

Statement by

**the Republic of Slovenia**

at the

**43rd Session of the UPR Working Group – Review of Tonga**

*Geneva, 1 May 2023*

Mr President,

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

Slovenia took note of the efforts undertaken by Tonga to promote and increase efforts for women's participation in political life and decision-making levels.

Slovenia remains concerned about the reports that gender-based violence continues to be a pervasive issue in Tonga.

Slovenia would like to make the following recommendation:

- to increase women's access to justice and ensure affordability of legal services;

- to ensure capacity-building and training of front-line service providers in the area of gender-based violence to guarantee the provision of adequate services in their response to gender-based violence.

Thank you.