

(21)

UPR14/Switzerland/Statement by Slovakia
29 October, 2012

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Mme. President,

I would like to thank the delegation of the Swiss Confederation, led by Mr. Didier Burkhalter, Head of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, for the presentation of the country report and for its participation in the review process.

Slovakia highly esteems the important role played by Switzerland in the global promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, its support extended to the United Nations as well as the flourishing civil society operating in the country. We welcome its involvement in the preparation of the national report.

Slovakia commends Switzerland's commitment to advance its human rights record since the first review. In this regard, we note with appreciation the ratification of OP to CAT in 2009 and CPED last year. The country should also be credited for a mid-term report on the implementation of recommendations it had received during the first cycle of UPR in May 2011.

Slovakia would like to present Switzerland the following recommendations:

1. in line with CEDAW and CESCR observation, we recommend **the adoption of measures to reduce gender inequality in the labour market, allowing women and men to reconcile family and professional responsibilities, including by providing sufficient preschool education facilities and places of childcare,**
2. to ratify CRPD and its OP and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness,
3. 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.