Statement of the Unity Synod 2016 of the Worldwide Moravian Unity

Human Trafficking

The Moravian Church believes that human trafficking is illegal and immoral. It is a serious crime which violates human rights, and which should be clearly condemned and prosecuted.

We affirm the statements made against human trafficking by the World Council of Churches (Refer to “Minute on Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling” dated June 27, 2016) and by various denominations.

We believe that all human beings should be treated with dignity and respect. Victims of human trafficking need loving care and support.

In this regard, we endeavour to promote the awareness of human trafficking by educating our members and our wider communities so that we can respond appropriately.

We acknowledge the definition of human trafficking as published in Article 3 of the UN Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, Supplementing the UN Convention Against Transnational Organised Crime, as shown below:

"the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of threat, use of force or other means of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the receiving or giving of payment or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs... The consent of a victim of trafficking in persons to the intended exploitation set forth [above] shall be irrelevant where any of the means set forth [above] have been used.”