**Universal Periodic Review 34 – Republic of Slovenia**

**Statement by the Kingdom of the Netherlands** **– 12 November 2019**

Thank you, Madam Vice President,

The Kingdom of the Netherlands thanks the delegation of the Republic of Slovenia for the presentation of its national report.

The Netherlands congratulates Slovenia on the implementation of the National Programme of Family Violence Prevention, in particular the adoption of the Family Violence Prevention Act in 2016, which explicitly prohibits corporal punishment and degrading treatment of children.

We also congratulate Slovenia on its recent decision to increase spending on the Advocate of the Principle of Equality, established in 2016, which addresses discrimination against persons in all spheres of social life. The Advocate will now be able to build capacity for the fulfilment of its wide-ranging statutory tasks.

The Netherlands remains concerned, however, about the scope of these reforms.

Therefore, The Netherlands **recommends** the Republic of Slovenia:

1. To strengthen efforts to end discrimination against LGBTI people, including awareness raising to increase the social acceptance of the LGBTI community in all spheres of professional and social life.
2. To strengthen the National Programme of Measures for Roma by identifying concrete targets, so as to further equal, legal and fair treatment of minorities, in line with SDGs 10 and 16.

The Netherlands wishes Slovenia success with the follow-up of all recommendations it receives during this third UPR cycle.

Thank you, Madam Vice President.