

Universal Periodic Review – 21st Session

Statement by Ireland on the review of Guinea

20 January 2015

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

We acknowledge the negative impact of the recent Ebola outbreak on the enjoyment of human rights in Guinea. We commend Guinea for its efforts in tackling the spread of the virus and express our support for continuing efforts in that regard.

Ireland is concerned by restrictions on the exercise of the right to peaceful assembly and shares the concern of the Committee against Torture regarding reports of excessive use of force by security forces against those exercising their right to peaceful protest. Ireland **recommends** that Guinea fully respect the right to freedom of peaceful assembly, effectively investigate all allegations of excessive and disproportionate use of force by law enforcement personnel and ensure that all perpetrators are held accountable for their actions.

Ireland is gravely concerned to note that 96% of women and girls are subjected to Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) in Guinea, which is the second highest prevalence rate of FGM in the world. Ireland is also concerned by the low rate of prosecutions for those who perform FGM, despite the fact that it is prohibited by Law L010/AN/2000. Ireland **recommends** that Guinea take all necessary measures to ensure the effective enforcement of Law L010/AN/2000, with a view to the eradication of FGM, and to undertake additional awareness raising measures about the risks and harm associated with this practice as well as its prohibition.