

**UPR13/Poland/Statement by Slovakia**  
30 May, 2012

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Mme. President,

I would like to thank the delegation of the Republic of Poland, led by H.E. Ms. Grażyna Bernatowicz, Under-Secretary of State at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, for the presentation of the national report and for its participation in the review process.

Slovakia recognises Poland's dedication to advance its human rights record since the first review. In this context, we welcomed the mid-term report on the follow-up to the recommendations of the first cycle put forward in 2011. Noteworthy is the functioning of various HR oversight institutions in the country, along with the Civil Rights Ombudsman, also the Ombudsman for Children's Rights, whose competences were further extended in 2010, or the Ombudsman for Patients' Rights, providing free-of-charge assistance in cases of violations of such rights. As another remarkable achievement we have noted with appreciation the Polish Prison Service's being awarded a "Cristal Balance of Administration of Justice" by the Council of Europe and the European Union. Furthermore, Poland should also be credited for the incorporation of human rights issues into the New Core Curricula for General Education, and in particular, a scope of HR education programmes for the police force, the launch of the Early Intervention System in the Police force to deal rapidly and effectively with improper behaviour of police officers as well as the establishment of the office of the Plenipotentiary for Equal Treatment.

Slovakia would like to present Poland the following two recommendations:

1. to ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,
2. to consider an early ratification of the newest international HR instrument – the third OP to CRC on a communication procedure.

I thank you, Mme. President.