

## 26<sup>TH</sup> GENERAL ASSEMBLY 18 – 23 SEPTEMBER 2005, VIENTIANE, LAO PDR.

Res. 26GA/2005/Soc/03

## RESOLUTION ON LEGAL COOPERATION TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN AND CHILDREN

## The Twenty-Sixth General Assembly:

*Acknowledging* the ASEAN Declaration Against Trafficking in Persons, particularly Women and Children, November 2004 in Vientiane and other regional and international efforts in combating trafficking in women and children;

*Being aware* that human trafficking, particularly in women and children, is a critical and transnational problem, which has caused distress to the victims, their families and has had a detrimental effect on socio-economic development in the country;

*Recognizing* that the fight against the trafficking in women and children faces difficulties and challenges which need to be addressed nationally and internationally in a comprehensive manner;

Hereby resolves to:

*Encourage* member countries to develop, review and amend where applicable laws and policies in trafficking in women and children;

Advocate on the prevention and combat trafficking in women children by different means;

*Urge* member countries to take immediate, comprehensive, and concerted actions to support stringent measures in preventing and combating trafficking in women and children, establishing an appropriate anti-trafficking body, including National WIPE Working Group and clearly identifying the main agency responsible for both national and international coordination;

*Encourage* member countries to incorporate the National Plan of Action to combat trafficking in women and children into the Socio-Economic Development Plan of each country;

*Ensure* the effective implementation of existing laws related to trafficking in women and children through coordination of the national, regional and international communities;

*Agree* to share information and experiences in combating trafficking in women and children, conduct study tours and exchange lessons learned among parliamentarians, and

*Strengthen* regional and international cooperation in preventing and combating trafficking in women and children.

**Recommend** AIPO members to conduct a research project in the first half of 2006 in order to develop a roadmap to help implement the above mentioned recommendations. Funding for the said research project shall come partly from AIPO's operationg surplus funds in compliance with article 21 (amended) of AIPO Statutes and Resolution 23GA/2002/Org/08 on the use of AIPO surplus funds.