

Statement by

**the Republic of Slovenia**

at the

**43rd Session of the UPR Working Group – Review of United Arab Emirates**

*Geneva, 8 May 2023*

Mr President,

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

Slovenia is happy to observe positive developments, including the establishment of a National Human Rights Institution (NHRI) in 2021 and efforts to promote gender equality through the adoption of the National Strategy for the Empowerment and Advancement of Women.

Slovenia is concerned that the reform of Penal Code in 2020 has not yet sufficiently prevented the abuses related to obtaining confessions and evidence through torture or degrading treatment of prisoners.

Slovenia would like to **recommend** to the United Arab Emirates to strengthen cooperation with United Nations human rights mechanisms, by permitting visits by the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

Building on the examples of good practice of the training courses by the Ministry of the Interior, Slovenia further **recommends** to adopt comprehensive human rights education and training policy relating to the pre-service and in-service training for law enforcement officials, including police and prison personnel.

Thank you.