**Statement of Ireland**

**43 session of the UPR Working Group**

Review of Burundi

**04 May 2023**

**Narrative**

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

Ireland acknowledges Burundi’s efforts to advance human rights domestically and notes progress made since the last UPR cycle

Ireland welcomes the renewal of the mandate of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and calls on the government of Burundi to guarantee the independence of the Commission.

Ireland is deeply concerned by Burundi’s failure to cooperate with regional and international human rights mechanisms, including the Human Rights Council and the UN Special Rapporteur.

**Recommendations**

Ireland recommends Burundi:

1. Establish an independent mechanism for investigating complaints of torture or ill treatment perpetrated by state actors and facilitate a complaints procedure for victims.
2. Ensure a safe and enabling environment for civil society, human rights defenders, journalists, and other media workers to carry out their work, without fear of prosecution, intimidation or undue interference.

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