**Statement by Iceland**

**UPR38 - Niger**

Madam President,

Iceland welcomes the delegation of Niger and notes the positive efforts by the Government by developing a national strategy on prevention and response to sexual and gender-based violence.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR and take all necessary measures to abolish the death penalty.

2. Adopt a law strictly prohibiting child marriage and raise the legal age of marriage for girls to 18.

3. Implement the commitment made at the Nairobi Summit on ICPD25 to promote sexual and reproductive health and empowerment of women and girls.

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 Niger all success for its review.

I thank you