



Statement by
the Republic of Slovenia
at the
32nd Session of the UPR Working Group – Review of Dominican Republic

Geneva, 30 January 2019

Mr President,

Slovenia welcomes the delegation of Dominican Republic and thanks for the presentation of its report.

Let me begin by **recommending** the Government of the Dominican Republic to:

1. Designate sufficient resources for the implementation of the Plan for the Reduction of Adolescent Pregnancy 2019–2023 and the Strategy for Comprehensive Sexual Education.
2. Decriminalize abortion, at least in cases where the pregnancy presents a risk to the life of the woman, the pregnancy is the result of rape or incest, or there are fetal malformations incompatible with life.

We commend the progress made by the State since last cycle, as for example by acceding to the OP2 of the ICCPR; the abolishment of compulsory pregnancy testing and HIV/AIDS testing as a condition of employment; the increase of the budget allocated to pre-university education and other efforts to improve its education system as well as the advances in the political participation of women at the 2016 elections.

However, we remain concerned about the high number of child marriages and pregnant girls under 18 years of age, what hinders girls' chances to acquire appropriate education and make them more vulnerable to domestic violence.

Thank you.

Advance question:

Concerning the 2012–2016 Strategic National Plan for the Reduction of Maternal Mortality and the National Plan for the Prevention of Pregnancy we would like to ask the Government of Dominican Republic, if there exist already any data showing how effective implemented measures were.