

Conclusions of the Workshop on International Trafficking in Human Beings*

- 1.** It is recognised that migration arises primarily from the disparity in wealth between developed and less developed countries. Consequently, citizens from these less developed countries are more vulnerable to become victims of smuggling and trafficking. The restriction on legal migration creates a market for services that facilitates illegal migration and thus increases the risk of people to be trafficked. Therefore, legal possibilities of immigration should be organised by countries of destination and receiving countries.
- 2.** It is stressed that it is of almost importance to continue efforts to statistically monitor and collect data on trafficking in persons in an internationally standardized and comparable fashion, in order to allow for evidence based policy-making on the matter.
- 3.** It is recognised that trafficking in human beings is an infringement upon fundamental human rights, such as human dignity, a person's right to freedom and the capacity to decide on one's own life, the prohibition of slavery and forced labour.
- 4.** It is stressed that substantive criminal law should clearly distinguish between smuggling of and trafficking in persons as reflected in the two Protocols adopted in 2000 to the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.
- 5.** It is noted that there is a broad consensus on the definition of trafficking in human beings as described in Art. 3 of the UN Trafficking Protocol. Accordingly, countries are urged to criminalize trafficking in human beings for the purposes of sexual and labour exploitation, organ transfer and removal and adoption, even if no organised criminal group is involved, no border is crossed, no profit motive prevail.
- 6.** Trafficking of persons under the age of 18 should be criminalized regardless the means used to achieve the victim's consent.
- 7.** It is noted that trafficking in human beings is a gender neutral concept. It is recognized, however, that women and children are especially vulnerable to trafficking as a result of the feminisation of poverty, gender discrimination, and lack of educational or professional opportunities.
- 8.** Recalling the UN Trafficking Protocol, it is stressed that proper procedural status should be created for victims of trafficking, especially when co-operating with justice.

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