**Universal Periodic Review, 26th session**

**Human Rights Council**

**UPR of Iceland, 1st November 2016**

**Intervention by Denmark**

*[Check against delivery]*

Mr. President,

Denmark warmly welcomes the Icelandic delegation and thanks it for its presentation today.

Denmark welcomes the fact that Iceland expects to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhumane or Degrading Treatment before the end of this year.

Denmark notes that the Icelandic Human Rights Centre (ICEHR) established in 1994 to serve as national human rights institution does not comply with the Paris Principles and commends Iceland for its intention to establish a national human rights institution based on these principles.

*Denmark recommends Iceland to undertake measures to ensure that domestic courts are put in a position to apply the principles stemming from the European Convention on Human Rights.*

Denmark understands that Iceland faces challenges as regards trafficking, due to a large rise in tourism over the past years. Denmark would be interested in learning how Iceland encounters these challenges.

Thank you.