

**Human Rights Council – 29th Session (15 June-3 July 2015)**

**Clustered ID with WG on transnational corporations and human rights  
and the SR on Trafficking Statement by Ireland**

**16 June 2015**

Ireland aligns itself with the statement delivered on behalf of the European Union and makes the following additional remarks.

Mr. President,

Ireland would like to thank the Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises for its report.

Ireland congratulates the Working Group on the progress made in embedding the issue of business and human rights into both the economic sphere and international human rights framework in such a relatively short timeframe.

Ireland strongly welcomes the report's finding that there is an emerging trend of more States taking steps to develop national action plans on business and human rights based on the UN Guiding Principles. We believe that through the development of robust and participative national action plans that the UN Guiding Principles can have a real and practical effect in informing and regulating the interaction between business and human rights.

For our part, Ireland is in the advanced stages of developing our National Plan a process which has included close consultation across all Government Departments and with civil society and business.

We join the call of the Working Group, pursuant to Council resolution 26/22, for States to submit information on their national action plans and other relevant initiatives on business and human rights, with annual reports on the implementation of such commitments, and further, for other stakeholders to also submit relevant information to the Working Group.

Mr President

Ireland agrees with the Working Group's view that UNDP could play a helpful role in promoting the development of national action plans at a regional level and with national authorities and national human rights institutions. We would be interested in further elaboration on this point.

Ireland also welcomes the opportunity provided by the post-2015 process to further integrate the business and human rights perspective into UN processes. We have incorporated that perspective as part of Ireland's policy for international development, entitled *One World, One Future*, and look forward to the continuing discussions on the post-2015 agenda over the coming months.

Finally, we note the Working Group's identification of the challenge of achieving policy coherence between States' conduct in multilateral institutions dealing with business and development-related issues and their international human rights obligations. Could the Working Group elaborate further on these challenges or make specific recommendations to assist States in that regard?

Thank you.