



**PERMANENT MISSION
OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN
TO THE UNITED NATIONS
NEW YORK**

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CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

**A CALL TO ACTION TO END FORCED LABOR, MODERN SLAVERY AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING
STATEMENT BY H.E. DR. AURELIA FRICK
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN**

Madame Prime Minister,
Excellencies,
Colleagues

I thank the UK Government for its leadership on this issue. Human trafficking and modern slavery are among the biggest human rights scandals of our time. They exist globally and affect tens of millions of people directly. And indirectly, all of us are involved. This, on the hand, puts us all to shame. On the other, it also offers a great opportunity: All of us, each Government and in fact each and every individual can play a small part in overcoming a crime that many still believe was abolished more than a century ago.

Human trafficking and modern slavery affect various industries, take on very different forms. One of their characteristics is that they also constitute a perversely profitable illegal business model: More than 150 billion USD are generated through these criminal activities. This gives us an opening for action that we as Liechtenstein have chosen to pursue: We are confident that the “follow the money” approach which has proven successful with respect to organized crime models

can help us identify perpetrators and ensure successful prosecutions. This is essential to bridge the existing impunity gap. It can help us prevent the commission of these crimes.

We have undertaken to use the expertise and knowledge of our financial center, in particular our Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) to develop tools that can help us in the fight against human trafficking and modern slavery. We have done so together with our partners – from the Egmont Group to Moneyval or the Financial Action Task Force (FATF). Some of the methods used in other contexts are of crucial importance: Developing typologies, share best practices and include relevant information in Suspicious Activity Reporting (SAR). Human trafficking and modern slavery are often transnational in nature. We will therefore only be successful with close international cooperation. Therefore, we view the UN as one ideal platform to form the necessary partnerships. We welcome reactions to our ideas, attached to my statement today and to continue the conversation with all of you. We have a long way ahead of us, but it is good to see that we have been finally galvanized into action - not least through the Sustainable Development Goals which have placed human trafficking and modern slavery very prominently on our agenda. Let me thank, in conclusion, our partners from United Nations University, with whom we have joined forces on this project.

Thank you.