

**Statement by Slovenia**

**at the**

**51th Session of the Human Rights Council**

**Enhanced Interactive Dialogue on the situation of the human rights of women and girls in Afghanistan**

***Geneva, 12 September 2022***

Mr President,

Distinguished speakers,

Slovenia would like to thank the Special Rapporteur for his report and his work and the esteemed speakers for their valuable contributions to this Interactive Dialogue. We align with the EU statement and would like to deliver the following remarks in our national capacity.

Mr President,

Today we are witnessing the drastic eradication of women and girls from all spheres of public life in Afghanistan. They are denied their basic human rights.

Slovenia is appalled by the Taliban’s systematic gender-based discrimination and violence. We call on the Taliban to immediately reverse their policies and ensure full, equal and meaningful participation of women and girls in public life, their right to education, work and employment, access to health care and services, as well as their rights to move, express and assemble freely.

We, the international community, need to support the call of Afghan women and girls for accountability and justice. It is important to remember that when we create equal opportunities and equal rights for women and girls, we make benefits to the society as a whole.

Distinguished panellists, how can we achieve the reopening of the schools for girls of all ages?

Thank you.