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

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UPR of MAURITANIA

Mr. President,

Slovenia thanks the distinguished delegation of Mauritania for their presentation. We note a number of positive developments in the country, such as the ratification of OP-CAT and CRPD, and the criminalization of slavery and torture as crimes against humanity.

Nonetheless, we are concerned about reports of slavery and slavery-like practices, including child labor and exploitation of girls in domestic work under slave-like conditions, and of torture and ill-treatment of prisoners and persons deprived of liberty. We are also concerned about the continued discrimination against women in law and in practice, including harmful practices such as FGM and early marriage, and the lack of judicial remedies for victims of violence and harmful practices.

Regarding our 1st cycle recommendations, we note with appreciation the partial withdrawal of the general reservation to CEDAW and the adoption of a national strategy for gender mainstreaming.

We offer the following **recommendations**:

- to adopt a law on a National Preventive Mechanism and enact it as soon as possible;
- to investigate all allegations of torture and ill-treatment in prisons and places of detention and prosecute persons responsible;
- to establish expeditious legal remedies that are accessible to women victims of violence and harmful practices, as recommended by CEDAW.

Thank you.