**FORUM:** Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)

**QUESTION OF:** Strengthening coordination of efforts to combat human trafficking

**SUBMITTED BY:** Benin

**CO-SUBMITTED BY:** Australia, Finland, United States of America, India, Dr. Congo, Argentina, Bolivia, Nepal, Antigua and Barbuda, Kuwait, United Kingdom, Sweden, Georgia, Pakistan, France, Brazil, Uganda, Honduras

THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL,

*Defining* human trafficking as the act of recruiting, harboring, transporting, providing, or obtaining a person for forced labor or commercial sex acts through the use of force, abduction, fraud, or coercion,

*Reaffirming* the principles set forth in relevant human rights instruments and declarations, including the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocol and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, and Articles 4 and 5 of the Universal Declaration of Rights, as ratified by the UN, which states that “No one shall be held in slavery or servitude; slavery and the slave trade shall be prohibited in all their forms.” and that “No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.”,

*Also reaffirming* UN Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons set in A/RES/64/293 (2010) implemented by CCPCJ/RES/20/3 (2011), which called upon Member States to eliminate the demand of all forms of exploitation and an emphasis on strengthening national laws to hold criminals accountable and focuses on the four aspects prevention, protection and assistance of victims, prosecution and partnerships,

*Recognizing* that there is an innumerable amount of organizations within and out of the United Nations with the intentions of combating human trafficking, such as the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), International Labor Organization (ILO), High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), UN Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking (UN.GIFT) and the Inter-agency Coordination group Against Trafficking in persons (ICAT), Awareness Against Human Trafficking (HAART),

*Deeply disturbed* by the statistics provided by the UN.GIFT declaring that there are a total of 52 million victims of human trafficking as of 2012, 21 million of which are in forces labor, 79% of females are victims of sexual exploitation, as well as 83% of male victims are involved in the forced labor industry,

*Stressing* that as stated by the International Labor Organization (ILO), the majority of trafficked victims are usually from poor countries and poorest strata of the national population, which lack the funding and means to sponsor such a combative program,

1. Encourages Member States to sign and ratify the protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children and The United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons;
2. Further encourages all Member States to actively support through the creation of forums to host collaboration and develop a more effective approach in preventing, prosecuting, and protecting victims of human trafficking between, but not limited to;
   1. law enforcement agencies
   2. Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO’s)
   3. international, national, regional governing bodies
   4. private sectors;
3. Asksgovernments and NGOs to increase financial, logistic and technical support to all actors involved in combating human trafficking in the destination countries;
4. Expresses its hope for the adaptation or strengthening of legislative measures to discourage the demand that support all forms of human trafficking;
5. Supports increased efforts by each of the individual states to develop and grow upon the sharing of knowledge for the purpose of educating the vulnerable citizens most likely to be subjected to human trafficking through means of:
   1. utilization of organizations such as The United Nation’s Children’s Fund (UNICEF) to advise and inform individual states on the information most effective of combatting this
   2. focus both on advertising and aiding in an effort to combat human trafficking through advertising to the general public by means such as but not limited to:
      1. advertisement through means of various media, as deemed most appropriate by each state to reach a large audience about the dangers of human trafficking
      2. holding seminars in public places, in communities, to personally inform the public on the issue of human trafficking through local community leaders and volunteers;
6. Urges all capable Member States, in coordination with the UNODC, UNICEF and the Red Cross, to set up rehabilitation centers in areas where human trafficking is extremely common through means such as, but not limited to:
   1. asking foreign volunteers to assist throughout the entirety of these projects
   2. hiring local staff so that they are given an opportunity of a job within construction and medical assistance
   3. educating both volunteers and local staff on how to assist clients of the rehabilitation centers by:
      1. professionals training volunteers and local staff
      2. providing informational books;
7. Further urges that, in relation to clause 6, capable Member States, in coordination with the UNODC and UN.GIFT, to set up transit homes where children and adults can both permanently and temporarily stay, where people will receive:
   1. medical assistance and psychological aid given by professionals and/or volunteers
   2. counseling, seeing as many are left traumatized or mentally unstable from the experience
   3. food given by local and international organizations such as the Food Donation Connection (FDC)
   4. clothing donated by organizations such as, but not limited to, the Red Cross;
8. Recommends the expansion of regional border security programs which put an emphasis on the local level, such as United Nations Development Program’s (UNDP) Program on Community Security which works at the local level to increase awareness and training on border security issues;
9. Requests Member States to cooperate in efforts towards increased coastal and land border control by:
   1. supporting the creation of regional intervention groups with specific tasks such as investigative and informative units along borders
   2. working towards the implementation of border regulations to limit the flow of human trafficking and out of a member state;
10. Further encourages Member States to develop training and education programs for border security personnel in order to create standardized policies, practices and procedures that meet the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime’s minimum standards;
11. Strongly recommends that UN member states collaborate with ECOSOC and UN.GIFT to generate quotas and adequate standards by which human trafficking of that nation can be measured by usage of such standards are to be controlled and measured by, but limited to:
    1. government members
    2. police officials;
12. Proposes that nations adopt more penalizing prosecutions against trafficking smugglers in order to prevent them from continuing their crime or starting one, through the following methods but not limited to:
13. increasing financial penalties depending on the amount of people trafficked
14. limiting their freedom of leaving the country by confiscating their visa, permit or border pass
15. introducing longer jail sentences and harsher court procedures.