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UPR21/Guinea Statement by Slovakia 20 January 2015 69

Mr President,

Slovakia thanks the delegation of Guinea for the presentation of the national report focusing on progress in the field of human rights since the first UPR cycle.

While taking note of the Government's efforts to advance the fight against impunity for human rights violations, more decisive action is required to achieve substantive improvements in this field.

In addition, there are other areas such as freedom of assembly, administration of justice and prison conditions in which we note only limited progress since the first UPR cycle. We therefore invite the Government to take concrete steps with a view to ensure human rights protection in line with international standards.

The issue of assistance to victims remains a matter of major concern. Access of victims to redress together with legal, medical and psychological support needs to be significantly improved.

Slovakia would like to make the following recommendations to the Government of Guinea:

- 1. Establish a mechanism for the protection and support of victims aimed to enhance assistance to victims and witnesses.
- 2. Ratify the Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the International Criminal Court and to implement it fully at national level.
- 3. Sign and ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a Communications Procedure.

Thank you.