

PC.DEL/432/06  
11 May 2006

ENGLISH  
Original: GERMAN

Delegation of Germany to the OSCE

## **STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF GERMANY AT THE MEETING OF THE OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

11 May 2006

### **Regarding efforts to combat trafficking in human beings during the FIFA World Cup in Germany**

The 18th FIFA World Cup begins in Germany on 9 June. Germany is looking forward to playing host to the 32 participating nations and their fans from around the world during this major sporting event, whose motto is “A time to make friends”. In order to live up to this motto, Germany must also take responsibility for what happens outside the stadiums. This applies to preventing terrorism and combating hooliganism inside or outside the stadiums. Germany has prepared a comprehensive security concept to that end.

During the last few months, fears have been voiced that we may well see an increase in both prostitution and forced prostitution as a result of the World Cup. Indeed, we have to assume that both the supply of and demand for prostitutes will increase at this time. This is often the case at major events, and not just at sporting events. We must also assume — even if there are no reliable figures available — that women will be forced into prostitution and will perhaps be brought to Germany solely for this purpose.

For many years now, the Federal Government has been giving high priority to the efforts to combat trafficking in women. These measures and strategies will of course be continued and intensified in the run-up to the World Cup. Human trafficking is a phenomenon that is extremely degrading to human dignity and flouts in a most flagrant manner our laws, our society’s basic ethical beliefs and the right of self-determination of the victims.

Prostitution as such is not illegal in Germany. However, efforts to prevent and combat forced prostitution and trafficking in human beings deserve the utmost attention. Moreover, this is not just the task of the host country but also that of the fans, who can and must make a considerable contribution in this regard. The competent agencies in other countries are also called on to make their contribution by raising the awareness of fans and potential victims.

For Germany, as the host country, it is a question of the scale of the awareness-raising, prevention and crackdown. The police component has been anchored in a national security concept and a police framework has been developed by security experts from the Federal Government and local governments, the host cities, the German Football

Association and the FIFA 2006 World Cup organizational committee along with the co-ordination office for fan projects. The federal and regional police forces have devised co-ordinated preventive measures that allow for regional and local features. The police presence in the 12 cities hosting the World Cup is being considerably increased.

Also part of the concept is close co-operation between the police and non-governmental advisory centres that deal primarily with awareness-raising programmes and the identification, care and protection of victims. Emergency hotlines are being set up for victims, friends and families of victims, and football fans to contact the police or advisory centres, if those involved would prefer not to deal with the police. In addition, on 7 March the National Council of German Women's Organizations, with the support of the Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth, launched the campaign "Final Whistle — Stop Forced Prostitution", which takes advantage of the attention being focused on the World Cup to highlight the issue of human trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation in Germany and to make the general public aware of the measures being taken to counter this problem. The President of the German Football Association and the Mayor of Berlin are sponsoring this campaign.

Germany is not taking these measures on its own but is working together with national, international and non-governmental partners, many of them from within the OSCE area. We urge these partners to continue and to consolidate our joint efforts to combat trafficking in human beings especially now, so as to ensure that this World Cup will be a celebration not just for some but for all.

Thank you for your attention.