**Statement by Iceland**

**UPR38 - Palau**

Madam President,

Iceland welcomes the delegation of Palau, welcomes that it repealed legal provisions that criminalized consensual same-sex sexual activity between men through its new Penal Code and encourages further consideration of the rights of LGBTI+ individuals.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. Ratify CEDAW without delay.
2. Take further steps to increase the participation of women in the legislature, the executive and the judiciary, particularly at decision-making levels, including by the adoption and implementation of temporary special measures.
3. Commit resources, including through international cooperation, to establish shelters and safe homes for women and children subjected to violence.
4. 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

I wish Palau all success for its review.

I thank you