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Trafficking in women and girls

The General Assembly,

Reiterating its strong condemnation of human trafficking, especially trafficking in women and children, which constitutes a serious crime and a grave offence to human dignity and physical integrity, a violation and abuse of human rights and a challenge to sustainable development and which requires (a) the implementation of a comprehensive approach that includes partnerships and measures to prevent such trafficking, to prosecute and punish the traffickers, to identify, protect and support the victims of such trafficking and to intensify international cooperation and (b) a criminal justice response proportionate to the serious nature of the offence,

Recalling all international conventions that deal specifically with and address issues relevant to the problem of trafficking in women and girls, such as the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime [1] and the Protocols thereto, in particular the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[2] and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, [3] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women [4] and the Optional Protocol thereto,[5] the Convention on the Rights of the Child [6] and the Optional Protocol thereto on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography,[7] and the Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.
[2] Ibid., vol. 2237, No. 39574.
[3] Ibid., vol. 2241, No. 39574.
[4] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.
[5] Ibid., vol. 2131, No. 20378.
[6] Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.
[7] Ibid., vol. 2171, No. 27531.

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Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others,[8] as well as relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and its functional commissions and the Human Rights Council on the issue,

Recognizing the crucial importance of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, which provides an internationally agreed definition of the crime of human trafficking aimed at the prevention of human trafficking, the protection of victims and the prosecution of the perpetrators,

Recalling the resolution entitled "Launch of the review process of the Mechanism for the Review of the Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto",[9] adopted at the tenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, held in Vienna from 12 to 16 October 2020,

Welcoming the 2021 Political Declaration on the Implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons,[10] adopted by the General Assembly at its high-level meeting during the seventy-sixth session, in which Member States reiterated, in the strongest possible terms, the importance of strengthening collective action to end human trafficking,

Reaffirming the provisions pertaining to trafficking in women and girls contained in the outcome documents of relevant international conferences and summits, in particular the strategic objective on the issue of human trafficking contained in the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women,[11]

Reaffirming the commitments made by world leaders at the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, and acknowledging that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[12] inter alia, addresses the elimination of all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including human trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation; the eradication of forced labour, modern slavery, human trafficking and child labour; and the ending of abuse, exploitation, human trafficking, all forms of violence against and torture of children,

Recognizing the importance of a revitalized global partnership to ensure the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, including the implementation of the goals and targets related to ending violence against women and girls and human trafficking, and in this regard taking note with appreciation of Alliance 8.7, the Global Partnership to End Violence against Children, and the various initiatives of Member States to contribute to the global fight against trafficking in persons,

Recalling the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, adopted at the Intergovernmental Conference to Adopt the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, held in Marrakech, Morocco, on 10 and 11 December 2018, and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 73/195 of 19 December 2018, which addresses, inter alia, the issue of human trafficking in the context of international migration,

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[8] Ibid., vol. 96, No. 1342.

[9] CTOC/COP/2020/10, sect. I.A, resolution 10/1.

[10] Resolution 76/7, annex.

[11] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[12] Resolution 70/1.

Welcoming in particular the efforts of States, United Nations bodies and agencies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to combat human trafficking, especially trafficking in women and children, including the implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 64/293 of 30 July 2010,

Recognizing the urgency of combating human trafficking in all its forms, including for the purposes of forced or compulsory labour, including of women migrant workers, and in this regard taking note of the adoption by the International Labour Conference on 11 June 2014, at its 103rd session, of the Protocol to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29), and of the Forced Labour (Supplementary Measures) Recommendation, 2014 (No. 203), of the International Labour Organization,

Welcoming, in the agreed conclusions adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women at its sixty-sixth session,[13] the commitment of Governments to eliminate, prevent and respond to all forms of violence against all women and girls in public and private spaces, online and offline, including trafficking in persons and modern slavery and other forms of exploitation; and to support and fund research and analysis to better understand the impacts of climate change, environmental degradation and disasters on women and girls, including in relation to trafficking in persons,

Noting with appreciation the efforts, including of the human rights treaty bodies and the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, other relevant special procedure mandate holders of the Council involved in human trafficking issues, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children and United Nations agencies and other concerned intergovernmental and governmental organizations, within their existing mandates, as well as civil society, to address the crime of human trafficking, and encouraging them to continue doing so and to share their knowledge and best practices as widely as possible,

