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PERMANENT MISSION
OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN

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Statement at the 50th Session of the Human Rights Council

Agenda item: 3 – ID with IE SOGI

16th June 2022

H.E. Ambassador Kurt Jäger

Permanent Representative of the Principality of Liechtenstein

Thank you, Mister President,

Liechtenstein would like to thank the Independent Expert on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity for his report as well as for his important work and engagement.

Non-discrimination is a fundamental principle of international human rights law and the United Nations system. Therefore, no one should ever be subjected to any form of discrimination, stigmatization, abuse or violence on the basis of their sexual orientation or gender identity.

States should ensure that national legislation and policies foster an enabling and safe environment for all individuals. There should never be a fear of expressing oneself. We encourage all States to take active steps to remove any existing discriminatory legislation against LGBT+ persons.

In 2021, the Constitutional Court of Liechtenstein issued a ruling that a prohibition of adoptions by homosexual couples is discriminatory and neither compatible with our Constitution nor with the European Convention on Human Rights. This is a historic step for my country in recognizing equal rights for homosexual couples in comparison to heterosexual couples.

Mr. Independent Expert,

An active public debate on how to address discrimination, stigmatization, abuse and violence on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity is a crucial element in the development of national laws and policies to protect against encroachments of SOGI-rights. Liechtenstein strongly supports the mandate of the Independent Expert on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity and looks forward to a successful extension of the mandate during this session.

I thank you, Mister President.