



Statement by  
**the Republic of Slovenia**  
at the

**31<sup>th</sup> Session of the UPR Working Group – Review of Central African Republic**

Geneva, 9 November 2018

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Mr President,

Slovenia wishes to commend the delegation of Central African Republic for the national report, its presentation today and the commitment to the UPR process.

Slovenia would like to make to the Government of Central African Republic the following **recommendation**:

- to strengthen its efforts on the protection of children, in particular prevention of recruitment and use of children by parties to the conflict, and the rehabilitation of children affected by armed conflict, including child victims of sexual violence.

We would like to welcome the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict. However, we are concerned by the reports on the persistence of gross human rights violations and abuses that go unpunished despite some positive developments this year. We are particularly concerned by the situation of children, especially those affected by conflict, victims of trafficking, victims of witchcraft, children with disabilities and those with albinism. We are also concerned by the reports on the prevalence of sexual and gender-based violence against women and persistence of harmful traditional practices against women and girls.

Thank you!