



PERMANENT MISSION OF SLOVENIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS AND
OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN GENEVA

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UPR of MOROCCO

Madame President,

Slovenia welcomes the delegation of Morocco and thanks them for their presentation and for answers provided to our advance questions.

We recognize Morocco as a regional leader when it comes to progress in many human rights fields, and in particular it's international leadership role in the area of human rights education and training.

We further note that Morocco has taken a number of very positive steps since its first review, such as acceding to the CRPD and its optional protocol and elaborating a national action plan in this regard, and taking significant steps to improve gender equality, inter alia by withdrawing some of its reservations to CEDAW.

As the latter was Slovenia's recommendation to Morocco in the first cycle, we welcome the fact that it has been partly implemented, but note that declarations to three articles and a reservation to one article of CEDAW remain.

We therefore **recommend** that Morocco:

- considers withdrawing the remaining declarations and reservations to CEDAW,
- *ratifies the Optional Protocol to CEDAW,*
- continues with reforms and practical measures in line with international standards in order to reach gender equality,
- *issues a standing invitation to special procedures.*

Thank you.