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20th session of the UPR Working Group

Review of Slovenia

(4 November 2014)

**Statement by Afghanistan**

Mr. President,

Afghanistan welcomes the distinguished delegation of Slovenia to the 20<sup>th</sup> session of the UPR Working Group and thanks the esteemed delegation for the presentation of their national report.

Since its last review in 2010, Slovenia has made strenuous efforts in the promotion, protection and advancement of human rights. In particular the ratification of a number of International treaties is commendable.

Afghanistan takes positive note of the steps taken by the government of Slovenia to ensure gender equality and prevent discrimination against women. In that context, initiatives such as granting equal pay for equal work for men and women, increasing the number of women in top -level positions as well as in decision making in business, and women empowerment in the fields of science and research are to be admired.

My delegation would also like to appreciate the designation of human trafficking as a crime by the government of Slovenia, and would like to recommend to Slovenia to further strengthen the steps taken in this regards particularly in reference to women and children.

Thank you,

Jawad Raha