



41th Regular Session of the Human Rights Council (24 June- 12 July 2019)

Oral Statement delivered by: Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII (APG23)

ITEM 3: General Debate

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“Social Inclusion flows through proper integration”

Mr President,

APG23 welcomes the thematic report¹ on Social Inclusion of Survivors of Trafficking of the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, Ms Maria Grazia Giammarinaro.

In her report, the Special Rapporteur describes many good practices and programmes for a successful and sustainable social inclusion of survivors. We need to put into effect a strategy for ensuring greater awareness on the subject. States should establish or improve long term programmes and mechanisms for protecting, rehabilitating and reintegrating survivors with a real social inclusion.

Promoting social inclusion of trafficked persons is the way to promote full participation in society for all these persons, for their own wellness, but also for the common good and the future of our societies.

Specifically, APG23 would like to support the report’s recommendation² that suggests reforming consular offices’ practices and I quote “to endure adequate access by and support for trafficked persons and other vulnerable groups, including by providing identity documents”.

Our experience testimonies that one of the main problems women and girls’ trafficked for sexual exploitation have to deal with is providing ID card or passport. Too often they cannot obtain any documents, which is denied from: 1. their country embassy, 2. the country of transit and 3. the country of destination.

We would also like to thank the Special Rapporteur for the references made during her visit to Nigeria³ about the use by traffickers of threats of “voodoo curses” (juju) to manipulate victims, especially women and girls, and force them into exploitative situations. We underline the importance of the recommendation⁴ of the Special Rapporteur to the Government I quote “Continue to engage with traditional and religious leaders to halt the practice of juju and the oath of secrecy and any other form of collusion with traffickers, following the successful initiative of Oba Ewuare II of Benin.”

Thank You!

¹ Report of Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children “Trafficking in persons, especially women and children. “Social Inclusion of Survivors of Trafficking” A/HRC/41/46, Forty-first session of the Human Right Council, Agenda item 3, 24 June–12 July 2019

· A/HRC/41/46, p. 19-20, recommendation n.68 k), Forty-first session of the Human Right Council, Agenda item 3, 24 June–12 July 2019

· Report of Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, “Visit to Nigeria”, A/HRC/41/46/Add.1, Agenda item 3, Forty-first session of the Human Rights Council, Agenda item 3, 24 June–12 July 2019

· A/HRC/41/46/Add.1, p. 18, recommendation n. 89 b), Agenda item 3, Forty-first session of the Human Right Council, Agenda item 3, 24 June–12 July 2019