**Statement by Iceland**

**UPR34 - Bolivia**

Mr. President,

Iceland welcomes the delegation of Bolivia.

We welcome steps outlined in the report and in particular the efforts to advance gender equality. We would also like to welcome recent action to allow for the full exercise of the human rights of persons with diverse sexual orientation and gender identity without discrimination.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. Develop a legal framework that recognizes and protects the right to form a family between people of the same sex, granting them the same rights conferred to other couples to marry and form unions.
2. Eliminate criminal sanctions against women and girls in cases of voluntary abortion and eliminate all barriers that currently hinder access to legal, affordable, and timely termination of pregnancy.
3. Approve as early as possible the national plan on Sexual and Reproductive Health with sufficient resources to ensure its effective implementation.
4. Foster an environment in which human rights defenders can freely carry out their legitimate human rights work and publicly recognize human rights defenders as legitimate and vital actors in society.

I wish Bolivia all success for its review.

I thank you