



Statement by
the Republic of Slovenia
at the

33rd Session of the UPR Working Group – Review of Ethiopia

Geneva, 14 May 2019

Mr President,

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

Slovenia would like to make to the Government of Ethiopia the **recommendation** to:

- take all necessary measures to eliminate harmful traditional practices, such as female genital mutilation and cutting and child, early and forced marriage.

Slovenia would like to note measures taken and efforts made of the Government of Ethiopia to improve the human rights situation in the country, including releasing of political prisoners and opening of media and civil society space. We note with appreciation the efforts made to empower women and girls and to protect and promote the rights of the child, and the ratifications of the Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on involvement of children in armed conflict and on sale of children as well as ratification of Maputo Protocol. We would also like to note some efforts made to implement Slovenia's recommendations to Ethiopia in the 2nd UPR cycle regarding visits by special procedures and amending the media and anti-terrorism legislation, although Ethiopia did not accept them.

However, Slovenia is concerned about the reports on human rights violations in the reviewed period. We deplore the ethnic conflicts that erupted in some regions of the country resulting in killing, injury and displacement of more than one million people. Slovenia is also concerned by the prevalence of violence against women and girls and by persistence of harmful traditional practices, such as FGM and child, early and forced marriage, that impede the progress to empower of women and girls. We are also concerned by the reports on discrimination, abuse and exploitation and even violence against children, in particular girls, children with disabilities, belonging to ethnic minorities, living in poverty, in street situation, children living with HIV/AIDS and with noma disease.

Thank you.