**Draft Parameters for Common International Standards**

**Parameters and Scope of Goods for Torture-Free Trade**

Thank you for the floor.

Tools of torture to inflict pain on others should not be used, traded, or recognized as products for trade. As known, there are no international standards in place at this time.

But with the International Alliance for Torture-Free Trade, more than 60 states agreed on the UN General Assembly floor that torture tools should be combated. Further, The Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment was ratified by more than 160 state parties.

With such state support and legal precedent against torture trade, the potential for international standards is possible with the member state and UN collectively.

Higher levels of control are vital to banning these trades within a UN resolution, trade treaty, or action-based alliance:

* Restricting the import and export of these kinds of tools and goods with a “stop” hold on these items at borders, and a process for a question and answer period for goods before authorization.
* A ban on torture tools such as electric shock weapons, spiked batons, thumb cuffs, cage beds, which are only designed for cruel punishment and the torture of victims to the highest degree, and “have no practical use” as defined. A ban on these tools with a framework agreement for member states can be combined with the International Alliance.
* Restricted trade on items that are used in individual self-defense and police protection such as tear gas and pepper spray within the aforementioned resolution or trading treaty. Restricting trading on these items by having protocols in place on the amount of product traded and who it is being traded with, creating accountability with those who trade these products.

Without parameters and international standards, torture trade will continue.

The Banning and restriction of tools that torture others will only allow for fair trading and a safer international trade market, as well as uphold the existing torture-free conventions and the goal of torture-free trade.

We appreciate your consideration. Thank you.