

Statement by

**the Republic of Slovenia**

at the

**40th Session of the UPR Working Group – Review of Sudan**

*Geneva, 9 February 2022*

Mr President,

Slovenia wishes to commend Sudan for its commitment to the UPR process.

Slovenia would like to make the following recommendations:

* To ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR aiming at the abolition of the death penalty.
* To investigate all cases of human rights violations and abuses, foremost gender based violence and to hold perpetrators to account.

Slovenia remains concerned about the increase of violence in the country and call upon all the parties involved to continue with political dialogue and refrain from any use of force against demonstrators. We call on Sudanese actors to implement the commitments and obligations stemming from the Constitutional Charter signed in 2019.

Slovenia welcomes the ratification of CAT and takes note that Sudan is in the process of ratifying CEDAW and the Rome Statute of the ICC, which is a positive move.

While we take note of the recent adoption of law criminalizing female genital mutilation, we remain concerned about the widespread nature of this harmful practice.

Thank you.