

## Statement by

## the Republic of Slovenia

at the

43rd Session of the United Nations Human Rights Council High-Level Panel on 25th Anniversary of Beijing Conference Statement by Slovenia

Geneva, 25 February 2020

Madam President,

Let me begin by stressing that the standards set by Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action need to be supported along with the long-established achievements in the international community including on sexual and reproductive health and rights. My country strongly opposes any push backs on women's and girl's rights and believes international community should continue working on strengthening the existing standards.

These standards are the backbone of gender equality that we all aspire to.

Women's and girls' full enjoyment of all human rights and their equal participation in all spheres of life is crucial for achieving the 2030 Agenda to leave no one behind.

Slovenia is committed to gender equality and empowering women and girls both nationally and internationally. We consider gender equality to be a key human right, as well as a developmental and security imperative.

As Slovenian women enjoy high levels of gender equality, there is still work to be done. At the same time we recognize our constitutionally guaranteed right to choose and decide as a foundation for women empowerment.

Gender equality is not just women's issue they concern men, too. Gender equality and equal participation of women and girls in every sphere of life cannot succeeded without active engagement of men and boys.

In line with our tradition, we will continue to call and work for gender equality and women empowerment in all UN fora, including this Council.

Thank you.