

Statement by

**the Republic of Slovenia**

at the

**40th Session of the UPR Working Group – Review of the Republic of Moldova**

*Geneva, 28 January 2022*

Mr President,

Slovenia wishes to commend the delegation of the Republic of Moldova for the national report, its presentation today and the commitment to the UPR process.

Slovenia commends the country for the significant progress achieved since its last review and acknowledges that the state has accepted all the recommendations on ensuring gender equality and combating violence against women. Yet, still more needs to be done to ensure the implementation of the legislative in practice.

Slovenia remains concerned by the reports about victims of domestic and sexual violence who continue to face multiple difficulties in accessing justice and equal protection under the law.

Considering the extent and impact of domestic violence in Moldova, it is necessary to adopt and implement firm, systemic measures in line with international standards in this field.

Slovenia would like to reiterate the following **recommendations**:

* firstly, to speed up ratification of the Istanbul Convention; and
* secondly, to plan concrete actions to improve protection of and support to victims of domestic violence as well as to ensure that legal aid is available to all victims of violence in order to ensure comprehensive approach to domestic violence.

Thank you.