

## 1993/48. Suppression of the traffic in persons

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recalling* Commission on Human Rights resolution 1982/20 of 10 March 1982<sup>125</sup> on the question of slavery and the slave trade in all their practices and manifestations, including the slavery-like practices of apartheid and colonialism, resolutions 1988/42 of 8 March 1988,<sup>126</sup> 1989/35 of 6 March 1989,<sup>118</sup> 1990/63 of 7 March 1990,<sup>119</sup> 1991/58 of 6 March 1991<sup>120</sup> and 1992/47 of 3 March 1992<sup>99</sup> on the report of the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery of the Subcommittee on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, taking note of Commission resolution 1993/27 of 5 March 1993<sup>78</sup> and decision 1993/112 of 10 March 1993,<sup>127</sup> also on the report of the

Working Group, and recalling Commission resolution 1992/74 of 5 March 1992" on programmes of action for the prevention of the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography and for the elimination of the exploitation of child labour,

*Recalling also* Council resolutions 1982/20 of 4 May 1982 and 1983/30 of 26 May 1983 on the suppression of the traffic in persons and of the exploitation of the prostitution of others, 1988/34 of 27 May 1988 and 1989/74 of 24 May 1989 on the Working Group, and 1990/46 of 25 May 1990, 1991/35 of 31 May 1991 and 1992/10 of 20 July 1992 on the suppression of the traffic in persons,

*Recalling farther* Commission on Human Rights resolution 1992/36 of 28 February 1992" on a draft programme of action for the prevention of traffic in persons and the exploitation of the prostitution of others,

*Considering* that the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Economic and Social Council on the suppression of the traffic in persons and the exploitation of the prostitution of others<sup>128</sup> still constitutes a useful basis for further action,

*Having examined* the report of the Secretary-General<sup>29</sup> on the implementation of Council resolution 1983/30 on the suppression of the traffic in persons and of the exploitation of the prostitution of others,

*Noting* that only a few Member States, United Nations organizations and other intergovernmental organizations have submitted information on the steps taken to implement the recommendations contained in Council resolution 1983/30,

*Gravely concerned* that slavery, the slave trade and slavery-like practices still exist, that there are modern manifestations of those phenomena and that such practices represent some of the gravest violations of human rights,

*Convinced* that the United Nations Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery will play an important role in the protection of the human rights of victims of contemporary forms of slavery,

*Aware* of the complexity of the issue of the suppression of the traffic in persons and the exploitation of the prostitution of others, and the need for further coordination and cooperation to implement the recommendations made by the Special Rapporteur and by various United Nations bodies,

*Sharing* the grave concern, expressed by the Commission on Human Rights in paragraph 2 of its resolution 1993/27, at manifestations of contemporary forms of slavery as reported to the Working Group,

*Mindful* of the resolutions on violence against women, adopted by the Commission on Human Rights, the Commission on the Status of Women and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,

*Welcoming* the determined stance taken in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action<sup>130</sup> adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993 against gender-based violence and all forms of sexual harassment and exploitation, including those resulting from cultural prejudice and international trafficking and the pertinent reference made in that Declaration to legal measures, national action and international cooperation in such fields as economic and social development, education, safe maternity and health care, and social support,

1. *Reminds* States parties to the Slavery Convention of 1926,<sup>131</sup> the Supplementary Convention on the Abolition

of Slavery, the Slave Trade and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery of 1956,<sup>131</sup> and the Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others of 1949<sup>131</sup> that they should submit to the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities regular reports on the situation in their countries, as provided for under the relevant conventions and under Council decision 16 (LVI) of 17 May 1974;

2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General<sup>129</sup> on the implementation of Council resolution 1983/30 on the suppression of the traffic in persons and of the exploitation of the prostitution of others;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a further report to the Council, at its substantive session of 1994, on the steps taken to implement the recommendations contained in Council resolution 1983/30 by those Member States, United Nations organizations and other inter-governmental organizations which have not yet submitted such information and to make that report available to the Working Group;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to include in the abovementioned report, or to make available to the Council in some way, information on activities of the supervisory bodies of the International Labour Organisation regarding the implementation of provisions and standards designed to ensure the protection of children and other persons exposed to contemporary forms of slavery;

5. *Takes note* in this connection of the information<sup>132</sup> on activities of the supervisory bodies of the International Labour Organisation regarding the implementation of provisions and standards designed to ensure the protection of children and other persons exposed to contemporary forms of slavery;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in the abovementioned report information on any operational activities of the United Nations system that can foster the implementation of standards designed to ensure the protection of children and other persons exposed to contemporary forms of slavery and activities that might be geared to the prevention of violations and alleviation of the plight, or rehabilitation, of victims;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to include in the abovementioned report information on the matter of the close collaboration of the Commission on the Status of Women and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice with the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat on the issue of the suppression of contemporary forms of slavery;

8. *Urges* the Secretary-General to ensure effective servicing of the Working Group and of other activities related to the suppression of contemporary forms of slavery and slavery-like practices, and requests him to report to the Council at its substantive session of 1994 on the steps taken in that regard;

9. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to designate the Centre for Human Rights as the focal point for the coordination of activities in the United Nations for the suppression of contemporary forms of slavery, and requests the Secretary-General to report on the follow-up to this request;

10. *Urges* the Commission on the Status of Women and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal

Justice to collaborate closely with the Centre for Human Rights on the issue of the suppression of contemporary forms of slavery;

11. *Welcomes* the establishment of the United Nations Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery;

12. *Approves* the endorsement by the Commission on Human Rights in its resolution 1993/27 of the recommendation made by the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, in its resolution 1992/2 of 14 August 1992,<sup>137</sup> that the arrangements regarding the organization of the sessions of the Working Group, as contained in Commission decision 1992/1 IS of 3 March 1992,<sup>133</sup> should be repeated in subsequent years;

13. *Welcomes* Commission on Human Rights decision 1993/112<sup>137</sup> to authorize the Subcommission to consider the possibility of appointing a special rapporteur to update the report of the Special Rapporteur on the exploitation of child labour, Mr. Abdelwahab Bouhdiba;

14. *Concurs* with the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat in its assessment<sup>134</sup> of the relevance of the United Nations Guidelines for the Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency (The Riyadh Guidelines) contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 45/112 of 14 December 1990;

15. *Decides* to consider the question of the suppression of the traffic in persons at its substantive session of 1994 under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

*44th plenary meeting  
28 July 1993*