|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Description: Description: Description: C:\Users\amessent\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.Outlook\MN1HAVZZ\Brand NZ-no agency High Res.jpg | **Human Rights Council**  **40th Session of the Universal Periodic Review**  **Iceland**  **Delivered by Permanent Representative Lucy Duncan**  **25 January 2022** |

Mr President,

New Zealand welcomes Iceland’s participation in the UPR process, and the opportunity for dialogue on human rights issues.

New Zealand **commends** Iceland’s progress in the areas of gender equality, and equal rights and non-discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity.

New Zealand also **commends** Iceland for establishing a helpline for human trafficking notifications. New Zealand **recommends** that Iceland take further steps to address human trafficking by formulating a comprehensive action plan and by providing additional funding to combat human trafficking.

Finally, New Zealand **recommends** that Iceland take further steps to address employment issues for migrants by implementing its action plan on migration.

Thank you, Mr President.