



Statement by
the Republic of Slovenia

at the
29th Session of the UPR Working Group – Review of Bahamas

Geneva, 17 January 2018

Mr President,

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

Slovenia welcomes Bahamas' ratification of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and both Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child. We further note the expressed willingness to possibly accede to the UN Convention against Torture and the Rome Statute. We would like to **reiterate our recommendation** from the second round of the UPR cycle, and recommend to Bahamas to accede to CAT and the Rome Statute. In this regard we would also like to **ask** for more detailed information regarding the process of consultative review regarding the possible accession to the said instruments.

We welcome the Government's intention and commitment to establish an Office of an Ombudsman. In this regard we would like to **recommend** the Government to establish the Office of the Ombudsman with status A in accordance with the Paris Principles.

While recognizing Government's efforts undertaken to facilitate the amendment of the Bahamian Constitution, we note the expressed will of the people of Bahamas at the 2016 Constitutional referendum on the question of the elimination of discrimination on the basis of gender. In this regard we would like to **ask** the Delegation of Bahamas on envisaged further steps and plan of action to remove this discrimination in all its national legislation. In this regard we would also like to **recommend** that the Government ensures equal rights to women and men, in accordance with Bahamas' international obligations.

Thank you.