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**Statement of Ireland**

**43rd session of the UPR Working Group**

Review of Mali

**2 May 2023**

**Narrative**

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

Ireland acknowledges the strengthening of the capacities of the National Human Rights Commission and calls for it to be sufficiently resourced in order to carry out all its mandates effectively.

Ireland remains deeply concerned by the deteriorating security and human rights situation in Mali, notably human rights violations and abuses committed by state and non-state actors, the increase in gender-based violence; shrinking of civil society space and constraints on freedom of expression. We underline the importance of ensuring impartial investigation and prosecution of all perpetrators of human rights violations.

**Recommendations**

Ireland recommends Mali:

1. Guarantee respect for children’s right to education through the adoption and implementation of the draft law on the protection of educational institutions from attacks.
2. Approve the draft Criminal Code, incorporating the prohibition and punishment of all forms of sexual and gender-based violence.

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