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ICELAND

Statement by Mr. Thordur Sigtryggsson



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Iceland welcomes Belgium to their second UPR review. Progress has been made on a number of recommendations from the first review and we applaud Belgium's constructive engagement with the UPR process.

My Delegation appreciates the measures adopted by Belgium to enhance its legal and institutional mechanisms aimed at combating racial discrimination. We trust that Belgian authorities will ensure that recent and deplorable terrorist threats in the country will not result in de facto discrimination against persons belonging to ethnic and national minorities.

On discrimination and gender equality, my Delegation commends Belgium's comprehensive and coordinated strategy to combat gender-based violence. We urge Belgium to implement the strategy as soon as possible.

Iceland thus recommends to the government of Belgium the following:

- Ensure effective coordination at the federal, regional and community levels when monitoring the incidence of unlawful



ethnic profiling and racism, especially in the context of recent terrorist threat events.

- Continue its efforts in the area of women's rights and ensure the effective implementation of the 6th national action plan on the fight against gender-based violence.

