



557 West Randolph Street ■ Chicago, Illinois 60661-2206 USA
T: (312) 930-5848 ■ F: (312) 930-0951 ■ www.zonta.org

Zonta International Resolution on Trafficking

Resolution to promote the Protocol to prevent, suppress and punish trafficking in persons, especially women and children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (Annex II supplementing UN document A/RES/55/25)

Both documents were adopted by the UN General Assembly in November 2000.

The purposes of the Protocol are:

- a. To prevent and combat trafficking in persons, paying particular attention to women and children;
- b. To protect and assist the victims of such trafficking, with full respect for their human rights; and
- c. To promote cooperation among State Parties in order to meet those objectives.

WHEREAS: Zonta International Objects include “to improve the legal, political, economic, education, health, and professional status of women” and “to promote justice and universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms”

Be it resolved therefore that:

Zonta International supports ratification of the Protocol to prevent, suppress and punish trafficking in persons, especially women and children, supplementing the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, and **encourages Zonta Clubs and Zontians to:**

1. Prepare for effective advocacy by informing themselves on the content of the Protocol;
2. Advocate for their governments to ratify the Protocol;
3. Cooperate with other NGOs in monitoring the actions of their governments for the implementation of the Protocol;
4. Advocate to discourage demand and to increase awareness, in particular of parents and guardians, of education, health and law enforcement officials, and of potential victims; and
5. In all actions, emphasize the importance of serious efforts to PREVENT trafficking.

Adopted at the 56th Zonta International Convention in Gothenburg, Sweden, July 2002.

The Development and Enactment of Laws to Combat Trafficking

For over 50 years, the UN has developed Conventions to combat trafficking as it is seen as an abuse of fundamental human rights.

- 1950 Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others.
- 1950 Final Protocol to the Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others.
- 1953 Slavery Convention, signed at Geneva on 25 September 1926 and amended by the Protocol done at the Headquarters of the United Nations, New York, on 7 December.
- 1956 Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade, and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery.
- 1962 Convention on Consent to Marriage, Minimum Age for Marriage and Registration of Marriages.
- 1979 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.
- 1984 Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment of Punishment.
- 1989 Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- 1990 International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families.
- 1999 Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.
- 1999 ILO Convention 182. Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention.
- 2000 Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict.
- 2000 United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.
- 2000 Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.
- 2000 Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.
- 2000 Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography.

The Second World Congress Against Commercial Exploitation of Children was held in Yokohama, Japan, in December 2000 and the Yokohama Global Commitment 2001 was adopted by consensus.

Sources:

- International Conference on Population and Development, 2002.
- UN Treaties on Women and Children