Noting the relevant contributions of the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children,[14] and her work in integrating a gender- and age-specific perspective throughout her mandate, in relation to the issue of human trafficking,

Bearing in mind the obligations of States to exercise due diligence to prevent human trafficking, to investigate and punish perpetrators of human trafficking and to protect and empower victims, and that not doing so may violate and impair or nullify the enjoyment of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of the victims,

Seriously concerned that an increasing number of women and girls are being trafficked, to both developed and developing countries, as well as within and between regions and States, and recognizing that human trafficking disproportionately affects women and girls and that men and boys are also victims of human trafficking, including for sexual exploitation and for the purpose of organ removal,

Highlighting the need to incorporate a gender- and age-sensitive approach, taking into account the specific needs of women and girls with disabilities, into all anti-trafficking efforts, and recognizing that women and girls are particularly vulnerable to human trafficking for the purposes of sexual exploitation, forced marriage, forced labour and other forms of exploitation,

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[13] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2022, Supplement No. 7* (E/2022/27), chap. I, sect. A.

[14] Most recently A/77/170.

Recognizing that pervasive gender inequality, poverty, unemployment, lack of socioeconomic opportunities, gender-based violence, discrimination, including multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, marginalization and persistent demand are among the underlying causes that make women and girls vulnerable to human trafficking,

Recognizing also the need to adopt or strengthen legislative or other measures, such as educational, social or cultural measures, including through bilateral and multilateral cooperation, to discourage the demand, which fosters all forms of exploitation of persons, especially women and children, that leads to human trafficking,

Recognizing further the role that men and boys can play as agents of change in addressing the harmful impact of gender stereotypes and negative social norms and in preventing violence against women and human trafficking, and underlining the need to educate and engage men and boys for this purpose,

Recognizing the heightened vulnerability to trafficking of women and girls in humanitarian crisis situations, including in conflict and post-conflict environments, natural disasters, including those that result from climate change, pandemic situations, including the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, and other emergency environments, as well as the devastating consequences for women and girls in such circumstances, and noting in this regard the Migrants in Countries in Crisis initiative and the Agenda for the Protection of Cross-Border Displaced Persons in the Context of Disasters and Climate Change, resulting from the Nansen Initiative, while recognizing that not all States are participating in them,

Recognizing also that in armed conflict, human trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation, forced marriage and labour exploitation can be prevalent, and expressing deep concern over its negative impacts on victims of human trafficking,

Recognizing further the need to reinforce efforts regarding the provision of relevant documents, such as birth registration documents, in order to lower the risk of women and girls of being subjected to human trafficking and to help to identify victims of human trafficking,

Recognizing that, despite the progress made, challenges to preventing and combating trafficking in women and girls and to protecting and assisting the victims of human trafficking remain and that further efforts should be made to adopt and implement adequate legislation and other measures and to continue improving the collection of reliable data disaggregated by sex, age, nationality, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts and other relevant factors and of statistics that would allow proper analysis of the nature, extent and risk factors of trafficking in women and girls,

Recognizing also that further work is required both to better understand the link between migration and human trafficking and to develop more effective responses to eliminate the risk of human trafficking in the migration process in order to, inter alia, further efforts to protect women migrant workers from violence, discrimination, exploitation and abuse,

Concerned about the use of information and communications technologies, including the Internet, for the purpose of recruiting for the exploitation of the prostitution of others, including for exploiting women and children, and for child pornography, child sexual abuse material, paedophilia and any other forms of sexual exploitation and abuse of children, as well as for forced marriage and forced labour, while acknowledging the role that information and communications technologies can play in reducing the risk of sexual abuse and exploitation, including by empowering women and children to report such abuses,

Recognizing the potential of information and communications technologies, including the Internet, to prevent and combat human trafficking, in particular trafficking in women and children, and to assist victims,

Concerned about the increasing activities of transnational criminal organizations and others that profit from human trafficking, especially trafficking in women and children, without regard to dangerous and inhuman conditions and in flagrant violation of national laws and international standards,

