**Statement by Iceland**

**UPR37 - Sao Tome and Principe**

Madam/Mr. President,

Iceland welcomes the delegation of Sao Tome and Principe, its ratification in 2016 of the second optional protocol to the ICCPR and the new family law that established 18 as the minimum age for marriage and strengthened the obligations of parents, especially fathers, towards their children.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. Adopt comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation that addresses direct and indirect discrimination and encompasses all the prohibited grounds of discrimination, including sexual orientation and gender identity.
2. Pass and implement laws that would recognize same-sex partnerships and define the rights and obligations of co-habiting couples in same-sex unions.
3. Implement the commitment made at the Nairobi Summit on ICPD25 to respond to the needs of young people and reducing the early pregnancy rate from 15% to 10% by 2023 through the intensification of comprehensive sexuality education in all secondary schools and provision of youth friendly sexual and reproductive health in all health centres and posts.

I wish Sao Tome and Principe all success for its review.

I thank you