**Statement by Iceland**

**UPR35 - Kiribati**

Madam/Mr. President,

Iceland welcomes the delegation of Kiribati.

We welcome the national report and the steps outlined therein and hope for their continued implementation. In particular, we welcome Kiribati´s efforts to address the high prevalence of violence against women and are encouraged by the opening of the Kiribati Women and Children Support Centre in 2018 and encourage further effort in this regard.

Iceland makes the following recommendations:

1. Incorporate a comprehensive approach to sexual and reproductive health into the next National Development Plan for 2021 – 2025, including family planning programs that are accessible to all, and allocate sufficient resources in the annual budget to ensure effective delivery.
2. Revise the Family Life Education curriculum to bring it in line with the updated UN technical guidelines on sexuality education and integrate it into all school curriculums, including both in Junior and Senior high schools.
3. Implement national media campaigns, training for state officials, and education programs in all schools to eliminate gender stereotypes and negative social norms that are root causes of gender-based discrimination and violence.
4. Decriminalize consensual sexual relations between adults of the same sex and expand its anti-discrimination legislation, to include a prohibition of discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity.

I wish Kiribati all success for its review.

I thank you.