Statement by the Republic of Lithuania

UPR40 – Iceland

25th January 2022

Thank you, President.

Lithuania warmly welcomes the delegation of Iceland and commends the Icelandic government for continuously placing human rights at the forefront of the national and international agendas.

Lithuania commends the establishment of the National Human Rights Institution. However, we **recommend** to reform the *Steering Committee on* *Human Rights* so that it is fully compliant with the *Paris Principles,* and that all human rights issues are within its mandate.

We are pleased to see various policies and plans concerning different human rights subjects. In connection to this, we **recommend** considering development of a national plan on human rights.

Acknowledging Iceland’s great efforts in combating gender-based violence, particularly during the pandemic, we **recommend** to strengthen the prevention of new forms of violence, such as online harassment.

Furthermore, we **recommend** to ratify the Optional Protocol to the *Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.*

We wish Iceland a successful review.

I thank you.