

Human Rights Council – 28th session (2-27 March 2015)

Statement by Ireland on the adoption of the outcome of Iraq's UPR

19 March 2015

Ireland welcomes the delegation of Iraq and congratulates it on reaching today's stage in the UPR process.

We express our appreciation of Iraq's acceptance of Ireland's recommendation to endeavour to protect the security and rights of persons belonging to minorities, bring to justice individuals and organisations that violate their rights, and ensure fair and proportional representation of all minorities in security apparatuses, governance and decision-making bodies at regional and federal levels. We look forward to hearing more about progress in the implementation of this and other accepted recommendations, and encourage Iraq to submit a voluntary mid-term report on its implementation of accepted recommendations, as a large number of States, including Ireland, have done.

At the same time, we note with regret that our other recommendation, to suspend Article 128 of the Penal Code, as a first step towards the permanent removal from it of honourable motives as a mitigating excuse, has not been accepted by Iraq. Bearing in mind the steps taken by Iraq to combat violence against women, as detailed in its national report and in its presentation in the working group, we encourage Iraq to consider making further advances in this area by taking action against acts of violence committed out in the name of "honour".