

Delegation of Switzerland

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF SWITZERLAND  
AT THE 953rd MEETING OF THE OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

16 May 2013

**In response to the report by Ms. Maria Grazia Giammarinaro,  
Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating  
Trafficking in Human Beings**

Mr. Chairperson,

I should like to extend my warmest thanks to Ms. Maria Grazia Giammarinaro for presenting her report, which clearly showed the current challenges in the fight against trafficking in human beings in the OSCE region. Under your effective leadership, the Office of the Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings has attained international influence.

Through its National Action Plan launched in October 2012, Switzerland intends to continue its commitment to the development of international standards for combating trafficking in human beings, using the OSCE as a platform for sharing best practices and contributing to international political processes.

Switzerland reiterates the need to strengthen the 2003 Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings by drawing up an addendum based on existing commitments that would help to guide the OSCE's counter-trafficking response. In this connection, we should also like to commend the Ukrainian Chairmanship for convening the High-level Conference on Strengthening the OSCE Response to Trafficking in Human Beings, which will take place in Kyiv on 10 and 11 June 2013. Furthermore, we welcome the interest that has been shown in the issue of domestic servitude in diplomatic households, which is a serious challenge for the international community. Following the first specialist workshop on the subject organized last year in Geneva by Ms. Giammarinaro's office, Switzerland would like once again to offer its support for the holding of a second seminar on domestic servitude in diplomatic households on 12 and 13 June in Kyiv, after the High-Level Conference.

Switzerland also welcomes the endeavours of the Co-ordinator's Office to reinforce co-operation between OSCE participating and partner States in the prevention of all forms of trafficking in human beings, and on the issues of modern-day slavery and the protection of victims of trafficking in particular. The expert seminar organized by your Office this February in Rome on Co-operation to Prevent Trafficking in Human Beings in the Mediterranean Region was, in our view, extremely useful and made it possible to implement

Decision No. 5/11 of the Vilnius Ministerial Council. By way of follow-up, you have developed a proposal for a Roadmap on Combating all Forms of Trafficking in Human Beings in the Mediterranean Region, which pinpoints the key areas where co-operation between participating and partner States ought to be strengthened. This document will allow a productive dialogue to be instigated with OSCE partners during tomorrow's meeting of the Mediterranean Contact Group.

We look forward to the discussions at the Contact Group and we hope that they will lead to tangible results. Thank you.