

Statement by

**the Republic of Slovenia**

at the

**40th Session of the UPR Working Group – Review of Iceland**

*Geneva, 25 January 2022*

Excellency,

Slovenia wishes to commend the delegation of Iceland for their presentation today and their commitment to the UPR process, demonstrated also through implementation of recommendations put forward by my country.

Slovenia would like to make the following recommendations:

* Establish a national human rights institution in compliance with the Paris Principles.
* Expand the Act on Equal Treatment which should include discrimination based also on grounds such as religion, disability, age, sexual orientation and gender identity.
* Continue efforts in ensuring all retired and people with disabilities will be able to enjoy an adequate standard of living both through the provision of adequate levels of social security benefits and pensions and work opportunities.

Slovenia welcomes the formation of the inter-ministerial working group for developing ideas for the establishment of NHRI last year, as well as the recently adopted resolution for a comprehensive national action plan on the rights of the child, which among other proposes ratification of the Third Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

We remain also strongly encouraged by the important work done by Iceland in the field of gender equality, including on closing the gender pay gap.

Thank you.