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**Statement of Ireland**

**40th session of the UPR Working Group**

Review of Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

**25 January 2022**

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

Ireland notes Venezuela’s progress in advancing cooperation with international human rights bodies, including the increased OHCHR presence, but regrets a lack of progress on some recommendations from previous UPR cycles.

It is important that Venezuela take concrete steps to ensure respect for civil society space and to restore judicial independence.

Ireland recommends that Venezuela:

1. Conduct a review of the laws and regulations on terrorism financing, registration and funding that are imposed on civil society organisations, to ensure they are in line with international human rights standards.
2. Implement effective measures to restore judicial independence to ensure that the justice system is guided by internationally accepted legal principles.

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