



**UN HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL
34th session**

**Interactive dialogue with the Commission
on Human Rights in South Sudan, 14 March 2017**

Statement by Slovenia

Mr President,

First, let me thank the Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan for their extensive overview presented earlier today and their engagement on the situation so far. Slovenia aligns itself with the statement delivered by the EU and would like to make additional remarks in its national capacity:

We would like to begin our statement by thanking the Transitional Government of National Unity of South Sudan for their collaboration with the Commission during its two missions.

At the same time, as a Human Rights Council member that supported convening of December's Special Session, we remain deeply concerned over the ongoing hostilities and human rights violations reported across the country, which fail to cease.

We are especially appalled by reports of civilians being deliberately and systematically targeted on the basis of their ethnicity by armed forces and groups. Furthermore, we remain utterly dismayed over horrific scale of sexual violence reported.

My country is a strong supporter of the Responsibility to Protect.

While we highlight the importance of the preventive role of this Council and its mechanisms when addressing dire human rights situations around the world, we would like to remind the the Transitional Government of National Unity of South Sudan that it bears the primary responsibility to protect its population.

Slovenia joins others in strongly condemning systematic and gross violations and abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law, including those that may amount to war crimes or crimes against humanity, committed in many parts of the country.

We remain seriously concerned over in February renewed warning of Special Adviser Dieng that the indicators for genocide were in place.

We would like to reiterate that it is of outmost importance that the parties refrain from acts of violence or incitement to ethnic hatred and find a just and inclusive peaceful solution based on the 2015 Peace Agreement.

To this end we also consider that all perpetrators of human rights violation and abuses must be held accountable.

Thank you.