

Mr. President,

I would like to extend a warm welcome to the delegation of Canada, led by H. E. Ms. Elissa Golberg, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations at Geneva, and thank it for the presentation of the national report and for its participation in the review process.

Slovakia recognises Canada's efforts to advance its human rights record since the first review. We welcome, inter alia, of the ratification of CRPD in 2010. Noteworthy is also country's regular contribution to the OHCHR budget, including to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture.

Slovakia would like to present Canada the following recommendations:

1. **to engage in a constructive cooperation with UN special procedures.** Slovakia notes with appreciation the valid standing invitation in place.
2. **to reinforce policies and programmes developed to address poverty, homelessness, food insecurity as well as access to quality health care services and education, with special focus on the most disadvantaged groups, such as Aboriginal peoples,**
3. **to develop and implement a national plan of action to address violence afflicting indigenous women and girls, providing for an adequate reaction of authorities and a resolution to the root causes of the violence,**
4. **And last, but not least, to consider signing and ratifying the new Optional Protocol to the CRC on a communications procedure.**

Thank you, Mr. President.