

## **Statement by Iceland**

### **UPR36 - Belarus**

Madam President,

We reiterate our concern over the recent election in Belarus being neither free nor fair. The subsequent use of widespread violence against peaceful demonstrators, journalists and other media workers, as well as other systematic human rights abuses, have been deeply troubling.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. Fully abolish the death penalty and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR.
2. Immediately release unlawfully detained persons and enable an independent, transparent and impartial international investigation into all allegations of torture, sexual and gender-based violence and other ill-treatment of detained persons.
3. Ensure the right of people to peaceful assembly and the ability to peacefully protest, without limiting the rights of all participants, including LGBTI+ people.
4. Repeal laws and policies on mandatory testing for HIV, policies requiring health-care providers to reporting certain groups to law enforcement, and criminalization of HIV transmission.

I wish Belarus all success for its review.

I thank you

## **Statement by Iceland**

### **UPR36 - Liberia**

Madam President,

Iceland welcomes the delegation of Liberia and their engagement with OHCHR and the UN to further human rights in the country.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. Fully abolish the death penalty and implement the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR.
2. Decriminalize consensual sexual relations between adults of the same sex and expand its anti-discrimination legislation, to include a prohibition of discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity.
3. Increase the delivery of sexual and reproductive health services and commodities, including through family planning outreach and community-based distribution of modern family planning commodities.
4. Ensure the timely implementation of the four-year National Action Plan for Child Welfare and Protection for Liberia, and allocate sufficient resources for the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection to implement the plan.
5. Criminalize the practice of FGM through amending the Children's Law, accelerate the implementation of the Domestic Violence Law and ensure the speedy implementation of the Anti SGBV roadmap.

I wish Liberia all success for its review.

I thank you

## **Statement by Iceland**

### **UPR36 - Malawi**

Madam President,

Iceland welcomes the delegation of Malawi and look forward to its contribution to the work of the Human Rights Council as a newly elected member.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. Fully abolish the death penalty and implement the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR.
2. Decriminalize consensual sexual relations between adults of the same sex and expand its anti-discrimination legislation, to include a prohibition of discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity.
3. Finalize the Prevention of Domestic Violence Act to include internationally recognized definitions of sexual harassment, intimate partner violence and forced sex/marital rape.
4. Increase the delivery of sexual and reproductive health services and commodities, including through family planning outreach, to address teen pregnancies and child marriages in all districts of the country.

I wish Malawi all success for its review.

I thank you

## **Statement by Iceland**

### **UPR36 - Panama**

Madam President,

Iceland welcomes the delegation of Panama and welcomes the national report and the steps outlined therein and hope for their continued implementation. We particularly welcome efforts to advocate for equal pay and their contribution to the International Equal Pay Coalition.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. Adopt comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation that addresses direct and indirect discrimination and encompasses all the prohibited grounds of discrimination, including sexual orientation and gender identity.
2. Pass and implement laws that would recognize same-sex partnerships and define the rights and obligations of co-habiting couples in same-sex unions.
3. Adopt and implement curricula on age-appropriate comprehensive sexuality education, including information about issues of violence, that is provided throughout schooling.

I wish Panama all success for its review.

I thank you

## **Statement by Iceland**

### **UPR36 - Mongolia**

Madam President,

Iceland welcomes the delegation of Mongolia, welcomes steps taken to tackle discrimination and applauds the revision of the penal code with the inclusion of sexual orientation as a basis of discrimination.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. Adopt comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation that addresses direct and indirect discrimination and encompasses all the prohibited grounds of discrimination, including sexual orientation and gender identity.
2. Launch a public awareness-raising campaign to fight and prevent discrimination and violence against LGBTI+ persons and to promote tolerance.
3. Protect the sexual and reproductive health and rights of women and girls, including those with disabilities, by ensuring their access to sexual and reproductive health information, commodities and services, and halt the practice of coerced abortion and involuntary sterilization.
4. Adopt and implement curricula on age-appropriate comprehensive sexuality education, including information about issues of violence, that is provided throughout schooling.

I wish Mongolia all success for its review.

I thank you

## **Statement by Iceland**

### **UPR36 - Maldives**

Madam President,

Iceland welcomes the delegation of the Maldives, welcomes the national report and the steps outlined therein and hopes for their continued implementation.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. Fully abolish the death penalty and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR.
2. Decriminalize consensual sexual relations between adults of the same sex and expand its anti-discrimination legislation, to include a prohibition of discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity.
3. Provide adequate funding for sexual and reproductive health services for all, including for vulnerable groups through the new Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health Strategy.
4. Address the large decline of use of contraceptives by improving data collection on sexual and reproductive health and abortion expenses for future planning.

I wish Maldives all success for its review.

I thank you

## **Statement by Iceland**

### **UPR36 - Andorra**

Madam President,

Iceland welcomes the delegation of Andorra and welcomes the national report and the steps outlined therein and hope for their continued implementation. In particular, we welcome the adoption of Act No. 13/2019 on equal treatment and non-discrimination.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. Effectively enforce the principle of equal pay for work of equal value in order to narrow and ultimately close the gender pay gap.
2. Adopt a comprehensive multi-year strategy, including for strengthened prevention and awareness-raising measures, that reinforces the protection and assistance provided to women who are victims of gender-based violence.
3. Decriminalize abortion in all circumstances and remove legal, administrative and practical barriers to accessing safe and legal abortion services.
4. Adopt marriage equality legislation, extending full marriage rights to same-sex couples.

