**Intervention of Slovenia**

**Review of Morocco**

**27th Session of UPR Working Group**

**Geneva, 2 May 2017**

Mr. Vice - President,

Slovenia welcomes the delegation of Morocco to the UPR working group and thanks them for their presentation.

We note with appreciation that Morocco has taken a number of positive steps since its second review, including the **ratification** of the Optional Protocol to the ICCPR and the Optional Protocol to the CEDAW.

We would like to make the following two **recommendations** to the Government of Morocco:

* Accelerate the enactment of the law on violence against women and the adoption of the international definition of gender-based violence;
* Adjust the new abortion law protocol to give women the right to abort in case of incest and rape based on the police report only;

While acknowledging significant steps have already been taken to improve **gender equality**, which include the creation of the Authority for Equality and the Fight against all forms of Discrimination, we note that significant challenges still remain in the field of ensuring the equality between women and men. We believe the implementation of these recommendations can contribute to achieving this end.

Thank you.