

## READING VERSION

### 54<sup>th</sup> Session of the Human Rights Council

#### Statement by the International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association (ILGA World)

Mr. President,

In the spirit of Item four of the agenda, we would like to call the attention of the Council to the Human Rights situation of LGBTI persons.

In mid-July, **Russia**, signed a new law that prohibits transgender people from altering their gender markers on official documents and undergoing any medical procedures and treatments associated with gender transition.

We are extremely concerned about the recent crackdown on the rights of LGBTI people in **Lebanon**, especially by religious conservative groups and militias. There are rising reports of violence against this community, as well as proposed anti-LGBTI bills that threaten their security and well-being.

In **Italy**, a state prosecutor has ordered the cancellation of thirty-three birth certificates of lesbian couples' children, violating their right to form a family as well as the right to a proper documentation.

In August, **Uganda** registered the first enforcement case on its new anti-LGBTI law, when two men were prosecuted on charges of the so-called “aggravated homosexuality”, which can potentially subject them to the death penalty.<sup>1</sup>

In **Nigeria**, arbitrary arrests against dozens were conducted because of an alleged same-sex wedding, which is prohibited under the country’s legislation. Performing shameful and abusive behavior, the police livestreamed the suspects’ interrogation.<sup>2</sup>

Mr. President,

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.npr.org/2023/08/29/1196533987/uganda-man-charged-anti-gay-law>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.hrw.org/news/2023/08/30/nigerian-police-arrest-dozens-alleged-gay-wedding>

We call on all Member States to step up efforts to combat violence and discrimination of any kind, including on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity and expression and sex characteristics.

Thank you, Mr. President.