**Statement of Ireland**

**47th session of the UPR Working Group**

Review of The Commonwealth of Dominica

**7November 2024**

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

Ireland acknowledges Dominica’s efforts to advance human rights domestically and commends progress made since the last UPR cycle. In particular, Ireland welcomes the April 2024 decision of the High Court of Dominica to repeal laws criminalising same-sex relations and the commitment to provide greater protections to domestic violence victims under the Domestic Violence Act (2023).

However, Ireland is concerned with the slow rate of progress on the introduction of a moratorium on the death penalty and that violence against women and gender-based violence remain a significant challenge. Ireland is also concerned that discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity is not prohibited under Dominican law.

Ireland recommends that Dominica:

1. Strengthen laws to protect women and girls from all forms of violence, ensure that cases of such violence are thoroughly investigated, provide full support to victims of such violence, and collect comprehensive data on the incidence of violence against women.
2. Adopt comprehensive legislation prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity.

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