



**PERMANENT MISSION OF SLOVENIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS AND
OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN GENEVA**

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UPR of QATAR

Mr. President,

Slovenia would like thank the delegation of Qatar for its presentation today.

Slovenia welcomes progress made with regard to women's rights; however concerns remain in the areas of discrimination and violence against women. Women continue to face discrimination in law and in practice and are inadequately protected against violence, including within the family.

Slovenia notes Qatar's commitment to promote and protect the rights of migrant workers, and certain progress made in this area. Nevertheless, we share the concern of the civil society, Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants and the relevant UN Treaty Bodies regarding the sponsorship law, access to complaint mechanisms, forming of unions, holding strikes and other labour rights deriving from their employment in Qatar.

We would like to recommend to Qatar:

1. to consider ratifying ICCPR and ICESCR as recommended in the first cycle;
2. to strengthen its efforts to prevent violence against women and ensure accountability of all perpetrators while assuring victims are provided with adequate redress, reparation and access to full rehabilitation;
3. to step up its efforts to protect the rights of migrant workers and fight against exploitation, ill-treatment and abuse by their employers;
4. to fully implement legal guarantees for freedom of expression as stipulated in the Constitution, thus allowing Qatari citizens to exercise their freedom of expression and opinion and enabling independent media in the country.

Thank you.