



GROUP OF FRIENDS  
IN DEFENSE OF THE  
CHARTER OF THE  
**UNITED NATIONS**

**STATEMENT DELIVERED BY THE DELEGATION OF THE BOLIVARIAN  
REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA, DURING THE CONSIDERATION OF  
DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C.3/78/L.12/REV.1, ENTITLED “IMPROVING  
THE COORDINATION OF EFFORTS AGAINST TRAFFICKING IN  
PERSONS”, WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE  
OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

*New York, 10 November 2023*

**Mr. President,**

1. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela has the honor to take the floor on behalf of the Group of Friends in Defense of the Charter of the United Nations.

**Mr. President,**

2. We strongly condemn trafficking in persons, especially women and children, which constitutes both an offence and a serious threat to human dignity and physical integrity, as well as to human rights and sustainable development. In this context, we consider that it is only through effective cooperation and collaboration that we can effectively combat trafficking in persons, which remains one of the most prevalent types of criminal activity in the world.
3. Moreover, we seize this opportunity to express our serious concern with the global trends of decreasing number of detected victims, increased impunity, resulting in more victims being trafficked to more destinations, as well as greater violence against women and children at the hands of traffickers, including with the wide use of information and communications technologies for criminal purposes.
4. Our Group of Friends also notes, in this regard, the twentieth anniversary of the entry into force of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, and call on all Member States to redouble their efforts in combating trafficking in persons.

**Mr. President,**

5. We recognize the leading role of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in combating trafficking in persons, including by providing technical assistance, upon



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request, for the implementation of projects that support the individual and collective efforts of all Member States in addressing this type of criminal activity.

6. We further note the important role of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group Against Trafficking in Persons, which is an important policy forum mandated by the UN General Assembly, aimed at improving coordination among UN Agencies and other relevant international organizations, in order to facilitate a holistic and comprehensive approach to preventing and combating trafficking in persons, including protection and support for victims of trafficking.
7. Furthermore, we reaffirm our unwavering commitment with the implementation of the Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons, which provides the foundation for the effective prevention, protection, prosecution and partnership efforts with regards to trafficking in persons.
8. To conclude, our Group of Friends recognizes and expresses its appreciation for the leadership and efforts of the Delegation of Belarus, a fellow Member State of our grouping, in co-facilitating this important resolution and supports the consensual adoption of the resolution on “Improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons”, while taking this opportunity to reiterate its commitment to eradicating the heinous crime of trafficking in persons once and for all.

I thank you, Mr. President.