**Dominica**

**Thursday 7 November 2024, 09:00-12:30**

**Speaking time: 120 seconds**

**Statement by Iceland (no 22 of 65)**

Mr. President,

Iceland welcomes the delegation of Dominica and its national report.

In the spirit of constructive engagement, Iceland recommends the following:

1. Abolish the death penalty and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR.
2. Decriminalize abortion under all circumstances and remove all restrictions to access to safe abortion services.
3. Ensure that the minimum age of marriage is set at 18 with no exceptions.
4. Amend the Domestic Violence Act to explicitly define rape based on the lack of freely given consent and to apply the same definition to both marital and non-marital rape.
5. Develop a National Strategic Action Plan to combat gender-based violence and ratify the Optional Protocol to CEDAW.
6. Adopt comprehensive legislation to protect people of diverse SOGIESC from all forms of discrimination.

I wish Dominica all success for its review.

I thank you.