

Statement by

**the Republic of Slovenia**

at the

**31st Session of the UPR working group -**

**Review of Senegal**

Geneva, 5 November 2018

Mr. President,

Slovenia thanks Senegal for the report, presentation and its commitment to the UPR process.

We would therefore like to **recommend** Senegal to:

* revise the Criminal Code to bring it in line with regional and international law and standards, particularly the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Maputo Protocol on the Rights of Women in Africa, including by criminalising marital rape, prohibiting early and forced marriage and decriminalising abortion.

We commend Senegal for the recently launched project in support of the campaign against gender-based violence in schools, which along with other initiatives yield already some success. Senegal should continue with these activities also in the future. Slovenia commends also the campaign to end child marriage which resulted in preparation of the draft children’s code and an analytical study of the social, economic and cultural determinants conducive to child marriage.

Slovenia at the same time regrets Senegal's unwillingness to implement a number of recommendations it had accepted during its second review namely in the field of the rights of women and children, as well as in regards to strengthening of the national human rights institutions.

My delegation remains concerned over persistent discrimination and different forms of violence against women, in particular the existence of discriminatory legal provisions relating to marriage and family relations, the lack of adequate protection and assistance for disadvantaged groups of women, and practices of early marriage, female genital mutilation, and domestic violence.

We would like to finish our statement by welcoming the nomination of Senegal's Permanent Representative for the position of the President of the Human Rights Council in 2019. We wish you all the success.

Thank you.