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**UPR46 – NORTH MACEDONIA (1min45sec)**

**Statement by Slovakia**

2 May 2024

Mr. Vice-President,

Slovakia warmly welcomes the delegation of North Macedonia and thanks for the presentation of its National report.

Slovakia appreciates efforts made by North Macedonia **to gradually harmonise its national legislation with the international human rights standards**, as well as **amending its legislation** to be in accordance with **European Directives** and the **practice and the *case-law* of the European Court of Human Rights**.

We **commend** North Macedonia for the adoption of **new strategy for Roma inclusion** for the period 2022–2030.

In the spirit of constructive dialogue Slovakia would like to offer the following **recommendations** to North Macedonia:

1. **finalize the process of ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure,**
2. take necessary measures **to ensure that every child has a chance to use its right to education**, with special focus on children with disabilities, children from vulnerable backgrounds or marginalized communities,
3. **continue the efforts in fighting discrimination against Roma** and ensure that Roma communities, especially Roma women, have **equal access to health services**.

We wish North Macedonia a successful review.

Thank you.