**Intervention by the Republic of Cyprus**

**Tuesday, 12 November 2019, 09.30-12.00**

**UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW**

**34th Session**

**SLOVENIA**

Mr. President,

Cyprus welcomes the participation of the Slovenian delegation at today’s UPR, as well as the presentation of its Report.

Cyprus commends Slovenia for its strong commitment to the promotion and protection of human rights. In this regard, we welcome the introduction of measures aiming at regulating persons with erased status, as well as measures taken to accelerate social integration of minority groups, such as the National Programme of Measures for Roma.

Cyprus would like to make the following recommendations to Slovenia:

* Strengthen the asylum system to fully respect the principle of “non-refoulement”,.
* Ensure that all asylum seekers have access to legal representation by providing free legal aid to those not in a position to pay for a lawyer.
* Work towards implementing additional measures to ensure that unaccompanied children or families with children are not held in detention.

Thank you.