



STALNO PREDSTAVNIŠTVO REPUBLIKE SLOVENIJE PRI URADU ZDRUŽENIH
NARODOV IN OSTALIH MEDNARODNIH ORGANIZACIJAH V ŽENEVI
**PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA TO THE UNITED
NATIONS OFFICE AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN GENEVA**

**UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL
34th session**

**Panel discussion on climate change and the rights of the child
2 March 2017**

Intervention of Slovenia

Mr Vice- President,
Distinguished panellists,

Slovenia aligns itself with the EU statement and thanks distinguished panellists for their presentations.

Mr Vice- President, distinguished colleagues,

My country, has been promoting the importance of a clean, safe, healthy and sustainable environment for the realization of many other human rights. As a member of the Geneva Pledge, initiative linking the human rights and climate change agendas, Slovenia supported the inclusion of strong human rights language in the Paris Agreement.

As panellists, my country also recognizes that climate change poses the most serious threat to humans and children in this regard are especially vulnerable.

Best interest of the child is widely applied in Slovenian policies. This principle is also respected in different sectorial policies that address some children's rights most affected by climate change.

Two of them, for example, require access to safe drinking water, safe food and to provide basic nutrition needs. Both documents take into consideration the impact of climate change on ensuring those rights to children.

A lot of emphasis is given to awareness raising and educating children about climate change and its effect. Education measures on climate change mitigation are part of education for sustainable development that is among key educational goals in Slovenian educational system since 2008. Schools are also encouraged to become members of school networks that promote specific topics; the most known one is the network "EKO Šola" (Eco School) that is promoting environmental awareness through concrete actions of schools.

Before I conclude I would like to ask distinguished panellists, if they can point out some of the best practices on mainstreaming human rights, specifically rights of the child, in the climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies, policies and activities?

Thank you!