

Statement by

**the Republic of Slovenia**

at the

**38th Session of the UPR Working Group – Review of Somalia**

*Geneva, 6th May 2021*

Excellences,

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

We would like to recommend to:

1. ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict and the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child.
2. urge all parties to immediately cease all grave violations against children and to abide by their obligations and responsibilities under international humanitarian and human rights law.

Slovenia commends the commitments of the Federal Government of Somalia to strengthen the protection of children affected by armed conflict and the progress made in the drafting of a child rights bill aimed at domesticating the Convention of the Rights of the Child.

Slovenia remains concerned over the continuing high number of grave violations committed against children by all parties to the conflict in Somalia. The detention of children for their alleged association with armed groups also continues to be a concern.

Thank you.