

Statement by

**the Republic of Slovenia**

at the

**38th Session of the UPR Working Group – Review of Latvia**

*Geneva, 11 May 2021*

Madame President,

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

Slovenia would like to recommend to Latvia to amend the Citizenship Law in order to provide for the automatic acquisition of citizenship by all children born on the territory of Latvia to "non-citizens" who would otherwise be stateless, including minors between 15 and 18 years of age.

Slovenia commends the adoption of a law as of January 2020, to grant automatic citizenship to children of "non citizens", unless the parents opted for another nationality, but regrets that the parliament did not extend automatic citizenship to all stateless children in Latvia.

Slovenia remains concerned about the placement of orphans and children without parental care in institutions, where their placement is not optimal as it would be in other types of child care in family-like environments, guardians and foster families.

Thank you.