

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

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UPR of the SAINT LUCIA

Mr. President,

Slovenia thanks the distinguished delegation of Saint Lucia for their presentation today. We welcome Saint Lucia's adoption of programmes to include marginalized youth in education and to reduce the number of dropouts. We further commend Saint Lucia for engaging in awareness raising activities against corporal punishment, as well as training sessions and parenting programmes to promote alternative forms of punishment.

However, we remain concerned that the corporal punishment of children remains legal. In this respect we would like to reiterate our previous **recommendation** to adopt legislation explicitly prohibiting corporal punishment of children. We are worried about the persistence of child labour, as well as about the lack of constitutional prohibition of discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity which allows for LGBTI persons to be persecuted and harassed on a daily basis.

With regard to our previous recommendations we note with regret that Saint Lucia has still not become party to the several of the core human rights treaties and would this like to reiterate our **recommendation** to ratify and implement the remaining core human rights treaties, in particular ICESR, ICCPR and CAT.

Additionally, we would like to recommend to Saint Lucia the following:

- to adopt legislation prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity and repeal all legal provisions criminalizing sexual acts between consenting adults of the same sex;
- to ensure the implementation of child labour laws, including by strengthening effective monitoring;
- to adopt additional measures and programmes to prevent child labour;
- to ensure the implementation of gender equality policies, including through mainstreaming gender equality training in the education sector.

Thank you.