



PERMANENT MISSION OF SLOVENIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS AND  
OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN GENEVA

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UPR of BURUNDI

Mr. President,

Slovenia extends a warm welcome to the distinguished delegation of Burundi. We thank the delegation for their presentation and for answering our advance questions.

We wish to commend Burundi for the establishment of the National Independent Human Rights Commission and for the work of the Commission thus far. With regard to our 1<sup>st</sup> cycle recommendation on child labour, we welcome the adoption of an action plan to eliminate the worst forms of child labour.

In light of our previous recommendation on unequal access to education between boys and girls, we commend Burundi for the achievement of equal gender distribution in schools. Nevertheless, we remain concerned about reportedly high repeat and drop-out rates, notably for girls, and teenage pregnancies. In this respect, we **recommend** that Burundi adopts and implements a national programme promoting education for girls at all levels and the eradication of root causes of school dropout. We also reiterate CRC's **recommendation** to make every effort to ensure that schools are safe places for children, and that they are free from sexual and physical violence.

While welcoming a number of provisions of the 2009 Criminal Code, such as the abolition of the death penalty, and the prohibition of torture, we are concerned by the criminalization of sexual relations between consenting adults of the same sex through this law. We **recommend** repealing such provisions.

Thank you.