OFFICE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS
PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN

Human Dimension Implementation Meeting in Warsaw

Working Session on Humanitarian Issues and Other Commitments, 22 September 2016

Martin Hasler, Second Secretary

Office for Foreign Affairs, Principality of Liechtenstein

Thank you, Mr. Moderator.

Let me start by thanking the OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, Ambassador Jarbussynova, for her efforts and leadership. There can be no doubt that trafficking of human beings is a grave threat to human rights. This is particularly true with regard to the large number of asylum-seekers that have migrated to the OSCE area in recent months and years: They are particularly vulnerable to exploitation, violence, and abuse.

Large-scale displacement of persons due to armed conflict drastically heightens the vulnerability to human trafficking and modern slavery, in particular where parties to the conflict do not respect International Humanitarian Law or even overtly advocate human trafficking and enslavement as part of their strategy.

In June 2016, Liechtenstein has co-organized a workshop on fighting human trafficking in conflict which led to a report by UN University with 10 ideas for Action by the UN Security Council. The report is available online on the web site of our mission in New York and contains elements that might be interesting for the OSCE and its activities in this area. Moreover, Liechtenstein is engaged in exploring ways to use the potential of existing anti-money laundering tools and Financial Intelligence Units to detect and disrupt financial flows associated with human trafficking. Our experts have already contributed to such discussions within the framework of the OSCE. Possible measures include building know-how within FIUs and international institutions, and facilitating information-sharing by law enforcement with financial intermediaries and among themselves. We stand ready to further contribute to this and to other discussions aimed at fighting the scourge of trafficking in human beings.

Thank you.