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UPR of ALBANIA

Mr. President,

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

We commend Albania for the progress made with regard to domestic violence. In this regard Slovenia welcomes the adoption of the amendments to the Penal Code and the National Strategy on Gender Equality and Reduction of Gender-based Violence in the Family for 2011–2015 and its Action Plan.

However, we remain concerned about the continued reports of domestic violence and the ineffective investigation into the complaints of domestic violence. We also note that the high dropout rates in primary school persist, in particular with regard to girls. In light of this we urge the Government to intensify its work in promoting and ensuring the protection of rights of the vulnerable groups, especially women and children.

We would like to recommend to the Government of Albania:

1. to ensure that cases of domestic violence are properly investigated and prosecuted;
2. to take further measures to effectively combat trafficking in human beings, especially with regard to vulnerable groups such as women and children;
3. to take effective measures to reduce the high dropout rate in primary schools, in particularly with regard to the Roma children;
4. to raise awareness on children's right to participation in the family and community.

Thank you.