**Statement by Iceland**

**UPR33 - Equatorial Guinea**

Mr. President,

Iceland welcomes the delegation of Equatorial Guinea.

We note that since Equatorial Guinea’s last review in 2014, the situation for human rights defenders, activists and members of the opposition has not improved. We also note with concern reports of inter alia unlawful or arbitrary killings by government agents, violence against women and LGBTI individuals, and widespread impunity.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. Penalize marital rape and sexual harassment.
2. Take all measures to combat stigmatization of and discrimination against LGBTI individuals and promote and protect their human rights.
3. Remove all restrictions on journalistic activity, including by stopping the government practice of pre-publication censorship.
4. Remove laws restricting NGO activity and reform Law 1/1999 regulating NGOs in order to facilitate their registration and enable their full and independent functioning.
5. Take all measures to protect and support opposition members, journalists, human rights defenders, including women human rights defenders, and civil society organizations; investigate all attacks against them; and bring the perpetrators to justice.
6. Abolish the death penalty.

I wish Equatorial Guinea all success for its review.

I thank you