**Permanent Mission of Montenegro to the United Nations and other international organizations**

**46th Session of the UPR Working Group - Review of Slovakia**

**Statement by Montenegro**

**Geneva, 6 May 2024**

Mr. President,

Montenegro welcomes the distinguished delegation of Slovakia [and its commitment to the UPR process.]

We commend Slovakia's decision to accept most of the recommendations received in the previous cycle, including those made by Montenegro, such as the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

We positively noted the country's comprehensive actions to address pertinent challenges in a wide range of policy issues, especially those related to gender equality, violence against women and domestic violence; protection of children from violence; freedom of the press and safety of journalists; participation of members of ethnic minorities in public affairs - particularly Roma, and anti-gypsyism. In this regard, we encourage the competent authorities to fully and effectively implement the adopted strategic and legal frameworks [including the Strategy for Equality, Inclusion and Participation of Roma until 2030, the Strategy for Gender Equality and Equal Opportunities and National Strategy for the Protection of Children from Violence].

Montenegro recommends to Slovakia:

1. To withdraw its reservation to article 27 of the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons;
2. To revise its Anti-Discrimination Act to eliminate any form of discrimination against women in all areas covered by article 2 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;

We wish Slovakia a very successful outcome of the review.

Thank you.