Noting with concern that women and girls are also vulnerable to the risk of human trafficking for the purpose of organ removal, and in this regard taking note of Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 25/1 of 27 May 2016, entitled "Preventing and combating trafficking in human organs and trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal", adopted by the Commission at its twenty-fifth session,[15]

Recognizing that victims of human trafficking are particularly exposed to racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and that women and girl victims are often subject to multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination and violence, including on the grounds of their gender, age, ethnicity, disability, culture and religion, as well as their origin, and that those forms of discrimination themselves may fuel human trafficking,

Noting with concern that some of the demand fostering sexual exploitation, labour exploitation and the illegal removal of organs is met by human trafficking, and recognizing that human trafficking is fuelled by high profits for traffickers and demand that fosters all forms of exploitation,

Acknowledging that women and girl victims of human trafficking, owing to pervasive and persistent gender inequality, are further disadvantaged and marginalized by a general lack of information on or awareness and recognition of their human rights and by the stigmatization often associated with human trafficking, as well as by the obstacles they meet in gaining access to accurate information and recourse mechanisms in cases of the violations and abuses of their rights, and that special measures are required for their protection and to increase their awareness,

Taking note of the Doha Declaration on Integrating Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice into the Wider United Nations Agenda to Address Social and Economic Challenges and to Promote the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels, and Public Participation, adopted in April 2015, [16] which expresses the importance of implementing a victim-oriented approach to prevent and counter all forms of human trafficking for the purpose of exploitation, including the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs, where appropriate, in accordance with the provisions of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children,

Reaffirming the importance of bilateral, subregional, regional and international cooperation mechanisms and initiatives, including information exchanges on best practices, of Governments, intergovernmental and civil society organizations, the private sector and other relevant stakeholders, to address the problem of human trafficking, especially trafficking in women and children,

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[15] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2016, Supplement No. 10* (E/2016/30), chap. I, sect. D.

[16] Resolution 70/174, annex.

Reaffirming also that global efforts, including international cooperation and technical assistance programmes, to eradicate human trafficking, especially trafficking in women and children, demand the strong political commitment, coordinated and coherent efforts and active cooperation of all Governments of countries of origin, transit and destination,

Recognizing that policies and programmes for prevention, protection, rehabilitation, recovery, repatriation and reintegration should be developed through a gender- and age-sensitive, comprehensive and multidisciplinary approach, with concern for the security and privacy of the victims and respect for the full enjoyment of their human rights and with the involvement of all relevant actors in countries of origin, transit and destination,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General,[17] which provides information on measures by States and activities within the United Nations system to tackle trafficking in women and girls;

2. *Also takes note with appreciation* of the information submitted by Member States and United Nations entities on measures and activities undertaken to combat trafficking in women and girls, and urges Member States and United Nations entities that have not done so to submit the requested information for inclusion in the report of the Secretary-General;

3. *Takes note* of the reports of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on trafficking in persons, especially women and children;[18]

4. *Urges* Member States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to, as a matter of priority, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, taking into consideration the central role of those instruments in the fight against human trafficking, and urges States parties to those instruments to implement them fully and effectively;

5. *Urges* Member States to consider signing and ratifying, and States parties to implement, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Optional Protocol thereto, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocols thereto[19] and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,[20] as well as the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29)[21] and the Protocol thereto, the Labour Inspection Convention, 1947 (No. 81),[22] the Migration for Employment Convention (Revised), 1949 (No. 97),[23] the Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111),[24] the Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138),[25] the Migrant Workers (Supplementary Provisions) Convention, 1975 (No. 143),[26] the Private Employment Agencies Convention, 1997 (No. 181),[27] the

[17] A/77/292.
[18] A/77/170 and A/HRC/50/33.
[19] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2171, 2173 and 2983, No. 27531.
[20] Ibid., vol. 2220, No. 39481.
[21] Ibid., vol. 39, No. 612.
[22] Ibid., vol. 54, No. 792.
[23] Ibid., vol. 120, No. 1616.
[24] Ibid., vol. 362, No. 5181.
[25] Ibid., vol. 1015, No. 14862.
[26] Ibid., vol. 1120, No. 17426.
[27] Ibid., vol. 2115, No. 36794.

Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182),[28] and the Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189),[29] of the International Labour Organization;

6. *Urges* Member States, the United Nations and other international, regional and subregional organizations, as well as civil society, including non-governmental organizations, the private sector and the media, to fully and effectively implement the relevant provisions of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons[30] and the activities outlined therein;

7. *Welcomes* the efforts of Governments, United Nations bodies and agencies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to prevent and address the particular problem of trafficking in women and girls and encourages them to further enhance their efforts and cooperation, including by sharing their knowledge, technical expertise and best practices as widely as possible, and encourages Member States to strengthen cooperation among all relevant actors to identify and disrupt illicit financial flows stemming from trafficking in women and girls;

8. *Takes note with appreciation* of the outcome document of the Regional Ministerial Conference on Human Trafficking and Smuggling in the Horn of Africa, known as the Khartoum Declaration, and calls for its effective implementation, including through technical cooperation and capacity-building, by the United Nations and the international community;

9. *Encourages* the Commission on the Status of Women to consider addressing the needs of, inter alia, women and girls subjected to human trafficking at its sixty-seventh and sixty-eighth sessions, within the framework of the priority themes;

10. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations system and other stakeholders to observe the World Day against Trafficking in Persons, in the context of the need to raise awareness of the situation of victims of human trafficking and for the promotion and protection of their rights;

11. *Encourages* the United Nations system to mainstream, as appropriate, the issue of human trafficking, especially trafficking in women and girls, into its broader policies and programmes aimed at addressing economic and social development, human rights, the rule of law, good governance, education, health, humanitarian action and natural disaster and post-conflict reconstruction;

12. *Welcomes* the continued focus given by the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) to ending violence against women and girls and to increasing women's access to economic opportunities, as well as its work on building effective partnerships for the empowerment of women and girls, which will contribute to the efforts to combat human trafficking;

13. *Calls upon* Governments to intensify their efforts to prevent and address, with a view to eliminating, the demand that fosters the trafficking of women and girls for all forms of exploitation and in this regard to put in place or to enhance preventive measures, including legislative and punitive measures to deter exploiters of trafficked persons, as well as ensure their accountability;

14. *Takes note* of the basic principles on the right to an effective remedy for victims of trafficking in persons;[31]

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[28] Ibid., vol. 2133, No. 37245.
[29] Ibid., vol. 2955, No. 51379.
[30] Resolution 64/293.
[31] A/69/269, annex.

15. *Calls upon* Governments to strengthen measures aimed at achieving gender equality and empowering women and girls by, inter alia, enhancing their participation and leadership in society, including through education, economic empowerment, gender-sensitive social protection mechanisms and promoting an increase in the number of women assuming decision-making roles in both the public and private sectors, to take further appropriate measures to address the increasing rate of homelessness of and inadequate housing for women in order to reduce their vulnerability to being trafficked and, in that regard, to improve the collection and use of data disaggregated by sex, age and disability to inform such measures;

16. *Also calls upon* Governments to take appropriate preventive measures to address the underlying causes as well as risk factors that increase vulnerability to human trafficking, including poverty, gender inequality, gender stereotypes and negative social norms, including discrimination and violence against women and girls, including impunity for such violence, and the persistent demand that fosters all forms of trafficking and the goods and services produced as a result of human trafficking, as well as other factors that encourage the particular problem of trafficking in women and girls for exploitation, including in prostitution and other forms of commercialized sex, forced marriage, forced labour and organ removal, in order to prevent and eliminate such trafficking, including by strengthening existing legislation, with a view to providing better protection of the rights of women and girls and punishing perpetrators, including public officials engaging in or facilitating human trafficking, through, as appropriate, criminal and civil measures;

17. *Calls upon* Governments, the international community and all other organizations and entities that deal with conflict, post-conflict, disaster and other emergency situations to address the heightened vulnerability of women and girls to human trafficking and exploitation and associated gender-based violence, inter alia, that perpetuated by traffickers in digital spaces, and to prevent the trafficking of affected women and girls through all such national, regional and international initiatives;

