



---

Hügelgasse 2, A-1130, Wien | Tel.: + 43 (1) 403 13 22 | Fax: + 43 (1) 403 13 23 | E-mail: vienna@mission.mfa.gov.az

**Statement by the Delegation of the Republic of Azerbaijan  
1168<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Permanent Council,  
14 December 2017**

*in response to the OSCE SRCCTHB Amb. Madina Jarbussynova,*

Thank you Mr. Chairperson,

The Delegation of Azerbaijan warmly welcomes the OSCE Special Representative and Coordinator for combating trafficking in Human Beings Ambassador Madina Jarbussynova to the Permanent Council and thanks her for a comprehensive report.

We strongly support the work undertaken by the Office of the Special Representative and appreciate the high level of cooperation established with the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan. In particular, we value objective, constructive and professional approach demonstrated by Ambassador Jarbussynova in cooperation with participating States. We encourage relevant OSCE institutions and structures to follow the example set by Ambassador Jarbussynova on how the cooperation with the participating State can contribute to our common security in the OSCE area.

The Delegation of Azerbaijan shares concerns over the scale and increasing number of challenges in the area of combating trafficking in human beings in the OSCE area and beyond, which has recently deteriorated due to ongoing migration crisis. Our Delegation supports the work of the Office, in particular, in addressing human trafficking stemming from emergency and crisis situations, as well as targeting on a systematic basis the root causes of human trafficking. We welcome the adoption of two decisions by the Ministerial Council on strengthening efforts to prevent trafficking in human beings and to combat all forms of child trafficking, including for sexual exploitation.

We recognize the value of a comprehensive approach to combat trafficking in human beings, consisting of four Ps, namely prevention, prosecution of traffickers, protection of victim's rights and partnership. In this context, victim-centered approach should remain at the heart of anti-trafficking policies. Awareness raising measures for persons vulnerable to trafficking and initiatives to tackle various socio-economic factors conducive to trafficking should be further strengthened. Rights of victims to receive compensation and non-punishment provision should be an essential part of effective strategies on preventing and combating trafficking in human beings and protecting its victims.

In conclusion, Azerbaijan stands ready to continue effective cooperation established with the Office to counter the challenges in trafficking in human beings. We wish Ambassador Jarbussynova and her able team every success in their future endeavors.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.