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(серпень 2006 - серпень 2007 рр.)

Від останніх нарад Ради Директорів відбулися зміни у персоналі нашого представництва до ООН. Роксоляна Лучкань перенеслася і тому перестала бути нашим представником до ООН в Нью-Йорку. На її місце прийшла Мотря Чабан, яка колись з нами співпрацювала у Відні. Також новим представником до бюро ООН в Нью-Йорку є Юрій Вишневецький, новоприбулий емігрант з України, юрист за освітою та фахом з нью-йоркською ліцензією. Борис Потапенко погодився поновно очолити Раду СКУ до ООН. Розділено відповідальність за наступними темами: людські і громадянські права, торгівля невільниками, Чорнобиль і СНІД.

До нашої делегації у Відні приєднався Ростислав Футало, теж новоприбулий емігрант з України. На сьогоднішній день нашими представниками до бюро ООН в Нью-Йорку є Аскольд Лозинський (екс-офіціо), Борис Потапенко, Мотря Чабан, Андрій Ластовецький, Ігор Длябога і Юрій Вишневецький. До бюро ООН у Відні нашими представниками є Віктор Кришевич і Ростислав Футало.

За звітний час Рада виготовила та розповсюдила два документи. Один документ про торгівлю жінками на конференцію ООН у лютому ц.р. та другий документ-звідомлення для ООН про нашу діяльність в ООН від часу нашого вступу до кінця 2006 року, що було передано до ООН наприкінці травня ц.р. Документ про торгівлю підготувала та розповсюдила Мотря Чабан, а документ-звіт про діяльність готував я. Обидва документи долучаю.

:kdhev^ *habgklbc*

Statement to the 51<sup>st</sup> Session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, held at the U.N. Headquarters in New York on February 26 – March 9, 2007

The Ukrainian World Congress (UWC), established in 1967, is a global organization representing Ukrainian communities outside Ukraine with affiliates in some thirty countries, including Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Latvia, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia and Montenegro, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States, Uzbekistan as well as contact organizations in Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Italy, Portugal, Slovakia, Spain, and Portugal. In 2003 the UWC was registered as a non-governmental organization in consultative status with ECOSOC. Over the course of the ensuing years the UWC has closely followed the activities of relevant United Nations bodies, regional and global governmental institutions and non-governmental organizations on issues of concern.

In this regard, the illegal trafficking of persons is among the most acute of global issues confronting Ukrainians. The profound impact of the slave trade on Ukrainians is confirmed by Oleksandr Dolzhenkov, Deputy Rector for Scholarly Research at the Institute of Law of the Odessa University, who recently reported that "more than 400,000 Ukrainian women are currently being held abroad in sex slavery". On its part the International Organization for Migration (IOM) put the figure at 500,000 Ukrainian women being trafficked to the West. Other researchers have confirmed that the number of Ukrainian women and girls who are victims of the slave trade is staggering. A report on "Trafficking in Women from Ukraine" prepared by Donna M. Hughes of the University of Rhode Island and Tatyana Denisova of Zaporizhia State University states: "From 1995 to 2000, approximately 400,000 women under the age of 30 left Ukraine. "

In the same report, Ms. Hughes acknowledges the numbers could even exceed these statistics, as it is difficult to estimate the exact number of Ukrainian women being trafficked. First, the trade is secretive, the women are silenced, and the traffickers are dangerous. The nature of the enterprise itself therefore complicates its study. Moreover, hundreds of thousands of anonymous women are simply described as Eastern European or Russian. Pinpointing a precise nationality is exceedingly difficult. Second, the term "trafficking" still does not have a universal usage. Thus, universal categorization and estimation of the numbers of these women differ from one definition to the next. With the information available, it is estimated that:

- Ukrainian women are the largest group trafficked in Turkey;
- Ukrainian women are the second largest group outside U.S. military bases in Korea;
- Women from CIS countries comprise 70 percent of trafficking in Israel;
- Ukrainian women constitute the largest foreign group trafficked in the Netherlands;
- 70 percent of Ukrainian women in Poland were trafficked;
- Women from Central and Eastern Europe and CIS countries constitute 80 percent of trafficking in Germany

Other large markets for the slave trade in Ukrainians include: Greece, Cyprus, Italy, Spain, Yugoslavia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Hungary, Czech Republic, Croatia, United Arab Emirates, Syria, China, Canada and Japan. These markets are expanding. In 2005 the number of destination countries for Ukrainian women increased, with 50 countries now serving as destination points throughout Europe and eastward, including China. This relatively new yet significant dimension of the international slave trade should be accorded the requisite attention and resources by the international community. Clearly, existing relevant United Nations Conventions constitute formidable international instruments including, the 1949 United Nations Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others and the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, including the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress, and Punish the Trafficking of Persons, Especially Women and Children.

