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UPR of BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

Mr. President,

Slovenia would like to welcome delegation of Brunei Darussalam to the UPR Working Group and thank them for their presentation today.

We would like to commend the Government for the progress in meeting the MDGs, particularly for the reductions of prenatal and infant mortality rates as well as maternal mortality ratio.

Slovenia welcomes the withdrawal of reservations to articles 20 and 21 of the CRC. However, we note with concern that Brunei Darussalam is not a party to several core international human rights conventions and the Rome Statute.

We are also concerned about the existing restrictions on freedom of expression and media, which according to our information are limited by various legal provisions.

We would like to recommend to the Government of Brunei Darussalam:

1. to ratify the core international human rights conventions to which it is not a party and the Rome statute;
2. to withdraw all remaining reservations to the CRC and CEDAW;
3. to consider revising relevant acts restricting the freedom of expression and media (e.g. Sedition Act and Local Newspapers Order etc.) in order to ensure that they conform with international human rights standards;
4. to take effective and time-bound measures to ensure that children, with particular attention to children of migrant workers, were protected from trafficking and prostitution.

Thank you.