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UPR23/Nepal
Statement by Slovakia
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Mr President,

Slovakia thanks the delegation of Nepal for the presentation of the national report. We acknowledge efforts to strengthen human rights protection and hope that the new Constitution will include human rights provisions fully in line with international standards.

The April's damaging earthquakes had negative impact on the enjoyment of economic and social rights, in particular on the most vulnerable groups. Reports on increasing violence against women on the aftermath of the April earthquake raise concern. We invite the Government to adopt measures aimed at enhancing protection of women, including by strengthening the existing legislation.

Slovakia shares concerns by the Human Rights Committee regarding harassment and reprisals against journalists and human rights defenders committed by police and security forces and invites the Government to properly investigate such acts.

Child protection system, in particular access to education, protection from violence and the children's right to be heard are areas where further progress is required.

Slovakia would like to make the following recommendations to the Government of Nepal:

1. **Intensify efforts to adopt a revised Children's Act that complies with international standards, including provisions on prohibition of all forms violence against children, and to ensure sufficient budgetary resources to its implementation.**
2. **Amend the existing Child Labour Act to include child labour in the informal sector within the purview of the law.**
3. **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a Communications Procedure.**

Thank you.