****

**Statement of Ireland**

**45th session of the UPR Working Group**

Review of the People’s Republic of China

**23 January 2024**

**(106/108-word limit)**

Ireland thanks China for its presentation today.

Ireland is deeply concerned by the continued repression of civil society in China, including harassment of human rights defenders; restrictions on freedom of expression, including in Hong Kong; and the treatment of ethnic and religious groups, including in Xinjiang and Tibet.

Ireland is also concerned by widespread discrimination against members of the LGBTQI+ community.

Ireland recommends China:

1. Ratify the ICCPR.
2. Immediately release all arbitrarily detained human rights defenders, journalists and civil society activists (as recommended by OHCHR).
3. Enact laws explicitly prohibiting discrimination based on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (as recommended by the CEDAW committee).

We wish China every success in this UPR cycle. Thank you.