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

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UPR of BELGIUM

Mr. President,

Slovenia thanks the distinguished delegation of Belgium for their presentation today. We commend Belgium for their work in field of promotion and protection of human rights.

We would like to commend Belgium on the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure in 2014. We welcome the information on human rights training and education made available to different groups of professionals as well as pupils. We also welcome the information on Belgium's efforts to establish a national human rights institution.

We would like to make the following **recommendations** to Belgium:

- To continue efforts to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment as soon as possible;
- To continue efforts in the area of human rights education and training, especially with activities aimed at implementing the third phase of the World Programme for Human Rights Education;
- To step up the process of establishing a national human rights institution.

Thank you.