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Remarks by AZERBAIJAN
UPR –Slovakia

18th session of the WG on UPR
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Mr. President,

Azerbaijan welcomes the Delegation of Slovakia and thanks the esteemed Delegation for the presentation of the national report.

Having studied the National report of Slovakia we note with interest the works done by the Government of Slovakia in the human rights sphere. We commend the ratifications of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its Optional Protocol by Slovakia. At the same time, as it was recommended during 1st cycle of UPR, we recommend the consideration of becoming party to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families and to the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

We also note that some UN treaty bodies have reiterated their concerns on the problems related to inequalities between men and women, the continued stigmatization of and discrimination against Roma, prevalent stereotypes and widespread exclusion of Roma in education, housing, health and political participation, non-accessibility to adequate, safe water to all sectors of the population, especially to the most disadvantaged and marginalized groups and rural population. In this regard, we recommend Slovakia to strengthen measures on combating discrimination against women and Roma, as well as to eliminate stereotypes of Roma and indigenous people through awareness-raising campaigns.

Moreover, we recommend Slovakia to investigate and prosecute all perpetrators of violence and hate crimes against Roma.

In conclusion, Mr. President we recommend Slovakia to further improve human rights records in the country.

Thank you, Mr. President.