



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

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UPR of MALAWI

Mr. President,

Slovenia thanks the distinguished delegation of Malawi for their presentation. We welcome a number of positive developments in the country since the previous review, in particular the adoption of the Gender Equality Act, efforts to eliminate harmful practices, including child marriage, progress in strengthening the juvenile justice system by setting up child-friendly courts and training the officials, and the raising of the minimum age of criminal responsibility to 12 years. We're satisfied that our recommendation no. 102.37¹ has been largely implemented.

Despite some progress, we consider that our past **recommendations** no. 102.32² and 105.10³ are not yet implemented and therefore remain valid.

Many of the concerns raised during the first cycle review persist. We note in particular the high prevalence of sexual abuse of children and that the Penal code does not criminalize all forms of sexual abuse of boys. We are further concerned by the state of human rights of LGBTI people.

We therefore offer the following additional **recommendations**:

- to strengthen efforts to reduce maternal mortality, including by reviewing the legislation on abortion;
- to amend the Penal Code in order to criminalize all forms of sexual abuse of children, regardless of the sex of the child, and to bring the perpetrators to justice;
- to repeal legal provisions that criminalize homosexuality, and take all necessary measures to ensure respect for all human rights of LGBTI people, including access to public health services and support initiatives, such as education programmes and the provision of disease and infection care.

Thank you.

¹ 102.37. Actively implement existing legislation and strategies on violence against children and arrange an adequate juvenile justice system, with emphasis on raising the minimum age of criminal responsibility (Slovenia);

² 102.32. Include the effective prosecution and punishment of traffickers in legislation (Slovenia);

³ 105.10. Ensure that discriminatory laws are amended or repealed, adopt a comprehensive strategy to modify or eliminate negative cultural practices and stereotypes, and strengthen efforts to implement existing legislative measures regarding violence against women, including assistance and protection for victims (Slovenia);