

STATEMENT BY THE CZECH REPUBLIC

The Czech Republic welcomes the delegation of Slovenia. We thank for the informative opening statement as well as for replies to our advance questions.

We appreciate that the Slovenian authorities have taken important steps in the area of action against trafficking in human beings, such as the adoption of legislation and national action plans and the setting up of co-ordination structures. We also note that, according to the report of the Council of Europe's (CoE) expert group on human trafficking, GRETA, improvements remain to be made in a number of areas. In line with the CoE-GRETA report, we **recommend** Slovenia to invest in the human and financial resources of the secretariat of the Working Group and the National Co-ordinator dealing with trafficking in human beings so that they can effectively carry out the full range of tasks within their mandate.

The Czech Republic welcomes a number of measures taken by the Slovenian authorities to deal with the problems faced by the so-called "erased" persons. We **recommend** that Slovenia adopt further measures to facilitate the access of the so-called "erased" to permanent residency and citizenship.

I thank you.

4 November 2014