

OSCE HUMAN DIMENSION IMPLEMENTATION MEETING 2006
The working session 2
Addressing factors contributing to the cycle of trafficking in persons

Intervention of the Republic of Lithuania
Mr. Alfredas Nazarovas, Ministry of Social Security and Labour

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Ms./Mr. Moderator,

In my intervention I would like to present information regarding the activities of the Government of Lithuania against trafficking in human beings.

Taking into consideration importance of the problem in 2002 the Government adopted the first National Programme on Prevention and Control of Trafficking in Human Beings and Prostitution. It is complex document, the first of such kind in Nordic and Baltic countries covering different aspects, introducing systematic approach and foreseeing multidisciplinary measures to combat trafficking.

Carrying out measures of the Programme, aimed to ensure assistance to victims of trafficking in human beings and promote creation of the system of social assistance, the Government supports projects of states institutions, municipalities and NGO designed to provide social assistance to victims and their reintegration to the society. During the period 2002 -2006 more than 70 projects have been funded. Priority has been given to the projects, which provide urgent social assistance, ensure temporary housing, feeding and daily commodities, ensure psychological consultations and other assistance for victims.

Based on experience of the implementation of the first Programme, new Programme on Prevention and Control of Trafficking in Human Beings was prepared and adopted in May 2005. It includes:

- further support projects of NGO aimed to provide social and psychological assistance to victims and their reintegration to the society;
- improve qualification of social workers of municipalities and NGO's or provide requalification allowing them to work with the victims of trafficking and prostitution;
- promote cooperation of NGO's and municipalities in solving questions of rehabilitation of victims;
- to apply team-work principle which is essential in solving such complex multidimensional problem, to join knowledge and efforts of specialists of different sectors and clearly determine their functions: social worker, officers of law enforcement institutions, pedagogues and specialists of health protection system.

The Government cooperating with organizations rendering social support to victims is aware about difficulties experienced in their activities. First of all, it would be helpful to

have separate system on rehabilitation of young girls, due it their specific needs. Second, it is necessary to exchange the information and coordinate the activities, in order to avoid overlapping. In this regard we need better cooperation among Lithuanian NGO and its foreign partners in creating international network. Different player governmental as well as non-governmental from countries of origin, destination and transit should cooperate to ensure favorable preconditions for victims of sexual exploitation to safely return to home countries and receive relevant social psychological and medical support.

Thank you