

Statement by

**the Republic of Slovenia**

at the

**46nd Session of the UPR Working Group – Review of Eritrea**

*Geneva, 6 May 2024*

Mr President,

Slovenia thanks Eritrea for its commitment to the UPR process.

We take note of some positive steps of the Government, such as anti – FGM awareness campaigns, the National Strategic Plan to ensure Children and Women's rights, abandon FGM/C and Underage Marriage 2020-2024. However, harmful practices remains persistent in rural areas.

We remain concerned by the reports on the overall human rights situation in the country. In particular, the reports on the prevalence of torture and ill-treatment, overcrowded and unsanitary conditions in detention centres and prisons, human rights violations and abuses related to national service, and restrictions on journalists and human rights defenders.

Slovenia would like to **recommend** to Eritrea to allow journalists, human rights defenders and civil society organizations to exercise their fundamental rights without threat or harassment and to investigate and punish all cases of attacks against them.

Thank you.