Thank you Mr. President,

Iceland welcomes the delegation of Gabon to the third cycle of the UPR and thanks for the presentation of its national report.

We welcome the steps taken to protect human rights, such as the abolition of death penalty in 2010 and the adoption of the National Gender Equality and Equity Strategy.

Iceland recommends the following to the Government of Gabon:

1. Improve enforcement and coordination of national legislation and policies on the trafficking of persons, especially women and children, and to raise the awareness on this issue amongst the public.
2. Undertake further measures to ensure freedom of the press based on the decriminalisation of press offences and respect for the legitimate rights of the press.
3. To respect the legitimate rights of all its citizens to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly and the right to participate in public and political life.

We wish Gabon all success for its review,

I thank you.