The UWC strongly supports the U.S. government recent passage of the Trafficking Persons Protection Reauthorization Act. This law requires an interim assessment of countries placed on the Special Watch List, encouraging the more vigilant awareness, and thus, better cooperation by countries. In 2006, Ukraine was not placed on the Special Watch List, although it was classified a Tier 2 state. Additionally, the UWC commends the U.S. reaffirmation of its commitment to combat the trafficking of women in a letter from U.S. Secretary of State, Condoleeza Rice, in which she stated on June 5, 2006 that, "We work with international partners to secure the freedom of those who are exploited and call on governments to be effective and accountable in prosecuting those who exploit." Moreover, Secretary Rice reiterated the State Department's efforts to abolish the form of slavery, as part of the State Department's new policy of transformational diplomacy. Published in 2006, the U.S. Trafficking in Persons Report, the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act (TVPRA) of 2003 added to the original law a new

requirement: that foreign governments provide the Department of State with data on trafficking investigations, prosecutions, convictions, and sentences in order to be considered in full compliance with the TVPA's minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking (Tier 1). This international collaboration in the struggle against the trafficking of women is essential to its success.

The European Union has made several significant steps toward combating the trafficking of women. In 2005, the Parliamentary Assembly for the Council of Europe, in collaboration with the Ukrainian government launched a campaign to combat violence against women. In the same year, the Ukrainian government passed legislation, which criminalized human trafficking, even creating a fifty person anti-trafficking department.

In order to attempt to comprehend the complexities of the trade, one must view the trafficking of women as a business, based on supply and demand. In a 2005 article, Donna Hughes and Tatyana Denisova credited the promulgation of the trade to increasing demands. The demand was perpetuated and enhanced by the legalization of prostitution, which was supported as a solution to the multiple forms of violence inherent in trafficking and prostitution. Ms. Hughes and Ms. Denisova argue that decriminalizing sex work to lessen the vulnerability of women was made without the consent of the majority of Ukrainians. They conclude that the new regulations may shift the terminology of the trade, but the trafficking of women persists and increases. For example, Germany legalized brothels and pimping in 2001. There were 40, 000 women characterized as prostitutes in Germany, and seventy-five percent of them were believed to be Eastern European. Numbers did not decrease, only terms changed. Moreover, Ms. Hughes and Ms. Denisova claim that, “the trend from abolition to regulation of the flow of women is a tribute to the power of the transnational political criminal nexus.” Consequently, the UWC advocates a recalculation of recent legislation, which de facto legitimizes the slave trade.

The UWC recently established a Taskforce on the trafficking of children, women and men. The Taskforce coordinates the activities of member organizations of the UWC worldwide. In this, we look forward to close collaboration with relevant bodies of the United Nations and other international and regional organizations, NGOs and government agencies. The UWC shares the view of virtually all NGOs engaged in exposing and combating this scourge: trafficking is a modern-day form of slavery and a grave violation of human rights. We further agree that the international community must do more, much more meaningful, tangible work. To this end, we call on the United Nations system and governments to:

- Marshal the political will to combat trafficking;
- Undertake prevention and awareness campaigns;
- Encourage and support the activities of non-governmental organizations;
- Promulgate national legislation to punish traffickers and their facilitators;
- Prioritize law enforcement efforts to arrest and convict traffickers;
- Provide humanitarian services to victims and their reintegration into society;
- Ratify and implement the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime, including the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress, and Punish the Trafficking of Persons, Especially Women and Children;
- Address and interrupt the international financial underpinning of this trade;
- Develop international, regional and bilateral cooperation with countries of origin transit and destination countries;
- Accord special focus on the new front for traffickers in Eastern and Central Europe.