18. *Urges* Governments to devise, enforce and strengthen effective gender- and age-responsive measures to combat and eliminate all forms of trafficking in women and girls, including for sexual and economic exploitation, as part of a comprehensive anti-trafficking strategy that integrates a human rights perspective, and to draw up, as appropriate, national action plans in this regard;

19. *Also urges* Governments to ensure that the prevention of and responses to human trafficking continue to take into account the specific needs of women and girls and their participation in and contribution to all phases of preventing and responding to human trafficking, especially in addressing specific forms of exploitation, such as sexual exploitation;

20. *Further urges* Governments, in cooperation with intergovernmental, non-governmental and private sector organizations, to support and allocate resources to strengthen preventive action, in particular education for women and men, as well as for girls and boys, on human rights, gender equality, self-respect and mutual respect, and campaigns carried out in collaboration with civil society and the private sector to increase public awareness of the issue at the national and grass-roots levels, including awareness-raising campaigns against human trafficking and slavery, including modern slavery, targeted at groups that are at increased risk of becoming victims of human trafficking, as well as at those who may fuel the demand that contributes to human trafficking;

21. *Reiterates* the importance of continued coordination among, inter alia, the Special Rapporteurs of the Human Rights Council on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, on the sale and sexual exploitation of children,

including child prostitution, child pornography and other child sexual abuse material, and on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences, in order to avoid unnecessary duplication in their activities in the fulfilment of their mandates;

22. *Urges* Governments to strengthen measures to eliminate sex tourism demand, especially for children, through all possible preventive actions, including legislative measures and other relevant policies and programmes, and to develop age-appropriate educational and training programmes and policies aimed at preventing sex tourism and human trafficking, giving special emphasis to the protection of young women and children;

23. *Encourages* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the World Tourism Organization and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to promote their global campaign urging travellers to support the fight against human trafficking, especially trafficking in women and girls;

24. *Calls upon* Member States to take into consideration the challenges presented by new methods of recruiting victims of human trafficking, such as the misuse of the Internet by human traffickers, in particular for recruiting children, to take measures to develop targeted awareness-raising campaigns, including for law enforcement, front-line service providers and at-risk industries, to identify the signs of human trafficking, and to develop specialized training for law enforcement and criminal justice practitioners;

25. *Encourages* Member States to establish or strengthen national programmes and to engage in bilateral, subregional, regional and international cooperation, including by forging regional initiatives or plans of action,[32] to address the problem of human trafficking through, inter alia, enhancing information-sharing, data disaggregated by sex and age, specific data collection and other technical capacities and mutual legal assistance, coordinating to dismantle criminal networks involved in trafficking women and girls, combating corruption and money-laundering of proceeds derived from human trafficking, including by collaborating with financial institutions, and to ensure, as appropriate, that such agreements and initiatives are particularly responsive to the problem of human trafficking as it affects women and girls;

26. *Calls upon* all Governments to criminalize all forms of human trafficking, recognizing its increasing occurrence for the purpose of sexual exploitation, commercial sexual exploitation and abuse, sex tourism and forced labour, and to bring to justice and punish the offenders and intermediaries involved, including public officials involved with human trafficking, whether local or foreign, through the

[32] Such as the Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime, the Coordinated Mekong Ministerial Initiative against Trafficking, the Action Plan for the Asia-Pacific region of the Asian Regional Initiative against Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children (see A/C.3/55/3, annex), the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Convention Against Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, the initiatives of the European Union on a comprehensive European policy and programmes on trafficking in human beings, as expressed in the European Union plan on best practices, standards and procedures for combating and preventing trafficking in human beings, adopted in December 2005, the activities of the Council of Europe and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation Convention on Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Women and Children for Prostitution, the Organization of American States Meeting of National Authorities on Trafficking in Persons, the Agreement on the Cooperation of the Commonwealth of Independent States in Combating Trafficking in Persons, Human Organs and Tissues, the Inter-American Programme for the Prevention and Eradication of Commercial Sexual Exploitation and Smuggling of and Trafficking in Children, and the activities of the International Labour Organization and the International Organization for Migration in this field.

competent national authorities, either in the country of origin of the offender or in the country in which the abuse occurs, in accordance with the due process of law, as well as to penalize persons in authority found guilty of sexually assaulting victims of human trafficking in their custody;

