**Statement by Iceland**

**UPR31-Mauritius**

Mr. President

Iceland welcomes the delegation of Mauritius.

We welcome the strong commitment of Mauritius to democracy and the rule of law and applaud Mauritius intentions to ratify the second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR).

Similarly, Iceland believes the amendment of the Criminal Code referenced in the national report to allow medical termination of pregnancy in specified cases to be a positive step.

However, we regret that Mauritius has not repealed sections of it´s Criminal Code regarding consensual same sex activity but welcome your commitment Minister to do so.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. Continue positive steps to the achievement of gender equality by taking further measures to promote women’s full and equal participation in political and public life.
2. Revise the penal code so that women can access legal, safe, and voluntary termination of pregnancy; and guarantee the provision of the respective medical services.
3. Repeal all laws that criminalize persons based on their sexual orientation and gender identity.

I wish Mauritius all success for its UPR.

 I thank you