

Statement by

**the Republic of Slovenia**

at the

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

Geneva, 23 January 2024

Mr President,

Slovenia commends the delegation of Nigeria for the national report, its presentation today and the commitment to the UPR process.

We would like to put forward the following recommendations:

* To ensure the effective implementation of the Child Rights Act across Nigeria.
* To consider ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

We welcome information on the visit of the Independent Expert on older persons to Nigeria in 2022. We also welcome that our recommendation from 3. UPR cycle has been implemented and that according to your national report, the Child Rights Act (CRA) was domesticated in all 36 states in Nigeria.

Given the fact that violence against women and girls remains pervasive and challenging, it is important to ensure the effective implementation of Violence against Person Prohibition Act (VAPP) across Nigeria. While we see progress in adoption of VAPP by 34 states, well call upon the remaining two states Kano and Katsina, to domesticate the law.

We remain concerned by the reports of intimidation, harassment and reprisals against human rights defenders, civil society activists and journalists.

Thank you.