I wish Andorra all success for its review.

I thank you

## **Statement by Iceland**

### **UPR36 - Honduras**

Madam President,

Iceland welcomes the delegation of Honduras, welcomes the national report and the steps outlined therein and hope for their continued implementation.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. Adopt comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation that addresses direct and indirect discrimination and encompasses all the prohibited grounds of discrimination, including sexual orientation and gender identity.
2. Lift the ban on the use of emergency contraceptive pills, currently prohibited even in cases of rape.
3. Decriminalize abortion in all circumstances and remove legal, administrative and practical barriers to accessing safe and legal abortion services.
4. Improve the existing legislative framework by adopting and implementing comprehensive legislation that establishes the State's obligation to effectively protect women and girls against domestic and sexual violence.

I wish Honduras all success for its review.

I thank you



## **Statement by Iceland**

### **UPR36 - Bulgaria**

Madam President,

Iceland welcomes the delegation of Bulgaria, welcomes the national report and the steps outlined therein and hope for their continued implementation.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. Complete the process of ratification of the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence.
2. Strengthen activities and laws aimed at the elimination of discrimination in society, other intolerance and hate speech against minorities and other groups, including based on sexual orientation, gender identity or sex characteristics.
3. Pass and implement laws that recognize same-sex partnerships and define the rights and obligations of co-habiting couples in same-sex unions.
4. Invest in high-quality health-care services, including for sexual and reproductive health, as well as in health technologies for early diagnostics and prevention.

I wish Bulgaria all success for its review.

I thank you

## **Statement by Iceland**

### **UPR36 – Marshall Islands**

Madam President,

Iceland welcomes the delegation of the Marshall Islands, welcomes the national report and the steps outlined therein and hopes for their continued implementation.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. Fully implement the Prevention of Adolescent Pregnancy Strategy and ensure that comprehensive sexuality education is systematically integrated into the family health education curriculum, to combat the high prevalence of sexually transmitted infections and pregnancy amongst adolescents.
2. Strengthen the systematic collection of statistical data on gender-based violence against women, including domestic violence, disaggregated by age and relationship between the victim and the perpetrator.
3. Pass and implement laws that would recognize same-sex partnerships and define the rights and obligations of co-habiting couples in same-sex unions.

I wish the Marshall Islands all success for its review.

I thank you

## **Statement by Iceland**

### **UPR36 – United States of America**

Madam President,

Iceland welcomes the US delegation, welcomes the national report and the steps outlined therein and hopes for their continued implementation.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. Impose a moratorium on executions with a view to abolishing the death penalty nationwide.
2. Strengthen activities and laws aimed at the elimination of discrimination in society and other intolerance against minorities and other groups, including based on race, ethnicity, sexual orientation and gender identity.
3. Take necessary measures to reduce gun violence, concerned at the large number of gun-related deaths and injuries, which disproportionately affect members of racial and ethnic minorities.
4. Protect the sexual and reproductive health and rights of women and girls by ensuring their access to sexual and reproductive health information, commodities and services.

I wish the US all success for its review.

I thank you

## **Statement by Iceland**

### **UPR36 - Croatia**

Madam President,

Iceland welcomes the delegation of Croatia, welcomes the national report and the steps outlined therein and hope for their continued implementation.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. Strengthen activities and laws aimed at the elimination of discrimination in society, other intolerance and hate speech against minorities and other groups, including based on sexual orientation, gender identity or sex characteristics.
2. Enact general legislation on the recognition of both same-sex parents involved in the growth of a child, as well as extending access to adoption to same-sex couples on par with others.
3. Adopt and implement curricula on age-appropriate comprehensive sexuality education, including information about issues of violence, that is provided throughout schooling.

I wish Croatia all success for its review.

I thank you

## **Statement by Iceland**

### **UPR36 - Libya**

Madam President,

Iceland welcomes the delegation of Libya. We express our support to the fact-finding mission established in June 2020 by the Human Rights Council and underline the importance of the Governments cooperation with the FFM.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. Fully abolish the death penalty and implement the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR.
2. Decriminalize consensual sexual relations between adults of the same sex and expand its anti-discrimination legislation, to include a prohibition of discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity.
3. Investigate all allegations of excessive use of force as well as all human rights violations, including arbitrary arrests and detention, restrictions on freedom of expression, as well as on the right of peaceful assembly and protest in Libya.

I wish Libya all success for its review.

I thank you

## **Statement by Iceland**

### **UPR36 - Jamaica**

Madam President,

Iceland welcomes the delegation of Jamaica, welcomes the national report and the steps outlined therein and hope for their continued implementation.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. Fully abolish the death penalty and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR.
2. Adopt and implement legislation prohibiting corporal punishment in all settings, including at home.
3. Decriminalize consensual sexual relations between adults of the same sex and expand its anti-discrimination legislation, to include a prohibition of discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity.
4. Provide guidance, including setting standards when necessary, and sensitize health professionals, health-service providers, security forces and legal operators to provide services with dignity and respect for all populations, including LGBTI+ persons.

I wish Jamaica all success for its review.

I thank you