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PERMANENT MISSION OF SLOVENIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS AND
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UPR of Zambia

Madam President,

Slovenia thanks the distinguished delegation of Zambia for their presentation (and for answers provided to our advance questions).

We welcome positive steps taken by Zambia after the first review. To mention some of them: the intention to continue mainstreaming gender into policies and legislation and to support the socio-economic empowerment of all, especially women; the enactment of Anti-Gender-Based Violence Act and National Action Plan on Gender based Violence; plans for legislation to protect the rights of persons with disabilities; and the recognition of the importance of raising public awareness on human rights.

However, we note that the human rights treaties to which Zambia is a party are not fully incorporated in national policies and legislation, and there appears to be a lack of cooperation with treaty bodies, especially concerning reporting.

We encourage Zambia to further enhance the protection and promotion of human rights, especially in the drafting of the new Constitution, and offer the following **recommendations**:

- To ratify all main international human rights treaties, especially ICCPR-OP2, OP-CAT, OP-CRC-AC and OP-CRC-SC, and to incorporate these treaties fully in the national legislation;
- To abolish the death penalty in the new Constitution and pending the abolition of the death penalty to establish an official moratorium on the use of the death penalty;
- To implement CEDAW's call to put in place a strategy to eliminate violence, harmful practices and stereotypes against women in line with the Convention;
- To prohibit corporal punishment of children in all settings.

Thank you.

Advance questions:

- What measures have been taken by the Government of Zambia with regard to the recommendation put forward by Slovenia in the first cycle of UPR concerning the interpretation of the statutory law and setting enforcement mechanisms in a way that protects unionized and non-unionized workers equally and without discrimination?
- What measures have been taken by Government of Zambia to raise the age of criminal responsibility to 12 years in line with the CRC Committee's General Comment?
- What steps are being taken to effectively implement the Anti-Gender-Based Violence Act and the Penal Code and what efforts are being made to ensure that marital rape is explicitly criminalized?