

Statement by the State of Palestine at the Universal Periodic Review of Ireland, 11th of May 2016

Mr. President,

The State of Palestine welcomes the delegation of Ireland and thanks it for the presentation of its national report.

We welcome the steps taken by the Irish Government towards implementing the recommendations from the first UPR cycle and its commitment to promoting and protecting human rights. We also appreciate Ireland's active role in the Human Rights Council including during its membership thereof from January 2013 to December 2015.

We particularly welcome the progress made by Ireland in addressing the needs of persons with disabilities, including the considerable work underway in its Roadmap to Ratification of the CRPD. We recommend that Ireland continue to address outstanding barriers to ratification of the CRPD including legislative changes that need to be undertaken in view of enabling ratification by its proposed deadline.

We also welcome steps taken by Ireland with regard to business and human rights including the working outline of a national action plan on business and human rights 2016-2019. We recommend that Ireland ensure that its policies, legislation, regulations and enforcement measures effectively serve to prevent and address the heightened risk of business involvement in abuses in conflict situations, which includes situations of foreign occupation.

We wish Ireland a successful review.

Thank you Mr. President.