

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

35th Session of the UPR Working Group – Review of Lesotho

Geneva, 22 January 2020

Ms President,

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

Slovenia would like to recommend to Lesotho to enact as soon as possible the Children's Protection and Welfare Amendment Bill 2019.

We would like to commend Lesotho for issuing a standing invitation to special procedures. Slovenia also notes with appreciation the efforts made by Lesotho to address discrimination against women and girls, gender-based violence and child marriage as well as to improve the access of women and youth to sexual and reproductive health services.

We would like to commend Lesotho for ratifying the African Union Protocol on the Rights of Older Persons as well as encourage it to ratify the OP-CAT, the Optional Protocol to the CRC on the communication procedure, the Optional Protocol to the CRPD as well as the First and Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR.

I will end this statement, by stressing that Slovenia remains concerned over reports on persistence of discrimination and violence against women and girls, and of child marriage, as well as human trafficking. Furthermore, we remain concerned over reports on violence, exploitation and abuse against children, including corporal punishment, child labour, sexual exploitation and abuse of children.

Thank you!