



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

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UPR of PANAMA

Mr. President,

Slovenia welcomes the distinguished delegation of Panama to the UPR Working Group and thanks them for their presentation today.

We commend Panama on the adoption of Act No. 82 criminalizing femicide and penalizing violence against women. This shows important commitment in its fight to eradicate violence against women. We further note Panama's voluntary commitment to establish a national mechanism for the prevention of torture and would in this regard like to encourage it to establish an effective national preventive mechanism that complies with criteria in the OP CAT.

With regard to our recommendations from the first cycle we note with concern that no efforts have been made to eliminate the illegal practice of making women take pregnancy tests to gain employment. In this respect, we would like to repeat our **recommendation** to take appropriate measures to abolish this practice.

Additionally, we would like to **recommend** to Panama:

- to adopt legislation prohibiting all forms of discrimination, including on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity, as well as abolish all provisions of the Executive Decree 204/1997 determining homosexuality as serious misconduct for members of the National Police;
- to ensure prompt and effective implementation of the legislation to eliminate violence against women;
- to eliminate all forms of violence against children by adopting proper legislation and ensure its implementation;
- to fully align its national legislation with the Rome Statute of the ICC.

Thank you.