**Statement by Bulgaria**

United Nations Human Rights Council

40th session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review

***Review of Republic of Iceland***

25 January 2022

Mr. President,

Bulgaria welcomes the delegation of Iceland and thanks for the presentation of the national report.

Bulgaria would like to highlight that in line with recommendations that were made in the second UPR cycle Iceland ratified the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and the Optional Protocol to the UN Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (OPCAT), and aligned its legislation with them.

We acknowledge that the legislation of Iceland places particular emphasis on equal representation of women and men in managerial and influential positions. Bulgaria recognizes the efforts of the law enforcement authorities of Iceland to combat digital violence against children and young people.

We note the work that has been done in Iceland so far on the establishment of independent national human rights institution in conformity with the Paris Principles.

Bulgaria would like to make the following recommendations to Iceland:

1. Continue its efforts to ensure that children are listened to and take part in decisions regarding their well-being, particularly in custody cases;
2. Take measures to increase learning opportunities for children with disabilities in all schools and ensure that persons with disabilities are enrolled in all academic programmes of their choice with sufficient support system to enable them to complete these programmes;
3. Consider adopting legislation to prevent discrimination in employment against persons with disabilities.

We wish the Delegation of Iceland a successful review!

Thank you!