

Nigeria – UPR 17
Statement by Ireland

Thank you Mr. President.

Ireland welcomes the delegation of Nigeria and thanks it for its report and presentation.

Ireland appreciates the steps taken by Nigeria since its last review, including the inauguration of the National Committee on Torture and the regained “A” status of the National Human Rights Commission. Ireland remains deeply concerned by reports of continued widespread torture and other forms of ill-treatment in police custody, and at reports of human rights violations committed by the group known as Boko Haram and by security forces in the north-east. Ireland recommends that Nigeria adopt a comprehensive approach to the security situation which ensures that the perpetrators of violence are brought to justice and that the security forces’ rules of engagement take full account of due process and human rights.

Ireland is seriously concerned by ongoing reports of female genital mutilation in some areas of Nigeria, as well as impunity for domestic and sexual violence against women. We welcome efforts to combat violence against women, including through laws against female genital mutilation in some states, and the draft Violence Against Persons (Prohibition) Bill. Ireland recommends that laws against female genital mutilation be introduced in all states, that steps be taken to ensure access to justice for women who are victims of violence, and that the Violence Against Persons (Prohibition) Bill be passed by the Senate.

I thank you, Mr. President.