

Universal Periodic Review – 23rd session

Statement by Ireland on the review of Lebanon

2 November 2015

Ireland welcomes the delegation of Lebanon and thanks it for the presentation of its report. We congratulate Lebanon on having, since its first review, extended a standing invitation to the country to special procedures mandate-holders of the Human Rights Council, and we note that some visits have taken place. We encourage Lebanon to continue to facilitate such visits.

While we welcome Lebanon's acceptance of Ireland's first-cycle recommendation to enact domestic legislation to incorporate the Convention against Torture into Lebanese law, we note the lack of progress in implementation of this and other torture-related recommendations accepted by Lebanon. Ireland **recommends** that Lebanon take urgent, strong and coordinated action at all levels to eradicate torture, punish perpetrators, compensate victims and ensure effective legal safeguards for all persons deprived of their liberty.

We are also concerned that, while no executions have been carried out for over a decade, a considerable number of prisoners remain under sentence of death, and that the death penalty continues to be requested by the prosecution in some cases. Ireland **recommends** that Lebanon declare an official moratorium on the use of the death penalty with a view to its abolition from the penal code, and commute the sentences of prisoners already sentenced to death.