

PC.DEL/575/09
9 July 2009

ENGLISH
Original: GERMAN

Delegation of Switzerland

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

9 July 2009

**In response to the statement by Ms. Eva Biaudet,
OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating
Trafficking in Human Beings**

Madam Chairperson,

We welcome Ms. Eva Biaudet to this meeting of the Permanent Council and thank her for her report and the outstanding work that she carries out as Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings. In particular, we support her commitment to focus specifically on prevention and to increase protection for victims.

Switzerland welcomes the fact that the OSCE has placed the subject of trafficking in human beings for the purpose of exploitation of their labour as a priority on its agenda. As there is still a lot to be learned in this field, we regard intensified international co-operation to exchange information and make standards of best practice more widely known as being particularly important. This type of trafficking in human beings has grown in significance in the OSCE participating States in the last few years and for this reason it is necessary to combat it more effectively.

We also note with interest the publication of the “Guide on Gender-Sensitive Labour Migration Policies”. We agree on the importance of taking account of the gender dimension in migration – particularly when it comes to understanding the vulnerability of the women affected and to finding suitable ways of reducing it.

In conclusion, we should like to assure Ms. Biaudet of our support in the exercise of her important function. We wish her continued success in her activities.

Thank you, Madam Chairperson.