



Statement by
the Republic of Slovenia
at the
34th Session of the UPR Working Group – Review of Fiji

Geneva, 6 November 2019

Mr President,

Slovenia would like to thank the delegation of Fiji for their presentation today.

We would like to **recommend** to Fiji:

1. Adopt a comprehensive anti-discrimination or equality act and put in place public awareness-raising campaigns, which will address the issue of discrimination and stigmatization against LGBTI persons,
2. Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

Slovenia would like to commend Fiji for taking the necessary legislative steps to abolish the death penalty in 2015. We sincerely hope your legislative steps to repeal the death penalty will trigger similar positive moves in the Pacific region, and we are convinced you could provide a leadership role in that regard.

We are concerned over the high number of teenage pregnancies in Fiji. We therefore suggest strengthening of SRHR and Comprehensive Sexual Education for students and young people in and out of schools, including increased budgetary allocation focused on these issues.

Finally, we would like to welcome the commitment of Fiji and your mission in Geneva on issues related to environmental degradation and climate change in particular. There has been an extensive national environmental policy development in the past years, and we hope further steps will be taken following up on the visit of the Special Rapporteur on human rights and the environment in Fiji last year and the recommendations he is to present shortly.

Thank you.