nations system, taking into account existing best practices and lessons learned;

*Recalling* its resolution [67/190](#) of 20 December 2012 and other relevant General Assembly resolutions on trafficking in persons and other contemporary forms of slavery,<sup>1</sup>

*Recalling also* Economic and Social Council resolution 2013/41 of 25 July 2013 on the implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons and previous Council resolution on trafficking in persons,

*Emphasizing* the role of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons in the implementation of the Global Plan of Action, and taking note with appreciation the activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime as coordinator of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group,

*Recognizing* the need to continue to foster a global partnership against trafficking in persons 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,

*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

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<sup>1</sup> Resolutions 55/67, 58/137, 59/166, 61/144, 61/180, 63/156, 63/194 and 64/178.

and children without nationality or without birth registration are particularly vulnerable to trafficking in persons,

*Stressing* the need to promote and protect the rights of victims of trafficking in persons and to reintegrate victims into the community,

*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,

*Recognizing* that the adoption of the Global Plan of Action and the establishment of the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, contributed significantly to a better awareness of the situation of victims of human trafficking and provided humanitarian, legal and financial aid to victims of trafficking in persons,

*Recognizing also* 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,

*Recalling* its resolution [59/156](#) of 20 December 2004, and expressing its serious concern about the number of reported incidents of trafficking in persons for the purpose of removal of organs and the ongoing lack of reliable data in that regard,

1. *Urges* Member States and other stakeholders mentioned in the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons, and invites relevant international, regional and subregional organizations, within their respective mandates, to continue to contribute to the full and effective implementation of the Global Plan of Action, including by strengthening cooperation and improving coordination among themselves in achieving that goal;

2. *Welcomes* the outcome of the high-level meeting of the sixty-seventh session of the General Assembly to appraise progress achieved in the implementation of the Global Plan of Action, held in New York from 13 to 15 May 2013, in which, inter alia, strong political will was evinced to step up efforts against trafficking in persons;

3. *Decides* to appraise at its seventy-first session the progress achieved in the implementation of the Global Plan of Action, and requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures in that regard;

4. *Also decides*, in the context of the need to raise awareness of the situation of victims of human trafficking and to promote and protect their rights, to designate 30 July as the World Day of Dignity for Victims of Human Trafficking, to be observed every year beginning in 2014, and invites all Member States, relevant agencies of the United Nations system and other international organizations, as well as civil society, to observe the Day;

5. *Expresses support* for the activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to provide adequate support to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and invites Member States to make voluntary contributions to the Office for the purpose of providing assistance to Member States upon request;

6. *Encourages* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other members of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons to strengthen, in line with their existing mandates, the implementation of the Global Plan of Action, and in this regard invites the Office and other members of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group, in cooperation with Member States, to elaborate and present in an appropriate manner to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session a list of concrete measures planned by the Coordination Group up to 2016 aimed at implementing the Global Plan of Action;

7. *Invites* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in its capacity as coordinator of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group, and other relevant agencies of the United Nations system to increase the activities of the Group related to the implementation of the Global Plan of Action;

8. *Encourages* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to cooperate with relevant international organizations outside of the United Nations system and to invite such organizations and interested Member States to participate, when appropriate, in the meetings of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group and to keep Member States informed of the schedule of and progress made by the Group;

9. *Calls upon* Member States, international organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector to support and increase 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;

10. *Also 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;

11. *Takes note* of the draft basic principles on the right to an effective remedy for trafficked persons, prepared by the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 8/12 of 18 June 2008, and looks forward to the outcome of the ongoing consultations thereon;

12. *Invites* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to establish the practice of convening, on a regular basis, meetings of representatives of national coordinating mechanisms on combating trafficking in persons with a view to ensuring, inter alia, better international coordination and information exchange on good practices to address the problem of trafficking in persons;

13. *Welcomes* the previous and ongoing contributions by Member States and other stakeholders of the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children;

14. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in its capacity as fund manager of the Trust Fund, to continue to encourage contributions by States and all other relevant stakeholders to the Trust Fund;

15. *Invites* the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime to explore options regarding an appropriate and effective mechanism to assist the Conference of the Parties in reviewing the implementation of the Convention and to consider establishing such a mechanism at its next meeting;

16. *Welcomes* the *Global Report on Trafficking in Persons 2012* prepared by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and looks forward to the preparation by the Office of the next such report in 2014, pursuant to the United Nations Global Plan of Action;

17. *Encourages* Member States to provide to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime evidence-based data on patterns, forms and flows of trafficking in persons, including for the purpose of removal of organs and, where such evidence exists, of tissues and cells, as well as information about cases of trafficking in persons for the purpose of removal of organs and, if such information exists, of tissues and cells;

18. *Invites* Member States, as well as participants in the ongoing processes, including the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals, to take into account the commitment to combat human trafficking 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, in elaborating the post-2015 development agenda;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

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