

**Statement by Hungary on Sweden  
21<sup>st</sup> Session of the UPR Working Group  
26 January 2015**

**Mr. President,**

We welcome the Swedish delegation to the 21<sup>st</sup> session of the UPR Working Group and thank them for the detailed and honest national report and oral update on the human rights situation in the country.

During the first UPR cycle, Hungary made recommendations with regard to the rights of the child and their strengthening in Sweden. We welcome the progress achieved since then, with new strategies and legislative changes in place to tackle discrimination against certain groups of children, especially asylum seekers. Hungary, however, **recommends** to Sweden to look into the possibility of prioritizing the rights of the child directly, as a standalone issue, not just as a horizontal consideration in its human rights policies.

It is a cause of concern that the reported number of hate crimes and incidents of hate speech have increased over the last few years. According to statistics and reports, investigation and prosecution of these crimes have been somewhat sluggish and ineffective; Hungary therefore **recommends** the strengthening of the judicial follow-up of hate crimes and hate speech, leaving no room for impunity.

We commend Sweden for its efforts to combat the discrimination of minorities. We particularly welcome the long-term strategy for Roma inclusion in 2012-2032, and would like to hear in more detail, if possible, about the results of the pilot projects. We **recommend** to Sweden to consider ways to ensure the meaningful involvement of the Roma community in the implementation of the strategy and also to focus more on efforts to change negative attitudes in Swedish society towards the Roma.

To conclude, we welcome Sweden's commitment to establish a national human rights institution in compliance with Paris Principles and, while taking note of the fact that a *final report* by the Delegation for Human Rights in Sweden was submitted for consideration to "relevant bodies", we would be interested in hearing about the main findings and conclusions of this report, in particular regarding the next steps to be taken.

**Thank you, Mr. President!**