

Fedor Kosočka

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**UPR23/Australia**

**Statement by Slovakia**

9 November 2015

Mr President,

Slovakia appreciates Australia's strong commitment to the promotion and protection of human rights and the role Australia plays in advancing human rights standards at national level and at international fora. We particularly welcome efforts to recognise Indigenous Australians in the Constitution and encourage the Government to pursue relevant steps in this regard.

Slovakia commends Australia's efforts to further strengthen human rights protection in particular in the field of trafficking in human beings, gender equality and women's empowerment. While recognizing efforts to improve children's rights, inter alia, through the National Framework for Protecting Children, we emphasize the need to ensure that the rights of children in immigration detention are equally protected.

Slovakia would like to make two recommendations to the Government of Australia:

- 1. Consider the elaboration of a national and regional strategy for the prevention of trafficking in human beings and further promote human rights based approach to victims of trafficking.**
- 2. Continue to implement indigenous education reforms.**

Thank you.