

**United Nations Human Rights Council**

**40th Session of the UPR Working Group**

**Geneva, 25th of January 2022**

**German Recommendations and advance questions to**

**Iceland**

Mister President,

Germany commends Iceland’s steadfast commitment to the promotion and protection of human rights worldwide, the positive human rights situation in Iceland and its strong efforts in promoting non-discrimination in relation to sexual orientation and gender identity. Germany also commends Iceland´s decision to accede to the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.

Germany recommends to:

1. Establish a National Human Rights Institution, in accordance with the Paris Principles, following a respective announcement of Iceland´s government, which we welcome;
2. Take further positive steps in relation to women´s rights, in particular by strengthening state prosecutors´ and police officers´ capabilities to investigate gender-based sexual violence and by adopting a new action plan against sexual violence;
3. To ensure that its courts implement its new whistle-blowing legislation firmly to prevent attempts of intimidation against journalists and whistle-blowers by private persons.

Thank you.