

Statement by

**the Republic of Slovenia**

at the

**52nd Session of the United Nations Human Rights Council**

**Interactive dialogue with Special Representative of the**

**UN Secretary-General on violence against children**

Geneva, 15 March 2023

Excellencies,

We would like to thank the Special Representative for her timely report and presentation today. Slovenia aligns itself with the EU statement and would like to make additional remarks in its national capacity.

Madame Special Representative,

We live in an interconnected digital world and children at a very young age become a part of it. While there are indeed numerous positive aspects of it, Slovenia shares your concern over a wide range of risks related to violence against children in the digital environment.

We hear your call for strong protection and prevention. While developing those systems, Slovenia emphasises full, equal and meaningful participation of children as agents of transformative change.

Madame Special Representative,

Working closely with the civil society, my country carried out several programs focusing on safety of children in digital environment. From Awareness Point on Safe use of the internet and mobile devices **Safe.si** and its hotline **Online Eye** that **allows Internet users to anonymously report child sexual abuse images, if they come across them online,** to **"Click-off! Stop cyber violence against women and girls"** focusing on prevention of gender-based violence and harassment online.

Madam Special Representative,

How can Member States better implement a “whole-of-a-government” approach to the threats children face in the digital environment, including cyberbullying, harassment, online sexual exploitation, trafficking, smuggling, recruitment and fraud?

Thank you.