



**50th Regular Session of the Human Rights Council (13 June – 8 July 2022)**  
**ITEM 3: ID with the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children**

Oral statement delivered by: Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII (APG23)

*Check against delivery*

Mr President,

APG23 welcomes the report of the Special Rapporteur and wishes to bring attention to the harsh conditions of migrants, in countries of origin, transit and destination, suffering from human trafficking and exploitation in the agricultural work market.

As highlighted in the report, prevalence of informal work together with lack of social and labour protection make the agricultural sector more permeable to abusive practices as well as forced labour and smuggling of migrants.

APG23, working closely with migrants and victims of human trafficking, wants to emphasise that restrictive migration strategies such as, inter alia, lack of regular pathways, border authorities abuses and denial of visa requests, exacerbate the vulnerability of migrants making them easy prey for traffickers and subjects of systematic exploitative practices and forced labour within the agricultural supply chain.

Hence, agribusiness, relying on the employment of cheap and exploited migrant labour, takes advantage of this invisible workforce by compressing labour costs to increase profits, regardless of migrants' human rights and dignity.

In this context, APG23 urges Member States to implement global and coherent migration policies aimed at providing guarantee and safeguard of people on the move.

As a matter of fact, safe migration pathways, access to basic rights as well as fair access to justice are imperative factors needed to prevent and combat trafficking in persons. Furthermore, mandatory human rights due diligence in agricultural supply chains should be put in place to ensure all workers, including migrants, just and favourable conditions of work and fair labour recruitment.

Thank you!