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Statement by Mr. Thordur Sigtryggsson

ICELAND

20th session of the Universal Periodic Review: Iran



Twentieth session of the Universal Periodic Review

Geneva, 27 October 2014

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**Recommendations made by Iceland to the Islamic Republic of Iran
20th session of the Universal Periodic Review**

Mr. President,

Iceland welcomes the honourable delegation of Iran to the UPR, and respectfully makes the following recommendations.

On **gender equality**, we recommend that Iran ratify CEDAW and repeal all laws that permit gender discrimination. We further recommend the Government to adopt laws and policies that promote the participation of women in public, political, economic and professional life.

On the treatment of **LGBT** persons in Iran - including state policies that label LGBT as an identity disorder resulting in health problems, abuse, detention, sexual violence and even executions - we recommend:

- One, to repeal laws criminalising consensual sexual conduct between same-sex adults,
- Two, to revise legislative provisions that legalise abuse, persecution, sexual violence and arrest of LGBT persons, and
- Three, to outlaw forced or coerced sterilisation, sex reassignment surgeries and reparative therapies imposed without free and informed consent.

On **minorities**, we recommend that Iran implement previous recommendations that guarantee the protection of the civil and political rights of all, and amend any legislation that discriminates against minority groups.

Finally, on the prevalent use of the **death penalty** in Iran, including the world's highest number of **child executions**, we recommend that Iran outlaws the death penalty for persons convicted of crimes committed before the age of 18, without exception, and implement a moratorium on all executions.