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First Secretary

43

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MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN
AFFAIRS OF FINLAND

18th Session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review

Finland's recommendations to Slovakia
3 February 2014

Madam Vice-President
Mr President,

Finland commends the approval of the *Strategy for Roma Integration up to 2020*. Both the strategy and Slovakia's UPR report highlight the access to education and enrolment of children to special schools and classes as central challenges of Roma integration. The strategy states that there should be an annual assessment of the results achieved.

- 1) Firstly, how will the Slovak Republic ensure that an effective policy of de-segregation of Roma children in schools will be implemented in practice?

Finland recommend

that Slovakia further increases its efforts to end the segregation of Roma children in schools by tasking an appropriate authority with the clear responsibility of identifying segregation and giving schools binding guidelines to end segregating practices.

- 2) Secondly, how will the Slovak Republic ensure the active participation of Roma representatives, including women and children, in implementing and assessing the concrete results of the Strategy?

Finland recommend

that Slovakia assesses the implementation of the Strategy for Roma Integration up to 2020 annually and keeps Roma NGO's, including women's and children's organizations, actively involved in the implementation and assessment of the strategy.

Thank you.