27. *Urges* Governments, in accordance with their respective legal systems, to take all appropriate measures, including through policies and legislation, to facilitate access to justice and protection for victims of trafficking in persons that should not be conditional on their participation in criminal proceedings, as well as to ensure that victims of human trafficking are protected from prosecution or punishment for acts those victims have been compelled to commit as a direct consequence of having been subjected to human trafficking and that the victims do not suffer from revictimization as a result of actions taken by Government authorities, and encourages Governments to prevent, within their legal framework and in accordance with national policies, victims of human trafficking from being prosecuted or punished as a direct consequence of their illegal entry or residence;

28. *Invites* Governments to consider establishing or strengthening a national mechanism, with the participation of civil society, as appropriate, including non-governmental organizations, such as women's organizations, and survivors of human trafficking, to ensure a holistic and coordinated approach to anti-trafficking policies and measures, to encourage the exchange of information and to report on data, underlying causes, factors and trends in human trafficking, especially trafficking in women and girls, and to include data on victims of human trafficking disaggregated by sex, age and other relevant factors;

29. *Invites* the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, to continue to cooperate with international, regional and national mechanisms to combat human trafficking, in consultation with Governments, relevant treaty bodies, special procedures, the specialized agencies, intergovernmental organizations, civil society, including non-governmental organizations, national human rights institutions and other sources, including victims of human trafficking or their representatives, as appropriate;

30. *Encourages* Governments and relevant United Nations bodies to take appropriate measures to raise public awareness and address root causes that lead to the exploitation of vulnerability of women and girls, to discourage, with a view to eliminating, the demand that fosters all forms of exploitation, including sexual exploitation and forced labour, to publicize the laws, regulations and penalties relating to this issue and to emphasize that human trafficking is a serious crime;

31. *Calls upon* concerned Governments to allocate resources, as appropriate, to provide access to appropriate programmes for the physical, psychological and social recovery of victims of human trafficking, including sexual and reproductive health-care services that include affordable treatment, care and support services for HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted infections, free of stigma and discrimination, as well as comprehensive information and voluntary counselling, and to take measures to cooperate with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to provide for the social, medical and psychological care of the victims in ways that protect their privacy and identity;

32. *Calls upon* Governments to promote the empowerment of women and girls, including survivors of human trafficking, in all stages of humanitarian response and to consider providing adequate access to redress;

33. *Encourages* Governments, in line with their obligations under international law, to prevent, combat and eradicate human trafficking in the context of international migration, including by identifying and supporting victims of human

trafficking, and to cooperate with relevant stakeholders to undertake or strengthen campaigns to inform migrants, including migrant women, of the risks associated with human trafficking;

34. *Strongly urges* Governments to ensure coherence between the laws on and measures responding to migration, labour and human trafficking to protect the human rights of migrant women and girls throughout the migration and employment process as well as the repatriation process, when applicable, and to provide effective protection against human trafficking;

35. *Invites* States, together with relevant United Nations entities, to undertake further research into the links between migration and human trafficking to guide the development of age- and gender-responsive policies and programmes that address the vulnerability of women and girl migrants;

36. *Encourages* Governments to review and strengthen, as appropriate, the enforcement of relevant labour and other laws within their territories or jurisdictions that are aimed at, or have the effect of, requiring business enterprises, including recruitment agencies, to prevent and combat human trafficking in supply chains, and to periodically assess the adequacy of such laws and address any gaps;

37. *Invites* the business sector to consider the adoption of ethical codes of conduct to ensure decent work and to prevent any form of exploitative practices that foster human trafficking;

38. *Encourages* Governments to intensify collaboration with non-governmental organizations, including women's organizations, to develop and implement gender- and age-responsive programmes for effective counselling, training and reintegration into society of victims of human trafficking and programmes that provide shelter and helplines to victims or potential victims in ways that protect their privacy and identity;

39. *Urges* Governments to provide or strengthen training for, and to raise awareness among, law enforcement, judicial, immigration and other relevant officials on the prevention and combating of human trafficking, including the sexual exploitation of women and girls, and including in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, and in this regard calls upon Governments to ensure that the treatment of victims of human trafficking, especially by law enforcement officials, immigration officers, consular officials, social workers, health service providers and other first response officials, is conducted with full respect for the human rights of those victims and with gender and age sensitivity and observes the principles of non-discrimination, including the prohibition of racial discrimination;

