**Intervention of Slovenia**

**Review of Ghana**

**28th Session of UPR Working Group**

**Geneva, 7 November 2017**

Mr President,

Slovenia wishes to thank the Delegation of Ghana for their national report, its presentation today and Ghana’s commitment to the UPR process.

Slovenia would like to **recommend** to Ghana to provide clear national guidelines to prevent discrimination in schools and universities on any ground, including on sexual orientation and gender identity.

We would like to commend Ghana for ratifying the optional protocols to the Convention Against Torture and to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict as well as the Palermo Protocol. Regarding Slovenia's recommendation to consider abolishing death penalty, we take note with appreciation that a Bill for abolition of the death penalty has been drafted.

Slovenia also notes with appreciation the launching of several processes to improve protection of children and their wellbeing as well as to advance the role of women. However, Slovenia is still concerned by the reports on the persistence of violence against women and of harmful practices such as FGM, *trokosi* (ritual servitude), child, early and forced marriage and witchcraft accusations. We are also concerned by the reports on very high rates of violence, abuse and exploitation of children, including sexual exploitation of children, particularly commercial sexual exploitation, which is growing.

Thank you!