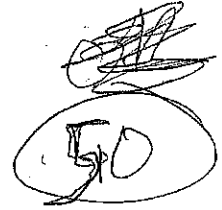


Bosnia and Herzegovina

Statement by Portugal



Mr. President,

Portugal welcomes the delegation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and thanks it for the presentation of the national UPR report, highlighting the progresses achieved in the promotion and protection of human rights.

Portugal welcomes that since the last review Bosnia and Herzegovina extended a Standing Invitation to the Special Procedures of the Human Rights Council. Portugal also welcomes the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.

However, Portugal is concerned about reports highlighting begging as one of the main forms of exploitation of children, as well as an increase in domestic trafficking of children. In this context, we would like to ask the Delegation further information in this regard, while recommending the adoption of measures to address these problems and to ensure that all cases of trafficking are subjected to proper investigation. We also would like to recommend that Bosnia and Herzegovina ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure.

Portugal would like to recommend that Bosnia and Herzegovina enhances the independence of the Ombudsman, in accordance with the Paris Principles, ensuring adequate funding to allow for its proper functioning.

In closing, we recommend that Bosnia and Herzegovina adopts a National Action Plan on the implementation of Security Council Resolution on Women Peace and Security (1325).

Thank you Mr. President.