

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

Statement by Ireland at the General Debate under Items 2 & 10 – Country Reports

25 March 2015

Ireland aligns itself with the remarks made on our behalf by the European Union and adds the following remarks.

Ireland welcomes the Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the situation of human rights in **Colombia**. We note the importance of the peace process to the achievement of human rights objectives, and welcome progress made in this regard. While we note the positive steps taken by the Government of Colombia, the human rights situation remains a matter of concern. The killing of 45 human rights activists in 2014, and the attempted killing of 18 more, is deeply disturbing. The large number of threats to the lives of human rights defenders underlines the importance of the Government strengthening its efforts to prevent and respond to such attacks and threats.

Ireland welcomes the Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the activities of his office in the Plurinational State of **Bolivia**, and the progress made thus far in the implementation of commitments for the fulfilment of human rights. We look forward in particular to how the recognition of gender equality will be incorporated in all State and social structures, particularly in light of the Comprehensive Act on guaranteeing a life free of violence for women, and encourage the Government of Bolivia to continue its efforts in this regard. Ireland continues to note with concern issues relating to the administration of justice. Ireland reiterates its call on Bolivia to

ensure that all killings are the subject of impartial investigation, and that impunity for human rights violations is not tolerated.