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**UPR46 – SLOVAKIA**

Opening remarks by Ambassador **Dušan Matulay**

Permanent Representative of Slovakia

6 May 2024

Mr. President, Excellencies, Distinguished delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my honor to welcome you to the 4th cycle of the UPR in respect of Slovakia.

First of all, let me thank the OHCHR and UPR Secretariat especially, for the preparation of this morning session. Also, to all stakeholders that have contributed to the reports about human rights situation in my country.

Thank you, also Algeria, Kyrgyzstan, and United States for being Troika members for Slovakia and facilitating our review.

Thanks goes to countries which inscribed to the list of speakers. Particular thanks go to those countries that have formulated advance questions to Slovakia thus helping the delegation to better focus the presentations and reactions that you will hear this morning.

Now allow me to introduce to you our delegation. The delegation is lead by H.E. Mme Miroslava Vozáryová, Secretary General of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, next to her is H.E. Mme Katarína Roskoványi, State Secretary of the Ministry of Justice. In the delegation we have Government Plenipotentiary for Roma Communities as well as Government Plenipotentiary for National Minorities. You will hear also from Directors, Heads of Units and Counsellors from the Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Labor, Social Affairs and Family, Ministry of Culture and Ministry of Health.

And now I have the honor to give the floor to the Head of Delegation that will introduce the National Report and address some of the advance questions.

Mme Secretary General, you have the floor.