

Second day of the Thirteenth Meeting
MC(13) Journal No. 2, Agenda item 8

DECISION No. 13/05
COMBATING TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS

The Ministerial Council,

Reaffirming Ministerial Council Decisions Nos. 2/03 and 13/04, as well as other OSCE commitments to combat trafficking in human beings in all its forms and for all purposes, by adhering to which, the participating States have clearly demonstrated a political will to eliminate this contemporary form of enslavement that violates human dignity and undermines the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Recalling the international obligations taken by those OSCE participating States which have signed and ratified the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its Supplementary Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography, as well as other relevant international treaties to which they are parties,

Noting the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings as the first regional treaty in this field which is mainly focused on the protection of victims of trafficking, as well as on the prevention of this horrendous crime and the prosecution of its perpetrators,

Welcoming progress achieved by participating States in the implementation of the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings as a comprehensive tool-kit for assisting both authorities and civil society to prevent such trafficking, prosecute perpetrators of the crime and protect its victims,

Drawing attention to the need to enhance the above-mentioned measures, develop strong anti-trafficking networks which would function multilaterally, regionally and bilaterally, and effectively implement the commitments taken, with full support and assistance provided to the participating States, upon their request, by the OSCE structures, institutions and field operations,

Reiterating the unique role of the OSCE as a catalyst in joint efforts by international organizations aimed at combating trafficking in human beings of all forms, and commending the initiatives taken by the OSCE Special Representative on Combating Trafficking in Human Beings under the auspices of the “Alliance against Trafficking in Persons”,

Decides:

1. To endorse the Addendum to the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings: Addressing the Special Needs of Child Victims of Trafficking for Protection and Assistance, adopted by Permanent Council Decision No. 685 on 7 July 2005, thus effectively responding to the needs of the most vulnerable and unprotected victims of trafficking in human beings;
2. To continue to pay closer attention to the escalating threat of human trafficking, and to pursue a multidimensional and victim-centred approach to issues related to combating trafficking in human beings as an aspect of organized crime, criminality and corruption, within the OSCE concept of comprehensive security;
3. To task the OSCE anti-trafficking mechanism to report to the Permanent Council in June each year, starting in June 2006, on progress achieved in work on trafficking issues in the OSCE. These reports will also contain contributions from other OSCE structures, institutions and field operations on developments related to trafficking in human beings throughout the OSCE region and will include an analysis of achievements in the light of the objectives set out in the 2003 OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings.