

Mme. President,

I would like to thank the delegation of the Gabonese Republic led by H.E. Ms. Ida Reteno Assonouet, Minister of Justice, for the presentation of the country report and for its participation in the review process.

Slovakia commends Gabon for steps taken in response to its first UPR review, most notably the abolition of the death penalty in February 2010. We perceive positively the ratification of OP-CAT and OP-CRC-AC in 2010 and CPED in 2011. Slovakia has also taken a positive note of Gabon's accession to the new third OP to CRC on a communication procedure. At the same time, noteworthy is the provision of free medical care to HIV positive persons, including refugees or the adoption of a decree on the accessibility of public buildings for persons with disabilities, including a workshop organized in 2011 to raise awareness of the rights of persons with disabilities. Gabon can also be credited for the free of charge provision of birth certificates for children.

Slovakia would like to present Gabon the following recommendations:

- 1. to encourage functioning of its civil society, in particular human rights NGOs,**
- 2. to reinforce efforts to eliminate trafficking and abuse of children including the conduct of efficient awareness-raising campaigns,**
- 3. to ratify the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness,**
- 4. and last but not least, to fully align its national legislation with all obligations under the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, including by incorporating the provisions to cooperate fully and promptly with the ICC.**

I thank you, Mme. President.