40. *Invites* Member States to provide training for law enforcement and border control officials, as well as medical personnel, in identifying potential cases of human trafficking for the purpose of organ removal;

41. *Invites* Governments to take steps to ensure that criminal justice procedures and witness protection programmes are sensitive to the particular situation of women and girls subjected to human trafficking and that they are supported and assisted, as appropriate, in making complaints to the police or other authorities, without fear and with due regard for the protection of their privacy and their identity, and are available, when required, to the criminal justice system, and to ensure that during this time they have access to gender- and age-sensitive protection and, as appropriate, social, medical, financial and legal assistance, including the possibility of obtaining compensation for damages suffered, and in this regard invites Governments to establish firewalls between immigration checks and labour inspections and/or ensure that labour inspections are conducted in such a way that does not put potential victims of trafficking in fear of immigration authorities;

42. *Also invites* Governments to intensify efforts aimed at the speedy disposition of cases of human trafficking and, in cooperation with, inter alia, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to devise, enforce and strengthen systems and mechanisms for combating human trafficking;

43. *Further invites* Governments to require media providers, including Internet service providers, to adopt or strengthen self-regulatory measures to promote the responsible use of media, particularly the Internet, with a view to eliminating the exploitation of women and children, in particular girls, which could foster human trafficking;

44. *Encourages* Governments to develop and implement strategies that promote safe access to media and to information and communications technologies in order to prevent and eradicate trafficking in women and girls, including increasing women's and girls' digital literacy and access to information;

45. *Invites* the business sector, in particular the tourism, travel and telecommunications industries, relevant recruitment agencies and mass media organizations, to cooperate with Governments in eliminating trafficking in women and children, in particular girls, including through the dissemination by the media of information regarding the dangers of human trafficking, the means used by traffickers, the rights of persons subjected to human trafficking and the services available to them;

46. *Stresses* the need for the systematic collection of data disaggregated by sex, age and other relevant factors and comprehensive studies at both the national and the international levels, including in crisis contexts, in line with do-no-harm principles, and in this regard takes note of the publication of the *Global Report on Trafficking in Persons*, prepared by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and the development of common methodologies and internationally defined indicators to make it possible to develop relevant and comparable figures, and encourages Governments to enhance information-sharing and data-collection capacity as a way of promoting cooperation to combat human trafficking;

47. *Invites* Governments, United Nations bodies, agencies and special mechanisms, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the private sector to continue collaborative and joint research and studies on trafficking in women and girls that can serve as a basis for policy formulation or change;

48. *Invites* Governments, with the support of the United Nations, when necessary, and other intergovernmental organizations, taking into account best practices, to formulate training manuals and other informational materials and to provide training for law enforcement, judicial and other relevant officials and medical and support personnel, with a view to sensitizing them to the special needs of women and girl victims of human trafficking;

49. *Calls upon* Governments, and encourages relevant intergovernmental bodies and international organizations, to ensure that military, peacekeeping and humanitarian personnel deployed in conflict, post-conflict and other emergency situations are provided with training on conduct that does not promote, facilitate or exploit trafficking in women and girls, including for sexual exploitation, and to raise the awareness of such personnel about the potential risks that victims of conflict and other emergency situations, including natural disasters, face of being subjected to human trafficking;

50. *Invites* States parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the

International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[33] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights[34] and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families to include information and disaggregated statistics on trafficking in women and girls as part of their national reports to the respective committees, as applicable;

51. *Invites* States to continue to contribute to the United Nations voluntary trust fund on contemporary forms of slavery and to the United Nations voluntary trust fund for victims of trafficking in persons, especially women and children;

52. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session a report that compiles information on successful interventions and strategies, as well as the gaps, in addressing the gender dimensions of the problem of human trafficking and provides recommendations on the strengthening of human rights-based, victim-centred and gender- and age-sensitive approaches within comprehensive and balanced efforts to address human trafficking, including in the prosecution of traffickers and protection of victims, and including in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

[33] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.
[34] Ibid.