**United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland**

**Statement**

**39th Universal Periodic Review – Ireland**

**Wednesday 10th November 2021**

The United Kingdom welcomes Ireland’s efforts to promote and protect human rights. In particular we welcome the establishment of the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission and Ireland’s ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

The UK commends Ireland on their first ever prosecution for human trafficking offences in September. We are also pleased to see the establishment of an independent Anti-Racism Committee.

We recommend Ireland:

1. Develop and implement a National Action Plan to prevent and combat all forms of modern slavery including a budget, responsibilities and time frame, and

reinstate a dedicated anti-trafficking unit;

1. Finalise and fully implement the national action plan against racism, informed by the principles of participation, non-discrimination, diversity and intersectionality;
2. Fully implement the Education for Persons with Special Educational Needs Act 2004.

Thank you.