

Statement by

**the Republic of Slovenia**

at the

**38th Session of the UPR Working Group - Review of Mozambique**

*Geneva, 4 May 2021*

Excellencies,

Slovenia wishes to thank delegation of Mozambique for the presentation of national report and dedication to the UPR process.

Slovenia would like to recommend to:

1. Ensure that all children in conflict areas are protected against the violations of their rights, especially grave violations, including killing and maiming, recruitment or use of children by armed forces or armed group and sexual violence.
2. Respect and protect human rights, including the rights to freedom of expression, access to information and media freedom.

We would like to commend Mozambique for progress made since previous UPR cycle, including the strengthening of the National Human Rights institution and reinforcement of policies and laws with regards to gender equality.

At the same time, we would like to express our concern about the worsening of the human rights situation in the province of Cabo Delgado. Children and adolescents are severely impacted by the conflict and live in an extremely vulnerable situation. We are also worried about the situation of human rights defenders as well as journalists.

Thank you.