

OSCE HUMAN DIMENTION IMPLEMENTATION MEETING
Warsaw, 29 September – 10 October 2008

Working session 14:

Focus on identification, assistance and access to justice for the victims of trafficking

WRITTEN CONTRIBUTION

BY THE DELEGATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA

REGARDING ANTI-TRAFFICKING ACTIVITIES

- The 2007-2009 National Action Plan for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings together with the Timetable for the Implementation was adopted by Government Decree 1598-N on 6 December 2007. It envisages the improvement of the legislative base, increased public-awareness campaign aimed at prevention of trafficking in human beings, improved protection and prosecution mechanisms and capabilities, as well as broader cooperation with regional partners to make the fight against trafficking more effective. On 6 December 2007, by the Prime Minister's decree, the level of the Interagency Commission on Trafficking in Human Beings was raised to Council on Trafficking Issues headed by the Vice Prime Minister, Minister of territorial administration. It has Ministers and heads of the respective Government Agencies as its members. Decision was made to preserve the previous Interagency Commission in the form of a Working Group under the Council on Trafficking Issues to ensure for continuity and effective functioning of the work of the Council.
- The Council of Europe Convention on measures to combat trafficking in human beings was ratified by the National Assembly on March 21, 2008. This enables Armenia to take active part in the formation of GRETA, the monitoring mechanism within the Council of Europe.
- A draft National Referral Mechanism (NRM) was developed by a working group established under the Interagency Commission in 2007. It was finalized and submitted to the approval of the Council on Trafficking Issues during its first meeting in June 2008. The NRM is currently undergoing a 6-month pilot-testing upon completion of which proposals would be made to the Government on the

appropriate changes in the mandates of respective government agencies involved in the mechanism, in the legislation in different areas, as well as the management of the shelter for the victims of trafficking.