**Statement of Hungary on the Slovak Republic**

**32nd Session of the UPR Working Group, 28 January 2019**

**Mr. President,**

Hungary welcomes the delegation of the Slovak Republic and expresses its thanks for the detailed national report and update.

We respect the fact that Slovakia is a party to almost all core international human rights conventions. We note with satisfaction that Slovakia recently signed the Optional Protocol of the Convention against Torture.

Hungary believes that despite the sustained efforts of the Government to address the human rights challenges in the country, there remains room for further improvement.

**With this in mind, Hungary recommends that the Government**

* ensure that the use of the minority languages in public life is in line with the principle under the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages and the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities, and implement the national minority-related commitments set by the Treaty on good neighborhood relations and friendly cooperation between the Republic of Hungary and the Slovak Republic;
* adopt a complex and comprehensive nationality law on securing the development and preservation of identity of national minorities, allowing practical opportunities for the mentioned groups, such as self-governance;
* ensure access to all levels of education for every child without any discrimination based on ethnicity, including for Roma pupils.

We deem it commendable that in 2013 the Slovak Republic undertook a systematic review of its laws and regulations to introduce amendments necessary in order to implement the UPR recommendations it had accepted.

The Hungarian Delegation wishes in this cycle as well a successful UPR to the delegation of Slovakia.

**Thank you, Mr. President!**