



Statement by
the Republic of Slovenia
at the
36th Session of the UPR Working Group – Review of Liberia

Geneva, 2 November 2020

Madame President,

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

Slovenia would like to make the following recommendation:

- to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography.

The existing moratorium on the death penalty demonstrates the government's commitment to comply with the Second Optional Protocol of the ICCPR, signed in 2004 and ratified in 2005. At the same time we noted that in Liberia judges still sentence people to death and that the capital punishment is still mandatory for certain crimes. Slovenia resolutely opposes the death penalty, as it is inhumane, cruel, degrading, and a final form of punishment, which also constitutes a violation of human rights of those convicted and their family members.

In 2018 a presidential executive order banned the female genital mutilation of girls under 18 and non-consenting women, which is the step in the right direction. However, the proper legislation is missing to criminalize all forms of female genital mutilation without exception as the practice is still carried out under the guise of "tradition" or "culture" especially in rural areas, often resulting in medical complications and putting girls and women at severe health risks for the rest of their lives.

Thank you.