**Statement by Iceland**

**UPR39-Tajikistan**

Madam President,

Iceland welcomes the delegation of Tajikistan and its national report.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. Create a timeline with concrete steps to abolish the death penalty by 2026 and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR.
2. Develop an action plan to eliminate all forms of gender-based violence against women and expedite the adoption of legislation criminalizing all forms of gender-based violence.
3. Hold accountable officials, public figures and authors of media and online publications calling violence and hate speech against LGBTI+ persons.
4. Devise and implement procedures to ensure protection against reprisals for LGBTI+ persons who lodge complaints about extortion and physical abuse by law enforcement officials and non-state actors.

I wish Tajikistan all success for its review.

I thank you.