

Oral Statement

For the 23rd Session of the UN Human Rights Council

6 June 2012

Item 6 of the agenda: Consideration of the UPR report for Romania

Speaker: Budi Tjahjono

Thank you Mr. President,

Franciscans International (FI) would like to commend the commitment of the Government of Romania on human rights, especially in combating human trafficking. We welcome Romania's acceptance of the UPR recommendations related to trafficking, in particular, the recommendations to ensure effective implementation on anti-trafficking legislation,¹ support services for victims² and access to legal remedies and compensation for the victims of trafficking.³

We take note on the establishment of the National Agency against Trafficking in person and adoption of the Romania National Strategy against Trafficking in Persons for 2012 – 2016 as well as the introduction of the national identification and referral mechanism to provide access to protection and assistance to victims of trafficking.

We are convinced that the human rights approach to trafficking requires states to put in place a comprehensive framework for victims. Therefore we would like to express our concern regarding the effective implementation of the National Strategy. The civil society organisations working with the victims of trafficking are facing difficulties in providing the essential needs and assistance for the victims of trafficking. Currently, they rely mainly on the humanitarian support coming from abroad. In line with the accepted recommendations, we ask the Government of Romania to allocate adequate financial resources to ensure the quality and the continuity of the assistance and protection services delivered to the victims of trafficking in persons.

Finally we encourage the Government of Romania to reinforce existing measures and policies on trafficking along with integrated assistance models for victims, in collaboration with civil society organisations and other stakeholders.

Thank you.

¹ Recommendation 109.88,

² Recommendations 109.84, 109.96 and 109.97

³ Recommendation 109.91