

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

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UPR of CAMBODIA

Mr. President,

Slovenia welcomes the distinguished delegation of Cambodia to the UPR Working group and thanks them for their presentation today.

We commend the Cambodia for the ratification of the Optional Protocol to CEDAW. We also welcome the legal and other measures taken by the Royal Government of Cambodia to raise gender awareness and promote women's growth and development. However, certain concerns remain, of which we would like to mention the Didactic Code, which legitimizes the perceived inferior role of girls and women in the society and is still being taught at schools.

We note that some improvement was made with regard to the access to basic education for children; however, we remain concerned that the basic education is still not compulsory.

We would like to take this opportunity to recommend to the Royal Government of Cambodia:

- 1. to make further efforts to raise awareness on gender equality and to combat discrimination of women;
- 2. to ensure that the basic education is compulsory and to step up its efforts towards addressing the issue of high dropout rates in schools and promoting the right of girls to education.

Thank you.