



Agenda Item: Preventing Child Trafficking in Less Developed and Developing Countries

Committee: UNICEF (United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund)

Country: France

Delegate Name: Ecem Bekeç

School: Ümitköy Final Academy

As you know, children's rights are a universal right that all children around the world have by birth to be protected in basic areas such as life, housing, health and education, as well as against situations such as physical, psychological or sexual exploitation. As France, we are doing our best to protect the rights of children but of course there are issues that we lack. France prohibits trafficking for sexual exploitation through Article 225 of its penal code, which prescribes penalties that are sufficiently stringent and commensurate with those prescribed for rape. In January 2009, the government amended its anti-trafficking law to include a specific definition of forced labor.The national government and city of Paris continued to partner with NGOs in order to provide trafficking victims with a network of services and shelters during the reporting period The government provided some indirect funding for victims’ care in 2009; however, it did not report overall funding allocations to NGOs for victims of trafficking. One NGO reported it received 20 percent of its budget from the government in 2009 but had to seek private funding in order to provide temporary housing for trafficking victims. Another NGO reported it worked with pro-bono medical and social service providers in order to assist victims of forced labor.Some local observers continued to criticize the government's lack of a proactive approach to identifying trafficking victims and reported that some women in prostitution are arrested and fined for solicitation without being screened to determine if they are trafficking victims. To address this deficiency, the government reported it continued to provide mandatory training to all law enforcement personnel to increase their identification and awareness of potential trafficking victims in 2009. The Government of France sustained strong prevention efforts in 2009 and led European efforts to prevent human trafficking on the Internet. Its multi-disciplinary group met throughout 2009 to improve national coordination and ensure a victim-centered approach. The government launched a national campaign in 2010 combating violence against women in all forms; the campaign highlighted trafficking in persons as part of this broader campaign. In January 2010, the government sponsored a nationwide conference that brought together law enforcement, magistrates, and NGOs to improve partnerships in order to better protect victims and prevent trafficking.The French Government fully complies with the minimum standards for the elimination of human trafficking. The French government was called upon to ensure that the implementation of the Internal Security Law does not lead to the re-victimization of trafficking victims by improving the screening of foreign prostitutes, so that victims of trafficking are properly identified and protected from their traffickers. As the government of France, we are trying to do our best.

We can prevent human and child trafficking by supporting each other.