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Statement by Ambassador Mr. ~~Martin Eijolfsson~~ Thordur Sigtryggsson

ICELAND

21st session of the Universal Periodic Review: Sweden



Twenty First session of the Universal Periodic Review

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Mr. President,

Iceland welcomes the honourable delegation of Sweden to the UPR.

Sweden is a global standard bearer when it comes to the promotion and protection of human rights. It is among the strongest voices for promoting the values of this organization around the world; a voice that is respected and listened to precisely because of the example set at home. Yet challenges persist and my Delegation will focus its intervention on two areas where further progress can and should be achieved.

First, Iceland acknowledges policies that have been put in place to combat racism and racial discrimination, as well as measures to address hate crimes. We encourage Sweden to accelerate efforts to address persisting problems, such as xenophobic and islamophobic discourse.

Second, we welcome the priority given by the Government to ensuring that Swedish legislation and its application correspond to the requirements of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and applaud the Government's intention to incorporate the CRC into Swedish law.

Iceland respectfully makes the following recommendations to Sweden:

- To continue strengthening efforts to combat racism, intolerance and hate crimes.
- To work effectively on incorporating the Convention on the Rights of the Child into Swedish law.