

Check against delivery



ICELAND

Statement by Mr Þórður Sigtryggsson



UPR 24. Session - Januar 2016

www.iceland.is/iceland-abroad/efta



Iceland warmly welcomes the delegation of Namibia and acknowledges the progress made on human rights since their 2011 Review.

On discrimination, we welcome the efforts made by Namibia in promoting women's rights, especially the development of the Government's National Plan of Action on Gender-based Violence (2012–2016). However, we regret that some communities continue to apply discriminatory laws and practices that perpetuate gender inequality.

Further, my Delegation encourages Namibia to take additional measures to eliminate all forms of discrimination. In that respect, we note with concern the criminalization of sexual activity between consenting adults of the same sex in Namibian legislation.

Iceland recommends to the Government of Namibia the following:

1. Abolish all discriminatory customary laws and practices that violate the rights of women in accordance with its international obligations under CEDAW.
2. Bring its law into conformity with its international human rights obligations by repealing laws that criminalize sexual activity between consenting adults of the same sex