

## Universal Periodic Review – 21<sup>st</sup> Session

### Statement by Ireland on the review of Kuwait

28 January 2015

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

Ireland commends Kuwait for its commitment to humanitarian development assistance, and its continued reduction of child mortality rates.

Ireland is pleased to note Kuwait's voluntary pledge to establish a national body to deal with all human rights matters, in response to recommendations received during the first UPR cycle. Ireland **recommends** that Kuwait establish without delay an independent National Human Rights Institution in accordance with the Paris principles.

Ireland is concerned by incidences of physical, sexual and psychological violence against children in Kuwait, and the inability of an individual under 21 years to file a legal complaint without prior consent from his/her guardian. Ireland **recommends** that Kuwait amend its legislation to provide special protection for children against violence, enabling them to file complaints independent of their guardians, and to provide a hotline and shelter for children who incur domestic violence.