**Statement by Iceland**

**UPR31-Malta**

Mr. President

Iceland welcomes the delegation of Malta.

Iceland takes this opportunity to applaud the decision by the Maltese Parliament, from 2017, to approve marriage equality legislation, extending full marriage rights to same-sex couples. In the past few years, Malta has proven itself to be a strong supporter and advocate of LGBTI rights.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. To adopt concrete measures to promote women’s full and equal participation in political and public life and accelerate women’s full and equal participation in elected and appointed bodies.
2. To improve the availability of sexual and reproductive health services, including family planning.
3. In light of the killing of journalist Daphne Caruana Galizia, to take all measures to protect and support journalists working to uncover corruption and other matters of the highest public interest.

I wish Malta all success for its review.

I thank you