**Permanent Mission of Montenegro to the United Nations and other International Organizations**

**Statement by Montenegro**

**3rd UPR cycle – Review of Iceland**

**Geneva, 25 January 2022**

Montenegro welcomes the distinguished delegation of Iceland.

We commend Iceland’s well-established engagement to promote and protect human rights, at home and internationally. A number of noteworthy achievements have been pursued, including the country’s active role in the Human Rights Council during its term in office in 2018 – 2019.

It is particularly gratifying to note that with the adoption of the new Equal Pay Certification Act, Iceland has led the fight against gender discrimination in the global challenge of closing the gender pay gap. This is documented by the adoption of the resolution on equal pay for men and women in the Human Rights Council in the summer of 2019, submitted by Iceland, in cooperation with several other countries. In the autumn of the same year, also at the initiative of Iceland, the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution establishing the International Equal Pay Day on September 18, to be observed each year. Montenegro was among the co-sponsors of these initiatives.

Montenegro recommends to Iceland:

1. To continue its efforts to improve access to secondary education for children with immigrant backgrounds;
2. To intensify the establishment of an Independent National Human Rights Institution, in accordance with the Paris Principles.

We wish Iceland a successful UPR cycle.

I thank you.