

Resolution 23/2

Preventing and combating trafficking in human organs and trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal

The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 59/156 of 20 December 2004, entitled “Preventing, combating and punishing trafficking in human organs”,

Recalling also the report of the Secretary-General on preventing, combating and punishing trafficking in human organs,¹

Recalling further the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime² and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,³

Recognizing that the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons,⁴ inter alia, promotes universal ratification and implementation of the Organized Crime Convention and the Trafficking in Persons Protocol,

Taking note with appreciation of the World Health Organization guiding principles on human cell, tissue and organ transplantation, endorsed by the sixty-third World Health Assembly in its resolution 63.22 of 21 May 2010,

Welcoming the joint study by the United Nations and the Council of Europe entitled *Trafficking in Organs, Tissues and Cells and Trafficking in Human Beings for the Purpose of the Removal of Organs*,⁵

Condemning the involvement of criminal groups and unethical medical personnel in the unauthorized removal or implantation of organs, and the illicit sale, brokering, purchase and other illicit transactions in respect of human organs, as well as trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal,

Concerned about the exploitation by criminal groups of human vulnerability, including poverty and destitution, for the purpose of trafficking in organs and trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal,

Noting with concern that trafficking in human organs and trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal, wherever it occurs, constitutes a form of exploitation and offence against the human dignity of the victims,

¹ E/CN.15/2006/10.

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.

³ *Ibid.*, vol. 2237, No. 39574.

⁴ General Assembly resolution 64/293, annex.

⁵ Council of Europe and United Nations, *Trafficking in Organs, Tissues and Cells and Trafficking in Human Beings for the Purpose of the Removal of Organs* (Strasbourg, Council of Europe, 2009).

1. *Urges* Member States to combat trafficking in organs, by measures that may include preventing and punishing the unauthorized removal or implantation of organs and the illicit sale, brokering, purchase and other illicit transactions in respect of human organs, as well as trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal;

2. *Encourages* Member States to consider taking the following measures in accordance with fundamental principles of their domestic legal systems and national legislation:

(a) Review, develop or amend, as appropriate, legislative measures to combat illicit trafficking of human organs, which may include punishment of the illicit sale, brokering, purchase and other illicit transactions in respect of human organs;

(b) Strengthen regulatory oversight of relevant medical facilities and the medical personnel thereof;

(c) Provide training for law enforcement, border control officials and medical personnel to identify potential cases of organ trafficking and trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal;

(d) Conduct awareness campaigns targeted at potential donors to make them informed of their rights and the heightened health and safety risks associated with organ removal in exchange for material benefits;

3. *Also encourages* Member States to exchange experience in and information on preventing, combating and punishing trafficking in organs and trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal;

4. *Welcomes* the efforts made at the regional level to combat trafficking in organs and trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal;

5. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to conduct a study on trafficking in human organs based on the analysis of information provided by Member States for consideration by the Commission at its twenty-fifth session, and, in that regard, invites the Office to engage in a dialogue with relevant international intergovernmental organizations, where appropriate, in close consultation with Member States, to enable it to collect data and conduct an analysis of instances of organ trafficking and prosecutions of trafficking in organs, as well as collect examples of applicable legislation, while bearing in mind that the data on trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal is being gathered for the *Global Report on Trafficking in Persons*, in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 2013/41, and encourages Member States to provide, upon request, relevant information to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

6. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for this purpose, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.