



Statement of Ireland
45th session of the Human Rights Council

***Item 10: Interactive dialogue with the Independent Expert on the situation of
human rights in the Central African Republic***

Monday, 5 October 2020

Madame President,

Ireland aligns with the statement of the European Union and welcomes the report and presentation of the Independent Expert. Ireland values the work of the Independent Expert in monitoring and reporting on the situation and commends the Central African Republic authorities for their cooperation in allowing the Independent Expert and his team access to a broad range of interlocutors.

Ireland notes with concern the report's findings that the political climate is not conducive to ensuring a peaceful electoral process. We support the Independent Expert's call for the authorities to create the conditions necessary for free and transparent elections in a peaceful climate and within the established constitutional time frame.

Ireland remains concerned about the humanitarian situation in the Central African Republic, particularly in the context of rising numbers of internally displaced persons.

We support the Independent Expert's call for the voluntary and dignified return of refugees, and note that special efforts in this sphere are critical to protect the safety and wellbeing of women and children, who are particularly vulnerable. We look forward to a promised legal framework allowing refugee participation in the election being implemented as soon as possible.

Mr. Agbetse, how can the international community best support internally-displaced persons in CAR, particularly in the context of support for humanitarian action in camps for displaced persons, including measures to protect against COVID-19?

Thank you.