

(Check against delivery)

Bangladesh intervention on the UPR of Czech Republic

Thank you Madam President.

My delegation welcomes the delegation of Czech Republic. We appreciate the comprehensive presentation.

We have witnessed considerable improvements, particularly in legislative changes, like amendments to laws for improving the protection of the rights of the child and the procedural status of children, and the amendments to the Code of Criminal Procedure that address privacy protection. We have also noted some encouraging improvements in institutional initiatives like the set up of the Agency for Social Inclusion in Roma localities.

However, concerns have been raised by various treaty bodies on the status of implementation of recommendations and on some situation on the ground.

CERD expressed concern by manifestations of hatred, hate crime, racist and xenophobic discourse, including by senior political figures, and by reports of a number of incidents of incitement to hatred and acts of violence. It urged the Czech Republic to ensure that hate crime and violence, racist and xenophobic discourse are investigated and that perpetrators are prosecuted. CERD was also concerned at exploitation of migrant workers and ill-treatment of foreigners in detention centres.

Treaty bodies like CEDAW and CRC noted with concern the segregation of many Roma children including girls in schools.

In view of the above, we have three recommendations,

1. Ensure protection for migrant workers, especially from exploitation and ill-treatment;
2. Ensure that hate crime and violence, racist and xenophobic discourse are investigated and that perpetrators are prosecuted; and
3. Reinforce its programmes to include Roma girls in mainstream education.