



**Delegation of Ukraine
to the OSCE**

**Statement by the Delegation of Ukraine in response
to the Statement of the OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for
Combating Trafficking in Human Beings
Dr. Maria Grazia Giammarinaro**

As for delivery by Permanent Representative H.E. Mr. Ihor Prokopchuk
to the Permanent Council, 31 May 2012

Mr. Chairman,

The Delegation of Ukraine joins others in welcoming the OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings Dr. Maria Grazia Giammarinaro back to the Permanent Council and thanks her for her report.

Ukraine attaches particular attention and strongly supports the activities of the Special Representative aimed at enhancing anti-trafficking cooperation in the OSCE region. Strengthening capacities in fighting human trafficking belongs to the national priorities of the Ukrainian Government.

We welcome the recently organized Human Dimension Seminar which looked into the rule of law framework for combating trafficking in human beings. We will consider very carefully the recommendations produced from the discussions that took place in Warsaw.

The Delegation of Ukraine commends active cooperation of the Special Representative with the governments and civil society. We appreciate efforts aimed at pursuing fight against human trafficking as modern-day slavery to the top of the human rights agenda of various institutions, including civil society. We welcome advancement of interrelation of Ms. Giammarinaro's office with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the Council of Europe, conducted in the framework of the Alliance against Trafficking in Persons. We look forward to the next high level Conference "Agenda for Prevention of Human Trafficking: Non-Discrimination and Empowerment" to take place in October this year.

In her report the Special Representative highlights the importance of close interconnection between anti-trafficking actions and other related policy areas. We fully share the view of the Special Representative that the anti-trafficking action cannot be successful in isolation and calls for strengthening anti-trafficking structures.

The Delegation of Ukraine shares concerns of the Special Representative with regard to the significant challenges in the area of preventing trafficking and safeguarding the rights of trafficked persons. As a future OSCE Chair, Ukraine will attach priority attention to the fight against trafficking in human beings. We will also continue to support the work of the Special Representative and strengthening cooperation between the participating States and this important Institution. The Ministerial Council Declaration on Combating All Forms of Human Trafficking provided good basis for advancing the work of the OSCE in this area.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.