

Mr. Fedor Losoch

Check against delivery

60

UPR24/Paraguay
Statement by Slovakia
20 January 2016

Mr. President,

Slovakia commends Paraguay for the efforts to further strengthen legislative and institutional human rights framework. We welcome the ratification of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and encourage the Government to recognize the Committee's competence under articles 31 and 32 of the Convention.

Slovakia acknowledges solid progress in combating torture through the establishment of the National Preventive Mechanism. We, however, note insufficient implementation of the recommendation from the first UPR cycle regarding the investigation of all allegations of torture and accountability of perpetrators.

Slovakia shares concerns expressed by the Committee of Torture about widespread pretrial detention, especially for children between the ages of 16 and 18 and invites the Government to step up its efforts in this regard.

We take positive note of policies targeted on children and encourage national authorities to ensure that the needs of disadvantaged children, including children from indigenous communities are properly taken into account.

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

1. **Adopt the necessary measures to increase the judicial control over the duration of pretrial detention.**
2. **Take steps to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a Communications Procedure.**

Thank you.