41st Session of the UPR Working Group

Review of South Africa

November 2022

The Republic of Serbia welcomes the delegation of South Africa at the UPR’s Session and thanks it for presenting its National Report.

Serbia commends the efforts of South Africa invested in responding to the recommendations from the last UPR process. We welcome the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and the establishment of National Preventive Mechanism that tracks progress in its implementation. We commend the South Africa’s Government strategy to address the challenges of poverty, inequality and unemployment as part of the national development plan, especially the initiatives aimed at creating jobs for the youth. We note with appreciation the progress in ensuring access to post-school education and training opportunities, especially for students from disadvantaged backgrounds, as well as the increased funding for this purpose. We commend the development of National Policy Framework for Women’s Empowerment and Gender Equality and the considerable progress made in the participation of women in politics, public service and judiciary.

We would like to recommend to South Africa to consider allocating sufficient resources to its Human Rights Commission to execute its mandates; to continue its efforts in reducing unemployment, especially among the youth; to strive to ensure equal access to health services in rural and urban areas.

Serbia wishes South Africa a successful and fruitful review process.