

Statement by

**the Republic of Slovenia**

at the

**39th Session of the UPR Working Group – Review of Samoa**

*Geneva, 2 November 2021*

Excellencies,

Slovenia would like to thank the delegation of Samoa for their presentation today and appreciates Samoa’s engagement with the UPR mechanism.

We welcome the steps that Samoa government is taking in the field of education and encourage Samoa to step up the adoption of inclusive school curriculum and school-based programmes in the field of environmental matters, biodiversity and natural diseaster prevention. Accessible and inclusive education should be open to all, withouth any kind of discrimination, including on the basis of gender or disability.

My country is increasingly concerned with the environmental degradation, climate change and loss of biodiversity that pose a serious threat to the realization of human rights. Small developing island states are particularly vulnerable due to the disproportionate effects they are subject to. Slovenia notes the adoption of the Samoa Climate Change Policy 2020 and the Samoa 2040 policy document.

Slovenia would like to **recommend** to Samoa to review its environmental policies, legislation and regulations and mainstream a human rights-based approach to climate change adaptation, mitigation and disaster risk reduction.

Thank you.