

UPR18/Afghanistan
Statement by Slovakia
27 January 2014

Mr President,

Slovakia thanks the delegation of Afghanistan for the comprehensive summary of main developments in human rights in the country that have taken place since the previous UPR cycle. While taking note of a number of encouraging steps by the Government to implement some of the recommendations from the first UPR cycle, more proactive approach would be required.

Reports on torture and ill-treatment by police and security forces in detention facilities are a matter of concern to us. To address this problem, what further measures does the Government of Afghanistan envisage to ensure proper investigation of all allegations of torture and ill-treatment in the detention system?

Despite some progress to tackle discrimination against women and girls, they still continue to face violence, honour killings, forced and child marriages. More targeted efforts are needed to achieve the real progress in the promotion and protection of their rights.

We would like to make following recommendations to the Government of Afghanistan:

1. **To address more effectively cases of gender-based violence including by their proper and effective investigation and adequate prosecution of perpetrators;**
2. **To accede to the Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the International Criminal Court.**

Thank you.