

Statement by

**the Republic of Slovenia**

at the

**31th Session of the UPR Working Group – Review of Malaysia**

Geneva, 8 November 2018

Mr President,

Slovenia thanks the distinguished delegation of Malaysia for presentation of their report and for their dedication to the UPR process.

We would like to make the following **recommendations**:

1. Ensure that the legal age for marriage is set at 18 years of age with no exceptions, as established under international human rights standards.

2. Update the current Reproductive Health and Social Education syllabus, to include inter alia education on healthy and respectful family life and interpersonal relationships, human rights, violence and gender-based violence, consent and bodily integrity, in line with UN technical guidelines on education.

We commend the new government's ambitious agenda to improve Malaysia's human rights record, including its commitment to ratify all core human rights documents.

Slovenia attaches great importance to the issue of the rights of the child. Thus we are concerned that child marriages continue to be permitted in Malaysia. We have however noted the government's efforts to deal with this issue, including through the establishment of the Child Marriage Task Force.

We welcome Malaysia's efforts for strengthening legal provisions to effectively protect women who are victims of domestic violence through amending its domestic violence law in 2017. Yet, we are concerned that marital rape is still not criminalized and that domestic violence is not a separate offense under the penal code.

Thank you, Mr. President.