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**Statement of Ireland**

**46th session of the UPR Working Group**

Review of the State of Eritrea

**6 March 2024**

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

Ireland acknowledges Eritrea’s efforts to advance the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and welcomes progress on raising awareness of the harmful effects of female genital mutilation.

However, Ireland is deeply concerned about human rights violations committed in association with the practice of obligatory, indefinite national service, including conscription of children, punishment of draft evaders and their families through enforced disappearances, home evictions and confiscation of property.

Ireland is also concerned by the severe restrictions of the freedoms of assembly and association applied to Human Rights Defenders and civil society organisations and the absence of a free press.

Ireland recommends Eritrea:

1. Allow access to Special Procedures, particularly the Special Rapporteur on the situation of Human Rights in Eritrea.
2. Immediately end the practices of arbitrary arrest, detention, and imprisonment, including indefinite incommunicado deprivation of liberty, and ensure compliance with The Nelson Mandela Rules.

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