**35th session of the United Nations Human Rights Council**

**Item 6 – General Debate**

**16 June 2017**

**Statement by Slovenia**

Mr President,

At first, allow me to reiterate Slovenia's full support to the UPR process which we see as a crucial mechanism, contributing to the improvement of human rights in the world and at home.

Our government has prepared a voluntary mid-term report on the implementation of second UPR cycle recommendations, which should be soon available on the OHCHR extranet.

Since the last review Slovenia has made several legislative changes in line with the UPR recommendations. Allow me to point out only few:

* We have ratified the Istanbul Convention and amended the national legislation on police tasks and powers, as well as on domestic violence. These changes enable our authorities to address violence against women and domestic violence in more comprehensive manner.
* In 2016 Slovenia appointed first Advocate for the Principle of Equality, based on the new anti-discrimination legislation we adopted earlier that year,
* Last year, Slovenia also adopted the Civil Union Act stipulating equal conditions for entering into a civil union of heterosexual and same-sex couples,

Slovenia respects its international commitments, including respective decisions of the international courts. Last year the council of Europe Committee of Ministers adopted final resolutions concerning the European Court of Human Rights' cases *Kurić and others v. Slovenia* and *Lukenda Group.*  With this Slovenia considers UPR recommendations regarding the erased and court backlogs implemented.

Thank you!