

Statement by

**the Republic of Slovenia**

at the

**42nd Session of the UPR Working Group – Review of Zambia**

*Geneva, 30 January 2023*

Mr President,

Slovenia thanks the delegation of Zambia for the report, presentation and its commitment to the UPR process.

Slovenia would like to make the following recommendation:

* to step up efforts to ensure equal access to education, health and employment for persons with albinism.
* to ratify the second Optional Protocol to the International Convention on Civil and Political Rights.

Slovenia welcomes the abolition of the death penalty in Zambia.

Slovenia commends Zambia to introduce free education from early childhood to Secondary level. We also took note in your report on the increase of pre-school centers, which have been annexed to existing primary schools in order to enhance access to Early Child Educations.

While we took note in your report of the information on measures to promote welfare of persons with albinism and to protect them against attacks, Slovenia remains concerned about reports of discrimination faced by persons living with albinism, in particular with regard to the enjoyment of their rights to education, employment and health. Moreover, persons with albinism continue to be subjected to abduction, murder and mutilations for ritual practices.

Thank you.