



Permanent Mission of the Arab Republic of Egypt

**The Human Rights Council
Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review
Eighteenth Session**

Review of Slovakia

(Geneva, 3rd of February 2014)

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Mr. President,

My delegation welcomes the delegation of Slovakia, and thanks it for the presentation of the national report.

Egypt commends the steps taken by the Government since the last review, in particular the accession to the CRPD, strengthening alternative care system for children, and the enhanced activities in the area of human rights education and training. At the same time, we are aware that persistent challenges still exist in relation to combating violence and harassment against women, ensuring wage equality between men and women, and eradicating trafficking in persons.

We take note that the government carried out consolidated efforts to raise the awareness against discrimination, xenophobia, racism, and incitement and violence against migrants and racial, ethnic, and religious minorities. Nevertheless, we are concerned that many reports concluded that the situation didn't improve, especially for Muslims and Roma. In this connection, the allegations of misconduct, excessive violence, and ill-treatment by the police based on racial profiling, and the low percentage of conclusive investigations in this regard is a source of concern.

Moreover, Egypt is of the view that the national efforts to protect and promote human rights are incomplete without establishing an independent NHRI in accordance with the Paris Principles.

In conclusion, Egypt recommends the following:

- 1- To ratify the Convention on the Rights of Migrant Workers.
- 2- Modify the criminal codes to clearly address hate speech and racial and religious incitement in the context of elections' campaigns.
- 3- To establish an independent mechanism to investigate complaints related to discrimination and segregation within the schooling system.

I thank you.
