



## **Statement of Ireland**

### **51st session of the Human Rights Council**

*Interactive Dialogue on the oral update of the OHCHR on technical assistance and capacity building for South Sudan*

**4 October 2022**

Ireland thanks the Acting High Commissioner for her update, and for the continuing work of OHCHR on South Sudan.

We are extremely alarmed by the continued reports of high levels of violence, human rights abuses, and violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law across South Sudan.

We are particularly concerned by an increase in cases of sexual and gender-based violence, including conflict-related sexual violence. We urge the Government of South Sudan to intensify its efforts to strengthen its rule of law institutions, prevent further violations and abuses by holding perpetrators accountable, and ensure an effective remedy for victims and survivors.

The humanitarian situation is also deeply concerning, particularly with so many facing extreme levels of malnutrition. We call on the Government to ensure full and unimpeded humanitarian access, and to protect humanitarian workers.

Ireland strongly supports South Sudan's peace process. Progress on the electoral and constitutional processes will remain key to ensure a stable and peaceful society. We strongly encourage full implementation of the recently agreed roadmap including the achievement of tangible results. It is imperative that civil society is enabled to play an active role during the extended transition period. We further underline the importance of women's full, equal and meaningful participation.

*In light of the further extension of the transition period, what will be your priorities regarding technical assistance and capacity building, and what are the challenges to your role? How can the international community best support you in this?*

Thank you.