

Resolution

International Conference “Trafficking in Women: Counteraction and Prevention”

7 to 10 October 2004
Chisinau, Republic of Moldova

We, representatives of 12 European countries and the USA, participants in the international conference “Trafficking in Women: Counteraction and Prevention” initiated by **Soroptimist International Club Chisinau and Soroptimist International Union of Norway**, express our serious concern about trafficking in women and girls. We express our solidarity with the victims of trafficking in women. We condemn the abuses of women and girls in all its forms.

We, the participants of the International Conference “Trafficking in Women: Counteraction and Prevention” state:

1. Trafficking women is a form of slavery and a serious violation of Human Rights.
2. Trafficking in women and girls causes immeasurable physical and psychological suffering, even loss of life.
3. Trafficking in women is the result of unequal power and opportunities of women and men. It reflects persisting stereotypes, affects the image of women in society and family values.
4. Trafficking has serious repercussions on the political, economic and social dimensions of society.

In view of these conditions, which cause serious damage to human dignity, we urge the leaders of National and International Institutions and Organisations to include the issue of trafficking in women as a top priority. We request the following actions to be undertaken at international, national and local levels:

1. magnifying and consolidating efforts against trafficking in women and girls.
2. acting to raise awareness of damages caused by trafficking in women and girls.
3. Addressing demand as a major cause of trafficking.
4. Developing, adopting and improving trafficking legislation, including its application and enforcement.
5. Improving educational, logistical and material assistance for police and justice bodies.
6. Improving services and rehabilitation assistance to victims of trafficking, giving them the opportunity to either stay in the destination country or return in the country of origin.
7. Developing special policies for social reintegration of trafficking victims.
8. Developing educational strategies as women trafficking prevention instruments.
9. Encouraging and supporting civil society engaged in the fight against trafficking in women.
10. Providing adequate resources to prevent and combat trafficking in women and girls.
11. Promoting and implanting gender equality policies and programmes for women and men.
12. Improving the economic situation and creation of new employment possibilities in the countries of origin and transit of trafficking in women and girls.