



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

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UPR of GUINEA-BISSAU

Mr. President,

Slovenia welcomes the distinguished delegation of Guinea-Bissau and thanks them for their presentation.

We welcome a number of positive developments since the previous review, inter alia the ratification of a number of human rights treaties and the issuing of a standing invitation to special procedures, the prohibition of the death penalty, the criminalization of FGM, and the adoption of legislation on domestic violence and human trafficking.

In light of the political turbulence of Guinea-Bissau's recent history we share the concern expressed by the UN Security Council regarding continuing violations and abuses of human rights and the atmosphere of residual political tension in the country, and would like to recall the remarks of the UN Secretary-General that it will be critical for the authorities to ensure sustainable functioning of State institutions and the timely delivery of basic services to the population.

We therefore offer the following **recommendations** for the consideration of Guinea-Bissau:

- to increase funding for education and enforce compulsory schooling for all children;
- to make it a government priority to ensure gender equality in all spheres of life, including by formulating a comprehensive strategy to eliminate attitudes and practices that discriminate against women and girls;
- to increase the health budget allocation to the recommended minimum of 15% GDP, in line with commitments under the Abuja Declaration, in order to counter the alarming maternal and under-5 mortality and morbidity rates;
- to explicitly prohibit corporal punishment of children in all settings.

Thank you.