

Statement by

**the Republic of Slovenia**

at the

**41st Session of the UPR Working Group – Review of the Philippines**

*Geneva, 14 November 2022*

Mr President,

Slovenia thanks the Philippines for their report, presentation and commitment to the UPR process.

Slovenia welcomes the commitment of the Government of the Philippines to advance **sexual and reproductive health and rights** (SRHR), notably by increasing access to modern contraceptives.

The Philippines has also shown commendable progress in furthering **the rights of women and children** in line with accepted UPR3 recommendations. We welcome adoption of **Child Marriage Law** and recent enactment of the Act raising the age of sexual consent to the age of 16. However, still more work could be done in order to achieve comprehensive SRHR, for example through awareness campaigns and stronger advocacy.

We are concerned that the abortion is still illegal under the Penal Code of 1930 in all circumstances. We would suggest aligning the access to abortion with the latest WHO guidelines or at least in cases where a woman's or girl's life or health is in danger; when the pregnancy is result of rape or incest; and in cases of fetal malformations.

We wish to **recommend** to the Philippines to decriminalize abortion through an amendment to the Revised Penal Code.

I thank you.