



Statement by
the Republic of Slovenia
at the

32nd Session of the UPR Working Group – Review of Cambodia

Geneva, 30 January 2019

Mr. President,

Slovenia thanks the distinguished delegation of Cambodia for their presentation today and for their dedication to the UPR process.

We wish to **recommend** to the Royal Government of Cambodia:

- to protect from harassment, arbitrary arrests and physical attacks journalists, human rights defenders, members of political opposition, trade union workers and to investigate and prosecute the perpetrators of such attacks.
- to protect NGOs and associations and to ensure that the administrative provisions of the Law on Associations and NGOs (Lango) will not be used to close down, suspend, or otherwise negatively impact NGOs and associations.

We took note of the concern by the Human Rights Committee about the reports of harassment and intimidation of journalists, human rights defenders, trade union workers, land and environmental activists and other civil society actors, and members of the political opposition, who continued to be prosecuted for their activities, in particular through the criminalization of defamation and other vaguely formulated offences. We also remain concerned about the Law on Associations and NGOs (Lango) and its implications for the work of the NGOs.

While we welcome steps taken by the government to eliminate discrimination against women and to promote gender equality, we note the information by the relevant human rights mechanisms that violence against women and gender-based violence remains to be a problem. We encourage the government to take appropriate measures to investigate and prosecute the perpetrators of such violence.

Finally, Slovenia attaches great importance to human rights education. We welcome establishment of the Cambodian Human Rights Committee as an institution to provide education and training on international human rights law at all levels, including civil servants and armed forces.

Thank you!

Advance questions:

- We welcome the promotion of the principle "education for all" by increasing opportunities of receiving equitable education services to all children and Cambodian youth at both formal and informal education systems. With regard to the principle "education for all", we wonder if basic education is compulsory and if not, have there been any discussions to introduce compulsory basic education.
- We would like to inquire about the measures to eliminate violence against women, in particularly domestic violence.
- How do you address gender stereotyping, particularly within the family, schools, communities and workplaces?