**THE BAHAMAS**

**WEDNESDAY 3 MaY 2023, 14:30 – 18:00**

**Speaking time: 85 seconds**

**Statement by Iceland (no 70 of 88)**

Mr. President,

Iceland welcomes the delegation of the Bahamas and its national report.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. Abolish the death penalty.
2. Withdraw all reservations to CEDAW and implement the Convention.
3. Adopt, without delay, amendments to the Sexual Offences Act expressly criminalizing marital rape and removing temporal limitations to the right to file a complaint for marital rape.
4. Ensure access to SRHR services for everyone 16 years and above.
5. Decriminalise abortion and legalise it in cases of rape, incest and fetal impairment.
6. Enforce the minimum age of marriage of 18 years in law and practice.
7. Amend Article 26 of the Constitution to expand grounds for discrimination to include sexual orientation and gender identity through a constitutional referendum with a clear timeline.
8. Prevent and address hate crimes through legislation criminalising violence based on sexual orientation and gender identity.

I wish the Bahamas all success for its review.

I thank you.