

RESOLUTION

AGAINST TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN AND CHILDREN

The Baltic Assembly,

taking into consideration that trafficking in women and children is becoming a serious and growing problem all over the world;

expressing its concern that trafficking in women and children is not decreasing in the Baltic States, and that the Baltic States are gradually turning into not only a source of sexual services, but also into the countries of sex tourism;

expressing its opinion that one of the obstacles to the fight against trafficking in women and children is gender inequality which is based on patriarchal attitudes;

complying to the Brussels Declaration on Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, adopted at the European Conference on Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, in September 2002;

complying to the Statement and Recommendations concerning Trafficking in Women in the Nordic and Baltic countries, adopted at the Informal Nordic Baltic Ministers' Meeting in Stockholm, Sweden, in 9 April 2003,

calls on the Parliaments and the Governments of the Baltic States:

- to draw up harmonised legal acts in all Baltic States, related to combating the prostitution, including criminalized purchase of sexual services;

- to improve the work of law enforcement bodies, to pay attention to ensuring the enforcement of the adopted legal provisions;

- in conjunction with women's non-governmental organisations, to improve education of people on the issues of gender equality, eradication of patriarchal attitudes and prejudices;

- to gradually review school curricula, with gender equality taken into account, to speed up the introduction of sexual education in secondary schools,

- to take measures on banning advertisements and announcements about sexual services.

Vilnius, 29 November 2003