

**Recommendation made by Iceland to Malawi  
22nd session of the Universal Periodic Review**

Mr. President,

Allow me to welcome the honourable Delegation of Malawi to the UPR.

Iceland would like to raise three issues:

First, We welcome the adoption of the Marriage, Divorce and Family Relations Bill which sets 18 as the minimum marriage age. Given the high rate of child marriages in Malawi we strongly recommend to the Government to ensure the Bill's implementation throughout the country and to take the necessary steps to amend those provisions of the Constitution that can negatively affect the applicability of the law.

Second, while commending Malawi for the adoption of the Gender Equality Act, we strongly recommend to Malawi to intensify specifically its efforts to combat widespread violence against women and girls, including through gender sensitive legislation, stronger enforcement of existing laws as well as by increasing public awareness and promoting gender equality.

Finally, Iceland would like to urge Malawi to repeal the provisions of the Malawi Criminal Code which criminalize consensual, adult same-sex conduct and to repeal other laws that discriminate against LGBTI persons.

Thank you, Mr. President