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# PARIS DECLARATION

OF THE  
OSCE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY  
AND  
RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED  
DURING THE TENTH ANNUAL SESSION

**PARIS, 10 JULY 2001**

**Principal Sponsor  
Mr. Christopher Smith  
United States of America**

**See pages 34-35**

## **RESOLUTION ON COMBATING TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS**

1. Recalling that the 1991 Moscow Document and the 1999 Charter for European Security commit OSCE participating States to seek to end all forms of trafficking in human beings including through appropriate legislation and other measures;
2. Bearing in mind that this Parliamentary Assembly condemned trafficking in human beings in its 1999 St. Petersburg Declaration and 2000 Bucharest Declaration;
3. Welcoming the adoption of the OSCE Ministerial Council Decision of November 2000 on enhancing the OSCE's efforts to combat trafficking in human beings;
4. Noting that the Decision stressed the role of national parliaments in this objective, and underscoring that, pursuant to that Decision, OSCE participating States committed “to take necessary measures, including by adopting and implementing legislation, to criminalize trafficking in human beings, including appropriate penalties, with a view to ensuring effective law enforcement response and prosecution. Such legislation should take into account a human rights approach to the problem of trafficking, and include a provision for the protection of the human rights of victims, ensuring that victims of trafficking do not face prosecution solely because they have been trafficked”;
5. Welcoming the adoption in December 2000 by the United Nations General Assembly of two additional protocols to the Convention against Transnational Organized Crime regarding the prevention, suppression and punishment of trafficking in persons, and the smuggling of migrants, appeals to participating States to ratify these texts and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child regarding the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography;
6. Deploring the fact that, despite the increased international attention to the scourge of trafficking in human beings, each year millions of persons around the world continue to be victimized through trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation and other forms of slavery or slavery-like conditions, in violation of their fundamental human rights;
7. Noting that the OSCE region includes source, transit and destination countries for trafficking operations and that each year many thousands of children, women and men are trafficked for exploitation in OSCE countries;
8. Stressing the role of national parliaments in the adoption of necessary legislation to combat trafficking in human beings and welcoming Articles 106 and 107 of the Bucharest Declaration of the Parliamentary Assembly regarding trafficking in human beings;
9. Supporting the efforts of the Stability Pact Task Force on Trafficking in Human Beings and appealing to participating States to play an active role in this respect;

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly

10. Deeply disturbed that despite the repeated commitments to ensure adequate legal prohibitions against trafficking in human beings, existing laws in many OSCE participating States remain inadequate to deter trafficking, to bring traffickers to justice, and to protect their victims;
11. Stresses once again that the parliaments and governments of OSCE participating States must review their domestic laws to ensure that trafficking in human beings is established as a criminal offence and that penalties can be imposed that reflect the grievous nature of the offence while protecting the rights of trafficking victims;
12. Appeals to the governments of the participating States to establish national co-ordination and prosecution structures composed, where applicable, of representatives of the public authorities concerned, parliaments, non-governmental organizations and associations;
13. Invites governments to become more involved in the training of members of the authorities specializing in combating trafficking in human beings;
14. Undertakes, together with the participating States, to urge non-governmental organizations and associations to heighten public awareness of the causes and consequences of trafficking in human beings, through information campaigns in the media and socio-economic initiatives in order to warn about and combat trafficking in human beings;
15. Encourages the establishment and strengthening of co-operation between participating States in order to harmonize their procedures regarding:
  - the prosecution of the perpetrators of trafficking in human beings;
  - legal, medical and psychological assistance to victims of trafficking in human beings;
  - information and heightening of public awareness on the causes and consequences of the trafficking in human beings;
16. Welcomes the active commitment of non-governmental and other organizations or associations to combating trafficking in human beings and undertakes to co-operate with them.