



Statement by Slovenia
at the
44th Session of the Human Rights Council

**Annual full-day discussion on the human rights of women
Panel 1: Accountability for women and girls in humanitarian settings**

Geneva, 13 July 2020

Mme President, Distinguished Panellists,

Slovenia aligns itself with the EU statement.

We are grateful to be part of this timely discussion today: Not just because of alarming projections of trends with regard to the number of people in need of humanitarian assistance by 2022, but also because women's and girls' rights in humanitarian settings are exacerbated by increased discrimination, gender inequality and gender-based violence. The Covid-19 pandemic has even worsened the already alarming situation.

We join others in outlining the importance of accountability for violations of women's and girls' rights in humanitarian context. In our opinion, rights-based accountability demands involvement of women and girls, who are key in identifying and determining needs, priorities for services and funding in crisis response.

Mme President,

We welcome all initiatives aimed at effective empowerment of women of all ages, especially in conflict and other humanitarian context.

Gender equality and empowerment of women are a cross-cutting topic of Slovenia's development cooperation and humanitarian assistance. In 2019, we supported three projects focused on women and girls in conflict situations, in Lebanon, Jordan and Afghanistan. In 2020-2022 we are financing two humanitarian projects, selected at the public call, focused on gender-based violence among Syrian refugees in Lebanon, as well as a resilience building project in Uganda, which targets gender equality within the refugee community.

Thank you!