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## **Statement of Ireland**

### **52<sup>nd</sup> session of the Human Rights Council**

#### *Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food*

**9<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

Ireland aligns with the statement of the EU and thanks the Special Rapporteur for his presentation.

We are concerned in particular by three findings of the Special Rapporteur's report:

First - The impact of violence on food systems both in times of peace and armed conflict.

Second - Violence continues to be multi-faceted, reinforcing and interconnected.

And third, that conflict and violence continue to impact the rights of individuals in a variety of ways, with the brunt of the impact borne by the most vulnerable.

Ireland condemns in the strongest terms the weaponisation of starvation in armed conflict. We call for accountability for these egregious violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law.

Special Rapporteur, your report makes clear the dire impact of violence and conflict as they exacerbate, drive and prolong hunger and famine. Global hunger is taking lives today and altering outcomes for generations.

Ireland remains committed to the prevention of global hunger through our humanitarian action. While delivering emergency food assistance we acknowledge however that this assistance is not and cannot be the answer. That is why we have a strong commitment to a food systems approach that tackles the underlying causes of hunger and malnutrition.

*Special Rapporteur, can you elaborate on how the international community can ensure food systems are grounded in human rights?*