1.15

**Statement by Iceland**

**UPR38 - Latvia**

Madam President,

Iceland welcomes the delegation of Latvia. We welcome Latvia’s commitment to the promotion and protection of human rights, welcome the national report and the steps outlined therein and hope for their continued implementation.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. Continue to address violence against women and in particular provide the appropriate support services to rape and sexual assault survivors, including through completing the ratification of the Istanbul convention.
2. 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.
3. Pass and implement laws that would recognize same-sex partnerships and define the rights and obligations of co-habiting couples in same-sex unions.
4. Effectively enforce the principle of equal pay for work of equal value in order to narrow and ultimately close the gender pay gap

I wish Latvia all success for its review.

I thank you