

Minister of Internal Affairs Siljan Avramovski
Welcome Address on the Occasion of Donation of
Equipment to MOI Human Trafficking Unit
July 15, 2004

The event we all attend today is just another proof of the intensive cooperation between the two friendly countries in the area of the fight against organized crime, especially human trafficking as one of the biggest evils of today.

In the last several years, Macedonia undertook continuing activities for suppressing this crime. These activities have been especially intensified in the passing year and a high level of professionalism and efficiency in the area of detecting this severe crime were achieved

The Republic of Macedonia continues to harmonize its legislation to reach the European Standards. For the purpose, the National Commission to fight Human Trafficking and Illegal Immigration has been established. Also there is specialized Anti Trafficking Unit within the Ministry.

Our activities continued, and we established the Transit Center, where all necessary measures and activities are undertaken for proper accommodation of the victims, providing legal assistance, medical care, as well as physical security till the moment of their repatriation in the country of origin.

The mentioned efforts would not have been completed without the needed political support of the friendly countries, and the especially the USA. The USA is our strategic partner in all processes of our society's development, as well as in the fight against organized crime.

This intensive cooperation is also being confirmed through our previous joint activities. Organized by the US DOJ, and the American Embassy there were a number of seminars and workshops on human trafficking throughout Macedonia, and the ultimate goal of these events was to create efficient and professional police forces to suppress this evil.

Your Excellency, honorable guests, dear friends,

This donation that consists of technical equipment and vehicles is the right assistance at the right place. It will certainly enhance the efficiency and the professionalism of the Anti Trafficking Unit.

In hope that the cooperation between the RM and The USA will continue to develop and deepen in all areas and especially in the area of suppressing Organized crime, I hereby once again take this opportunity to express my gratitude for the donation.