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**STATEMENT BY MALAYSIA**

**Review of Slovakia**

**32nd Session of the UPR Working Group**

**28 January 2019**

Thank you, Mr. President.

Malaysia congratulates the delegation of Slovakia for the presentation of their national report.

2. Numerous national initiatives by Slovakia including the implementation of the National Strategy for the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights have improved human rights situation in the country. We note that on women’s rights, Slovakia has taken initiatives to address violence against women as outlined in the National Action Plan for the Prevention and Elimination of Violence against Women. We welcome Slovakia’s National Strategy for Gender Equality and encourage for more programmes targeted at reducing maternal mortality.

3. While progress has been made, Malaysia is of the view that improvements could be made in areas such as employment for women, combating racial discrimination and child welfare. In this regard, we wish to make the following **recommendations**:

* 1. **One**: Improve access to decent work for all women, eliminate all discrimination against women at work, and create more socioeconomic opportunities for women;
  2. **Two**: Enhance inter-ethnic, inter-religious, and inter-cultural understanding within the society, ensure access to justice and redress for victims of racial hatred or violence;
  3. **Three**: Take urgent measures to prevent racially motivated attacks against minorities; and
  4. **Four:** Allocate sufficient financial resources to further promote early childhood education.

4. Malaysia is convinced that with greater commitment from the Government of Slovakia, everyone could lead a full and meaningful life, in a fair and inclusive society. Malaysia wishes Slovakia the best in its UPR undertakings.

I thank you, Mr. President.

**GENEVA  
28 January 2019**