

Statement by

**the Republic of Slovenia**

at the

**48th Session of the UPR Working Group – Review of The Gambia**

*Geneva, January 2025*

Mr President,

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

We commend The Gambia for its efforts to review domestic laws to ensure they align with international standards, such as new Communications Bill, adoption or amendments of national legislation, strategies and plans covering various areas, especially education, disabilities, child protection and women's empowerment.

Despite progress made, we remain concerned by the low rate of literacy among women and girls, particularly in rural areas, prevalence of discrimination and violence against women and girls, including persistence of harmful traditional practices that impede the progress to empower them.

Slovenia would like to **recommend** to raise awareness among women of their rights under the Domestic Violence Act and the Sexual Offences Act and to ensure that victims of gender-based violence have access to effective protection and remedies.

Thank you.