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**UPR19/Ethiopia**  
**Statement by Slovakia**  
6 May 2014

Mr President,

Slovakia thanks the delegation of Ethiopia for the presentation of their national report. We take positive note of the adoption of the National Human Rights Action Plan to develop mechanisms aimed at promotion and protection of human rights and encourage to its effective implementation, including by involving civil society representatives.

Despite efforts to eliminate harmful traditional practices, they still persist. We would welcome more effective implementation of the National Strategy on Elimination of Harmful Traditional Practices by the Ethiopian authorities.

We would like to make the following recommendations to the Government of Ethiopia:

1. **To take necessary measures to ensure respect for the right to freedom of association, including by repealing legislative and administrative restrictions on the activities of NGOs**
2. **To repeal provisions of the legislation that can be used to criminalize the right to freedom of expression**
3. **To accede to the Rome Statute of the ICC and to implement it fully at national level and to accede to the Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the Court as recommended in the first UPR cycle.**

Thank you.