**Statement by Iceland**

**UPR33 - Bhutan**

Mr. President,

Iceland welcomes the delegation of Bhutan.

We welcome the formulation of a national plan of action to promote gender equality in elected office and hope this will accelerate the full and equal participation of women in elected and appointed bodies. We also welcome Bhutan’s progressive plans and policies for environmental conservation.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. Take all measures to counter the negative impact of discriminatory stereotypes of women.
2. De-criminalize abortion and take measures to ensure that all women have access to legal abortion and high-quality post-abortion services.
3. Prohibit corporal punishment of children in all settings, including the home and schools, and take all measures to enforce it in practice.
4. De-criminalize consensual same-sex acts by either revoking or amending Sections 213 and 214 of the Penal Code.
5. Amend anti-discrimination laws to include discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender identity and expression and sex characteristics.

I wish Bhutan all success for its review.

I thank you