



ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Organization

**25th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
12-17 September 2004, Phnom Penh, Cambodia**

Res.25GA/2004/Com/WAIPO/02

**RESOLUTION
ON
THE ROLE OF PARLIAMENT IN COMBATING TRAFFICKING IN
WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN THE ASEAN REGION**

The Twenty-fifth General Assembly:

Acknowledging the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others, the Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, and the Convention on the Rights of the Child;

Acknowledging also that the ASEAN sub-Committee on Women (ACW) urged the ASEAN Member Countries to develop and propose activities and projects to further address the Hanoi Plan of Action, priority on women;

Aware that trafficking in women and children is an increasing problem and convinced of the necessity for ASEAN member countries to enhance their efforts to combat trafficking in women and children throughout the ASEAN region, and to contribute to national, regional and international anti-trafficking efforts in defense of human rights and the fight against transnational organized crime;

Noting that the lack of education, unequal treatment and low status of women, poverty and unemployment of women, particularly in the ASEAN region, are major factors contributing to the causes of trafficking of women and minors;

Noting further that in some ASEAN countries existing provisions or laws are inadequate to deter trafficking and law enforcement mechanisms fail to bring traffickers to justice.

Therefore, hereby:

Urgently appeal on the Governments of ASEAN countries to strengthen existing legislation and enforcement mechanisms to punish particularly those who create

demand for illicit sex or who use force or fraud to traffic women or minors into the international sex trade, while protecting the rights of the trafficking victims;

Urges the Governments of ASEAN countries to develop and strengthen where applicable nationally and internationally coordinated law enforcement strategies, including legal and police-cooperation and humanitarian aspects, to combat internationally organized crime, particularly in trafficking of women and minors;

Also urges the ASEAN member countries to promote networks and partnerships between the agencies of Government such as, the police, judicial, migration and social authorities, civil society, and international organizations in member states;

Recommends that countries of origin, transit and destination of trafficking victims conduct information campaigns to raise public awareness and understanding of trafficking;

Calls on the AIPO member parliaments to strengthen their oversight function in their respective countries to preventing trafficking of women and minors, through equal treatment of women and improvement of the status and role of women in society as well as through job training and creation in high risk communities or areas;

Calls also on respective parliaments to consider the establishment of Women Working Group of ASEAN to monitor the fight against trafficking of women and minors and to report its activities to the next AIPO General Assembly.