

## **DELEGATION**

The Kingdom of the Netherlands

### **Committee**

United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (UNCSW)

### **Agenda**

Combating Global Human Trafficking of Women

Addressing Exploitation and Forced Labor

### **Position Paper**

The Kingdom of the Netherlands views human trafficking, particularly of women and girls, as one of the most urgent human rights violations of our time. Trafficking for the purposes of sexual exploitation, forced labor, and domestic servitude is a direct threat to gender equality, bodily autonomy, and human dignity. As a nation with a long-standing commitment to human rights, the rule of law, and gender justice, the Netherlands considers it a moral and legal imperative to combat all forms of trafficking, both within its borders and globally.

### **Domestic Policy**

Criminalization of all forms of trafficking under Article 273f of the Dutch Criminal Code, with heavy penalties for traffickers.

Special protections for migrant domestic workers and victims of forced prostitution.

### **International Leadership**

As a strong advocate for international cooperation, the Netherlands actively supports global anti-trafficking mechanisms. It is a party to the UN Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons (Palermo Protocol) and the Council of Europe Convention on Action Against Trafficking in Human Beings.

Dutch development cooperation includes:

Promoting education for girls and economic empowerment for women, particularly in fragile contexts.

Supporting civil society organizations and safe migration initiatives that reduce vulnerability to trafficking.

Investing in technology-driven solutions, such as trafficking data platforms, mobile alerts for at-risk migrants, and AI-based detection of online exploitation.

## Policy Recommendations

To effectively end trafficking and forced labor, the Kingdom of the Netherlands urges Member States to:

1. Strengthen international legal frameworks and implement the Palermo Protocol in full, with gender-sensitive enforcement.
2. Invest in survivor-centered services, including trauma-informed care, legal redress, and access to justice.
3. Combat demand by regulating high-risk industries (e.g., sex work, domestic work, agriculture) and penalizing those who knowingly benefit from exploitation.
4. Expand safe migration pathways, reduce statelessness, and ensure refugee women are protected from coercion and exploitation.
5. Support data collection and international collaboration, ensuring victims' identities are protected and traffickers face justice across borders.

### **Conclusion**

The Kingdom of the Netherlands remains firmly committed to eradicating human trafficking and the exploitation of women and girls. No woman should be bought, sold, or forced into labor against their will. The Netherlands calls for stronger global solidarity, increased investment in prevention, and renewed dedication to justice and gender equality. Together, through multilateral cooperation and political will, we can end trafficking and restore dignity to every woman and girl.