

ŠPELA KOŠIR

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

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**UPR of GAMBIA**

Mr. President,

Slovenia would like to welcome the delegation of Gambia to the UPR Working Group and its presentation today. We further welcome Gambia's commitment to the UPR process.

Slovenia commends Gambia for its ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography.

Turning to the issue of violence against children in all settings, my delegation is interested to learn what measures has been taken to ensure that all forms of physical and mental violence against children are prohibited in all settings, to enforce child labour legislation and to tackle child marriage.

We take note with appreciation the legislative and other measures Gambia adopted to address violence and sexual offences against women. We are therefore interested to learn what steps Gambia intends to take to implement these measures against violence and sexual offences against women. We particularly take note of the information in the national report on the measures concerning the prohibition of the female genital mutilation and would like to **recommend** to Gambia to enact the legislation prohibiting FGM.

We are concerned about the reports on violations of freedoms of expression, association and peaceful assembly. We **recommend** to Gambia to take all the necessary measures to ensure that all persons, including journalists, opposition leaders and political opponents and human rights defenders can freely exercise their right to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly without fear of arrest, detention, intimidation or harassment.

Thank you.