



70th Session of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

2 July – 20 July 2018

Excerpts from the Concluding Observations on the 8th periodic report of New Zealand: relevant to and potentially impacting sex workers, collated by NSWP.

Trafficking and exploitation of prostitution

28. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Amend section 19 of the Prostitution Reform Act 2003, with a view to reducing its negative impact on migrant women;

(b) Revise migration laws, remove the possibility of only a fine being imposed as punishment for trafficking and adopt measures aimed at preventing discrimination against women in prostitution in the State party, with a view to preventing and addressing the factors and structures that render migrant women vulnerable to trafficking;

(c) Strengthen mechanisms to identify, protect and assist victims of trafficking and sexual exploitation, provide them with legal support and systematically collect comprehensive data about victims of trafficking and report them to the Committee in its next periodic report;

(d) Speedily adopt a new national action plan to combat human trafficking, in line with the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;

(e) Revise the Crimes Amendment Act 2015 to criminalize trafficking in children even when no coercion, deception or other means of abuse of power are involved;

(f) Ensure that victims of trafficking are provided with adequate protection and support, including by establishing separate, well-equipped shelters with trained staff to address their specific needs and concerns and strengthen long-term reintegration measures for victims of trafficking.