

Human Rights Council 38th Session

Item 10/2 General Debate

4th Junly 2018

National Statement of Ireland

Ireland aligns with the statement of the European Union and adds the following.

Mr President,

Ireland wishes to thank the OHCHR for their Report on the enhancement of technical cooperation and capacity-building in the field of human rights, and for the oral updates presented yesterday.

Ireland believes that the provision of technical assistance and capacity-building by the OHCHR is vital to support the promotion and protection of human rights.

In today's world, a collaborative approach to identifying and working towards enhancing the safeguarding of human rights is imperative.

Ireland believes that civil society plays an invaluable role in holding Governments to account on their human rights obligations. We welcome especially the methods set out in the OHCHR's Report which provide a roadmap to facilitate civil society's involvement in work undertaken on technical assistance. The use of online databases to allow civil society to monitor the follow up on the recommendations of the international human rights mechanisms is a very worthwhile and practical project which can enhance the work of the OHCHR.

Ireland calls on all States to cooperate fully and engage in constructive dialogue with the OHCHR and the mechanisms of this Council to foster and support a collaborative approach to identifying and responding to human rights challenges, in which governments, civil society and the UN system all play a part.

Thank you.