



Statement by
the Republic of Slovenia
at the
36th Session of the UPR Working Group – Review of Libya

Geneva, 11 November 2020

Madame President,

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

Slovenia would like to make the following recommendation:

to sign the international Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees.

We would like to commend Libya for setting up an agency to combat irregular migration, the objective of which is to eliminate the smuggling networks, protect migrants and control borders. Slovenia also notes with appreciation the efforts made by Libya to improve conditions inside the migrant detention centers, undertaking maintenance of the facilities and equipping them to make them suitable to accommodate migrants.

However we are concerned about the absence of a national asylum law in Libya. All those who enter Libya are perceived to be undocumented illegal migrants. Libya's Law continues to treat asylum seekers as criminals if they enter Libya through illegal channels and/or without identity papers.

Hence, Slovenia encourages Libya to release all refugees and migrants detained arbitrarily and to decriminalize irregular entry, stay or exit from the country. Furthermore we suggest Libya to cease automatic detention of migrants and ensure that detention is an exceptional measure of last resort justified on individual circumstances of each case and to develop non-custodial alternatives to detention.

Thank you.