In this regard, the Ukrainian World Congress Task-force on Trafficking of Children, Women and men and its global network of member organizations stand ready to work with the appropriate agencies of the United Nations, relevant regional governmental organizations, individual governments and NGOs in the implementation of these recommendations. By coordinating with national, regional and global programs we look forward to more effectively applying the resources of the UWC in ridding the world of the scourge of human trafficking.

Ukrainian World Congress – UWC  
Special Consultative Status granted in 2003

***PART I. Introduction***

i. The aims and purposes of the organization are to establish and maintain an international network of member organizations who have an interest in supporting and promoting Ukrainian nationality, spirit, language, culture and achievements of Ukrainians throughout the world, to coordinate the activities of member organizations, to promote the civic development of Ukrainians in countries of their settlement for the purpose of strengthening their commitment towards democracy and freedom for all nations in the world, to uphold the rights of every Ukrainian person based on the Universal Declaration on Human Rights and to intervene with governments and/or non-governmental institutions to protect the rights of Ukrainians throughout the world.

Its main course of action is to provide avenues of communication for some 20 million ethnic Ukrainians who reside outside Ukraine. Officers of the UWC regularly visit various communities from North and South America, Europe, to the far reaches of the Russian Federation and Australia. The organization organizes conferences on scholarly and educational topics, human and civil rights' issues, democracy and state building. Additionally, the organization attempts to provide social services, medical and humanitarian aid to Ukrainian and sometimes non-Ukrainian communities throughout the world, including Ukraine, to coordinate activities of youth and educational Ukrainian institutions and works with the International Olympic Committee as well as the National Olympic Committee of Ukraine in arranging services for athletic training, etc.

ii. While its broad aims and objectives, as well as the nature of its activities, remain much as described in the submission of 30 May 2001, the UWC has expanded their range into Africa, specifically, Mozambique.

***PART II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations***

In April 2003, the Ukrainian World Congress (UWC) was formally accepted in consultative status as a non-governmental organization with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. Since that time to date, the UWC has designated and functioned through the maximum allowable representatives to the United Nations office in New York and one or two representatives to the office in Vienna.

On 26 April 2003, and each year thereafter, the UWC's United Nations representatives have assisted the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations in organizing a Chernobyl anniversary related bazaar at the United Nations, the proceeds of which are used to help the Chernobyl victims.

On 19 September 2003, the UWC United Nations representatives met with Ukraine's Permanent Representative to the United Nations and his assistants to discuss issues of mutual concern, in particular, the upcoming commemoration of Ukraine's Great Famine 1932-33 at the United Nations and to develop lines of communication for the long term. The following specific areas of activity at the United Nations in particular, through the Economic and Social Council and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) were addressed: migrant workers, slave trafficking, Chernobyl, AIDS and assistance to orphanages.

On 10 November 2003, in connection with the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Great Famine 1932-33, the UWC together with another Ukrainian ethnic NGO at the United Nations, the World Federation of Ukrainian Women's Organizations extended compliments to the Secretary General of the United Nations

with reference to agenda item 179b of the Third Committee of the 59<sup>th</sup> session of the United Nations General Assembly, submitted and disseminated a Statement at the United Nations offices in New York on the Great Famine 1932-33. The Statement read in part as follows:

*This year marks the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the enforced famine of 1932-33, engineered by the Soviet regime in which 7-10 million Ukrainians perished. The sheer numbers alone would qualify this entry as the world's most massive genocide. We honor the millions of victims of this most heinous mass crime ever committed by man against man. Historians conclude that no nation lost more than the Ukrainian during the XX century. Together the famines, purges, persecutions and wars resulted in over twenty million lives lost...*

*On April 14, 2000 at a meeting of the UN Security Council on the situation concerning Rwanda, Ukraine's Permanent Representative to the UN stated: "For Ukraine genocide is not just a term. We experienced difficult times in our own history; this century alone witnessed an unspeakable tragedy, when more than 7 million people were exterminated within two years by a well-planned famine. These events took place in a country once called the breadbasket of Europe."*

