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UPR20/Iraq

Statement by Slovakia

3 November 2014

Mr President,

Slovakia thanks the delegation of Iraq for the presentation of the national report. We take note with interest efforts of the Government to strengthen human rights standards at national level by becoming a State Party to several core human rights treaties since the first UPR cycle. We invite the Government to ensure that they are implemented effectively.

We remain seriously concerned with deteriorating human rights situation in areas took over by the Islamic State militants, in particular with harsh persecution of religious minorities. As a consequence of ongoing crisis, civilians suffer from human rights abuses such as killings, abductions, threats, violations of property and violations of women's rights.

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

1. **Ensure adequate protection and humanitarian assistance to refugees and IDPs.**
2. **Strengthen the protection of ethnic and religious minorities, and ensure that all abuses against them are duly investigated and the perpetrators are brought to justice also in the context of the current crisis.**
3. **Ratify or 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 ICC.**

Thank you.