

**28<sup>th</sup> Session of the Human Rights Council  
9 March 2015**

**Clustered Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the right to food on and the Special Rapporteur on adequate housing**

**Statement by Ireland**

Ireland would like to thank the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food and the Special Rapporteur on adequate housing for their presentations today. Our comments on this occasion are addressed to the Special Rapporteur on the right to food.

Special Rapporteur Elver,

The eradication of hunger and undernutrition is a cornerstone of Ireland's development aid programme, Irish Aid, and a key pillar of our foreign policy. In our programmes we place a particular focus on advancing gender equality and recognising women as key drivers for combating hunger and malnutrition.

In your report you note that women in particular face significant barriers in accessing justice in relation to breaches of their right to adequate food. You also recommend that States ensure the empowerment of women by guaranteeing their basic right to access adequate food and take steps to implement gender-mainstreaming in relation to domestic policies on agricultural, property and inheritance rights.

*Could you expand on and provide concrete examples of ways in which international cooperation can contribute to ensuring the empowerment of women by working towards improving access to the right to food?*