*On September 24, 2003 at the general debate of the 58<sup>th</sup> session of the United Nations General Assembly, Ukraine's President urged: "70 years ago the totalitarian Soviet regime engineered an artificial famine in Ukraine, which claimed the lives of 7 to 10 million of our compatriots. Unfortunately, back in 1933 the world did not respond to our tragedy. The international community believed the cynical propaganda of the Soviet Union, which was selling bread abroad while in Ukraine the hunger was killing 17 people a-minute. From this podium, I would like to call upon all of you to pay tribute to the memory of those who perished."*

*This year the parliament of Ukraine adopted a statement on the 70th anniversary of the Famine honoring the victims and identifying that heinous act as genocide. The legislatures of Argentina, Australia, Canada and the United States passed similar resolutions. Others are pending.*

*Therefore, based on the foregoing, we call upon the governments of the world community of nations and UN non-governmental organizations to recognize the 1932-33 famine in Ukraine as genocide against the Ukrainian people and to remember the 7-10 million innocents who perished.*

On 5 March 2004, the UWC issued and disseminated a Statement on global human trafficking to the Forty-eighth session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women held at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, 1-12 March 2004. The UWC made the following findings:

- *Ukrainian women are the largest group trafficked in Turkey;*
- *Ukrainian women are the second largest group outside U.S. military bases in Korea;*
- *Women from CIS countries comprise 70 per cent of trafficking in Israel;*
- *Ukrainian women constitute the largest foreign group trafficked in the Netherlands;*
- *70 percent of Ukrainian women in Poland were trafficked;*
- *Women from Central, East Europe and CIS countries constitute 80 percent of trafficking in Germany. i Other large markets for the slave trade in Ukrainians include: Greece, Cyprus, Italy, Spain, Yugoslavia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Hungary, Czech Republic, Croatia, United Arab Emirates, Syria, China, Canada and Japan.*

The UWC made the following recommendations to the countries of the United Nations:

- *Marshal the political will to combat trafficking;*
- *Undertake prevention and awareness campaigns;*
- *Encourage and support the activities of non-governmental organizations;*
- *Promulgate national legislation to punish traffickers and their facilitators;*
- *Prioritize law enforcement efforts to arrest and convict traffickers;*
- *Provide humanitarian services to victims and assist in their reintegration into society;*
- *Ratify and implement the UN Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime, including the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress, and Punish the Trafficking of Persons, Especially Women and Children;*
- *Develop international, regional and bilateral cooperation with countries of origin, transit and destination;*
- *Accord special focus on the new front for traffickers in Central and East Europe.*

In July 2004, the UWC President traveled to Vienna where he met with representatives of the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to International Organizations in Vienna, representatives from the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, Anti-Human Trafficking Unit and the Special Representative on Combating Trafficking in Human Beings of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe.

On 8-10 September 2004, UWC United Nations representatives participated in the 57<sup>th</sup> Annual DPI/NGO Conference *Millennium Development Goals: Civil Society Takes Action*.

On 18 January 2005, the UWC President met with the deputy administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, Kalman Mizsei. UWC United Nations representatives studied the Blue Ribbon Commission report for Ukraine and complements were forwarded to Mr. Mizsei on 14 February 2005.

In January 2006, a UWC United Nations representative participated in a meeting at the United Nations in New York on the issue of slave trafficking in New York.

In March 2006 that UWC United Nations representative traveled to Ukraine where she met with representatives from the Center for Ukrainian Education Reform, which deals with the issue of slave trafficking. She also met with representatives of the local IOM office in Ukraine to whom she delivered a copy of *The Natashas*, a book on slave trafficking written by Canadian journalist Victor Malarek, which was translated into Ukrainian for dissemination and funded in part by the UWC. Additionally, she traveled throughout Ukraine, meeting with several local organizations dealing with this issue.

In March 2006, the UWC President traveled to Rome, Venice and Naples, Italy meeting with large communities of Ukrainian migrants to discuss migration and slave trafficking issues. In Venice the UWC President met with IOM local representatives to discuss these issues as well.

On 28 April 2006, UWC United Nations representatives participated in a session of the United Nations General Assembly dedicated to the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Chernobyl.

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