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## ICELAND

## Statement by Mr. Finnur Þór Birgisson



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Iceland warmly welcomes the Australian delegation and expresses appreciation for their comprehensive National Report.

First, Iceland is encouraged by measures aimed at combatting human trafficking and slavery by the launch of Australia's National Action Plan to Combat Human Trafficking and Slavery 2015–19. However we have concerns about reports of the treatment of asylum seekers in immigration detention and especially juvenile detention.

Second, we praise the government's National Action Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children 2010-22. Yet challenges persist and my Delegation is concerned about the legal protection of children in Australia in LGBTI-headed families.

Iceland recommends Australia to:

- 1. Fully incorporate its international human-rights obligations into domestic law by introducing a comprehensive judicially enforceable federal Human Rights Act.
- 2. To raise the age of criminal responsibility to 18 years as recommended by CRC.
- 3. Open legal partnership models to all, regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity.