

Statement by

**the Republic of Slovenia**

at the

**45th Session of the UPR Working Group – Review of Congo**

*Geneva, 30 January 2024*

Mr President,

Slovenia commends the delegation of the Republic of Congo for its presentation today and the commitment to the UPR process.

Slovenia would like to make the following recommendations:

* to implement Law no. 5-2011 and the Planning Framework for the promotion and protection of the rights of indigenous peoples and re-establish inclusive schools for the socio-educational integration of indigenous children.
* to keep following consistently its constitution providing freedom of speech and press.

Slovenia commends the Republic of Congo for ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), aiming at the abolition of the death penalty.

Slovenia remains concerned about the reports that all children in the Republic of Congo are not equal in practice, including in terms of their access to basic services like education and health services.

Thank you.