

**30<sup>th</sup> session of the Universal Periodic Review**  
**Review of Cameroon**  
**Statement of Ireland**  
**16 May 2018**

Thank you Mr. Vice President

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

Ireland notes the positive steps taken by Cameroon to combat violence against women and children since its last UPR, including the criminalisation of female genital mutilation (FGM), interference with organ growth, sexual harassment and forced marriages. We encourage Cameroon to strictly enforce these new provisions and to continue working towards prohibiting all forms of violence against women and children, including by further criminalising domestic violence and marital rape.

Ireland is concerned about the reports of violence against, and discrimination of members of the LGBTI community, including arbitrary arrests and detention, harassment and attacks. We **recommend** that Cameroon decriminalise consensual same-sex conduct between adults and take all necessary steps to protect the LGBTI community from all forms of discrimination and violence.

Ireland again urges Cameroon to immediately establish an official de jure moratorium on the death penalty.

Ireland is also concerned by the reports that human rights defenders – including those working on LGBTI issues, journalists and other civil society actors are targeted for carrying out their legitimate activities. We regret the overly broad use of the 2014 anti-terrorism law and reports of harassment and intimidation. Ireland would **recommend** that Cameroon take all necessary measures to enable human rights defenders, journalists and other members of civil society to carry out their legitimate activities without fear of reprisals and free from all restrictions.

We wish Cameroon every success in this UPR Cycle.

Thank you