COUNTRY: ECUADOR

COMMITTEE. UNHCR (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees)

AGENDA ITEM: Promoting and protection of human rights in the situation of human trafficking.

The Sovereign Republic of Ecuador, is a country of northwestern South America. Ecuador got included in the Inca; empire the largest unit of the pre-Columbian America during the 15th century. The territory was first colonized by Spain in the 16th century. Ecuador achieved its independence in 1820 as a part of The Great Colombia however Ecuador gained its own independence 10 years later. The largest city and the capital is Quito. Ecuador has borders [Colombia](https://www.britannica.com/place/Colombia) to the north, [Peru](https://www.britannica.com/place/Peru) to the east and the south, and the [Pacific Ocean](https://www.britannica.com/place/Pacific-Ocean) to the west. It includes the Pacific archipelago.

We can define human trafficking as “A format of modern day slavery where people profit from the control and exploitation of others”. Human trafficking is common in Ecuador. Victims of human trafficking in Ecuador are generally women and children trafficked within the country from [border and central highland areas](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geography_of_Ecuador) to urban centers for commercial sexual exploitation. In the other trafficked people live through forced begging, and forced labor in [mines](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mining_in_Ecuador) , factories ext. [Ecuador](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ecuador) forbid [human trafficking](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Human_trafficking) in its penal code, and penalties are equivalent with different serious crimes. Even though the law tries hard to prevent human trafficking, it still happens because the conviction rates remain low. The Ecuadorian government has ensured trafficking victims' access to legal, medical, psychological, and shelter services, in large part through its partnership with a network of NGOs. Ecuador lets the trafficking victims use their rights.

The Ecuadorian government has undertaken many public awareness campaigns against child forced labor and prostitution. The government has partnered with private telecommunications companies and a bank to combat child labor, in part through a network of schools for former child workers. In December 2009, the government launched a national campaign against child begging and a radio soap opera about the dangers of forced labor, broadcast in the local language Spanish and Kichwa state radio stations. State-owned radio stations also donated airtime to an NGO in the mountainous areas to broadcast messages on how to detect and prevent human trafficking situations. The Ecuadorian Ministry of Tourism launched a nationwide campaign to prevent commercial sexual exploitation of children in the tourism industry, and the government continued a multimedia campaign across 20 departments to encourage citizens to detect and report trafficking cases.

With the participation of countries, we can win this fight against human trafficking and gain international awareness. We believe every trafficker should be punished and controls should be made in areas where human trafficking takes place.

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