

Human Rights Council 38th Session

Annual panel discussion on technical cooperation: “Human Rights and the Sustainable Development Goals: enhancing human rights technical cooperation and capacity – building to contribute to the effective and inclusive implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.”

4th July 2018

National Statement of Ireland

Ireland aligns itself with the statement delivered on behalf of the European Union and wishes to add the following.

Mr President

As co- chair of the negotiations, Ireland was honoured to play a leadership role in the adoption of the SDGs.

To achieve Agenda 2030, building improved technical statistical capacity will be essential in devising evidence-based policies which will allow us to measure progress.

Gender equality and women’s rights are reflected across the 2030 Agenda, and yet, significant progress is needed to improve technical capacity and data availability to measure progress for women and girls. To address this, Ireland has supported UN Women’s ‘Edge Initiative’ and the ‘Making Every Woman and Girl Count’ initiative. These initiatives and work in the UN Statistical Commission will be essential to develop the gender-sensitive statistics needed to allow us to measure progress in achieving the SDGs for women and girls.

‘Leaving no one behind’ will not be achieved without a strong, vibrant and well-resourced civil society. Civil society plays a critical role and has an important voice in advocating for the most vulnerable which is why protecting civil society space is a pillar of Ireland’s foreign policy.

Building technical capacity and cooperation on human rights will be essential to operationalise, and achieve, this commitment and we look forward to continuing to engage on this important agenda.

Thank you.