**Statement by Iceland**

**UPR34 – El Salvador**

Mr. President,

Iceland welcomes the delegation of El Salvador.

We welcome steps outlined in the national report and the efforts undertaken for the achievement of gender equality, including its recent gender-balanced cabinet. We are however deeply concerned over the continued criminalization of women and girls for obstetric emergencies and miscarriages.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. Decriminalize abortion as well adopt measures to avoid the incarceration of women as a result of obstetric emergencies and miscarriages.
2. Develop health care programs, prioritizing the prevention of adolescent pregnancies, that include access to comprehensive sexuality education as well as access to contraception, with particular attention to zones of high vulnerability.
3. Create a national plan to take joint measures with the objective of investigating, prosecuting and eradicating the high rates of impunity of gender-based violence.
4. Encourage the Legislative Assembly to approve the Law on Gender Identity.
5. Implement inclusive and anti-discriminatory policies with the aim of preventing, condemning and prohibiting all types of violence and discrimination against LGBTI persons.

I wish El Salvador all success for its review.

I thank you