

UPR of SLOVENIA - INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE

Feb 16, 2010; 1430-1730 hrs

INTERVENTION BY INDIA

Mr. President,

India welcomes the delegation of Slovenia led by H.E. Mr Samuel Zbogar, Minister for Foreign Affairs, and thanks the delegation for the presentation of its informative National Report.

02. The Report provides a detailed overview of Slovenia's normative and institutional framework for protection of human rights in the country, as also useful information on the special measures enacted to promote and protect the rights of children, persons with disabilities and migrants. It is noteworthy that a third of the provisions of the Slovenian Constitution are focused on human rights and fundamental freedoms. We appreciate the attention being accorded by the government to the various human rights challenges related to the national and other ethnic communities, and to the economic, social and cultural rights. We take positive note of the considerable progress made by Slovenia towards building and consolidating new human rights institutions in the relatively short period since its independence. The National Report acknowledges shortcomings and has a constructive approach towards addressing them.

Mr. President,

03. Some concern has been expressed, including by treaty bodies, regarding the loss of Slovene nationality by a significant number of

nationals of former Yugoslavia in 1992. The National Report mentions that a bill is being drafted to remedy the inconsistencies in the relevant legislation. We would request the delegation to provide more information about the key provisions of this bill. We note that the country has a separate Office of the Human Rights Ombudsman, as provided for in its Constitution. We would request the delegation to share its views on the consideration of establishing a separate National Human Rights Institution fully compliant with the Paris Principles. Lastly, we would recommend that Slovenia continue to strengthen its measures aimed at the promotion and protection of the human rights of its minorities.

Thank you, Mr. President.
