

47th Human Rights Council Session 24 June, 2021

<u>Item3: Interactive dialogue with the Independent Expert on protection against violence</u> and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity

Statement by the Swedish Federation of LGBTI Rights – RFSL on behalf of Trans Advocacy Week 2021

This statement was drafted in consultation with the organizations convening Trans Advocacy Week. We welcome the Independent Expert's report "The Law of Inclusion". We are confident that it will contribute to strengthening an intersectional, inclusive, and holistic understanding of gender justice.

Madam President,

Throughout the world, trans people continue to face disproportionate levels of violence and systemic discrimination. Trans women, in particular face high levels of violence, which often go unchallenged, uninvestigated, and unpunished. Working towards the safety, security, well-being, and development of trans people must remain a priority. We share the Independent Expert's analysis that gender and sex are firmly established categories in international human rights law. They complement each other and are both crucial to achieve gender justice.

We reiterate that safeguarding the rights of trans and gender diverse people does not come at the expense of any other group as human rights are indivisible, interlinked, and inalienable. Our understanding is informed by intersectional feminist movements that foster synergies between women in all their diversity, standing together with trans and gender-diverse people in our collective struggle for equality and inclusion.

Trans Advocacy Week 2021 welcomes the Independent Expert's recommendations to member states on gender self-determination, legal gender recognition and the rights of trans and gender-diverse minors. We express our gratitude to Mr. Madrigal-Borloz and his team, and we are committed to supporting the mandate in future.