**Statement by Iceland**

**UPR32 - Cyprus**

Mr. President,

Iceland welcomes the delegation of Cyprus.

Iceland commends Cyprus for the considerable progress made in the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women and for ratifying the Istanbul Convention. Iceland also commends Cyprus for making progress in ensuring access to asylum procedures and protection from *refoulement*.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. Adopt a comprehensive strategy to combat racial stereotyping, discriminatory attitudes, hate speech and hate crimes and ensure enforcement of relevant legislation.
2. Strengthen the representation of women in decision-making positions in political life with a view to reaching the targets and quotas included in the national action plan on gender equality.
3. Ensure the active participation of women in the peace process.
4. Include gender identity as a prohibited ground for discrimination in equal treatment legislation and adopt an action plan to combat homophobia and transphobia in all areas of everyday life.

I wish Cyprus all success for its review.

I thank you