



ПОСТІЙНЕ ПРЕДСТАВНИЦТВО УКРАЇНИ ПРИ  
ВІДДІЛЕННІ ООН ТА ІНШИХ МІЖНАРОДНИХ  
ОРГАНІЗАЦІЯХ У ЖЕНЕВІ

MISSION PERMANENTE DE L'UKRAINE AUPRES  
DE L'OFFICE DES NATIONS UNIES ET DES AUTRES  
ORGANISATIONS INTERNATIONALES A GENEVE

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№ 125 /017

The Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and, with reference to the letter by H.Gbedemah, Chairperson of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, Ref.: CEDAW/TWGGGM/2019/1 of April 8, 2020, has the honour to transmit herewith information submitted by the relevant authorities of Ukraine.

The Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights the assurances of its highest consideration.

Encl.: as stated, on 2 pages.

**Office of the United Nations  
High Commissioner for Human Rights  
Geneva**



Geneva, 11 May 2020

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## **Comments and suggestions by the Government Commissioner for Gender Equality Policy of Ukraine to the Draft General Recommendation on trafficking in women and girls in the context of global migration**

1. Taking into consideration that age of adult women is a factor which leads to different forms of exploitation in trafficking in human beings, to include reference to the elderly women in General recommendation (i.e. para 6).

1.1. To change sentence “It acknowledges that the causes, consequences and experience of trafficking differ for young girls and teenage girls from that of adult women” into “It acknowledges that the causes, consequences and experience of trafficking differ for young girls and teenage girls from those of different age group of adult women including elderly women”.

2. To pay more attention in General recommendation to demand side of trafficking in human beings and states’ obligations to decrease and eliminate it.

2.1. To suggest a change of the title of the Chapter IV and the title of the section “Root causes of trafficking in women and girls and discouraging the demand that fosters their exploitation through trafficking” and propose a title of the Chapter IV “Root causes of trafficking in women” as the demand is a root cause of trafficking and should be subsumed within root causes, not placed alongside with them.

2.2. To pay more attention to the demand side of the trafficking in human beings we propose to add para 24-1 and specify the meaning of the term “demand”/“demand side”, its content and existing forms of demand side of trafficking in women and girls in Chapter 4.

2.3. To complement para 27 “Discourage the demand that fosters all forms of exploitation...” with the section e) to reduce and eliminate undeclared work, including by adoption of a number of legislative measures”.

3. To pay attention in the General Recommendation to the new, latent and insufficiently studied forms of activities that are very often associated with human trafficking (surrogacy, trafficking in cells and tissues etc). With this aim:

3.1. To complete the list in the section c) of para 25 – “Collecting and publishing data on trafficking in women and girls, and specifically on: ”, subsection iii “Its potential link with bonded labour, domestic servitude, and child and forced marriage...”, with words “abusive surrogacy practices and the sale of children, trafficking in organs, cells (including egg cells) and tissues, and forced criminality”.

3.2. To complement para 29 “Adopt and implement comprehensive gender-sensitive anti-trafficking legislation ensuring that it: ...”, section c) “Has as its objective to combat trafficking for purposes of, among others, child and forced marriage, debt bondage, serfdom, forced or compulsory labour, slavery and sexual exploitation...”, by the line “abusive surrogacy practices and the sale of children, trafficking in organs, cells (including egg cells) and tissues, and forced criminality”.

4. To extend and clarify types of root causes of the trafficking in women and girls.

4.1. To complement para 26 “Address the root causes of trafficking by:...”, section a) “Identifying and ensuring the equal rights and opportunities for women facing multiple forms of discrimination”, by the line “and protecting women who suffer from gender based violence and in particular from domestic violence ”.

4.2. To add to para 26 “Address the root causes of trafficking by:...” a separate section referring to “reducing exposure of women and girls to trafficking as a result of armed conflicts”.

5. With the aim to clarify the list of responsible authorities for identification of victims of human trafficking and presumed victims:

5.1. To include “school personnel” to the list of specialists responsible for early detection of human trafficking in para 68 “Early identification and protection of presumed victims of human trafficking” section b) “Increase the early detection capacity and authority of law enforcement and border personnel, immigration and asylum authorities, labour inspectors, social workers and health-care professionals...”.

5.2. To add to para 68 “Early identification and protection of presumed victims of human trafficking” a separate section referring to gaining more knowledge of religious sects that are involved in trafficking humans through fake promises of miracles or the indoctrination of members, often called “mental manipulation” and make the public more aware of them (a public information campaign should be organized, in particular using public television channels).

6. To add to para 72 “Strengthen the unconditional assistance and protection provided to victims of trafficking:...” a separate section referring to “supporting the work of the helpline services for victims of trafficking, whose activity is based on international standards of helpline work, confidentiality and respect for human rights”, since the helplines serve a number of purposes such as identification of victims, access to information about services, assistance, referral, etc.

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