



Statement of Ireland
37th session of the UPR Working Group

Review of Saint Kitts and Nevis

19 January 2021

Ireland warmly welcomes the delegation of Saint Kitts and Nevis and thanks it for its presentation today.

Ireland acknowledges efforts to advance human rights domestically and commends the progress made since the last UPR cycle. We welcome in particular the accession of Saint Kitts and Nevis to the Convention against Torture in 2020 and ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2019. We commend Saint Kitts and Nevis on the 2018 National Gender Equality Policy and Action Plan and encourage Saint Kitts and Nevis to continue to implement policies that address gender inequality.

We remain concerned that although no death sentence has been imposed in Saint Kitts and Nevis since 2008, it is still provided for under the law. It is important that concrete steps towards the abolition of the death penalty are taken, including by adopting an immediate formal moratorium on its use.

Ireland makes the following recommendations to the authorities of Saint Kitts and Nevis:

1. Decriminalise consensual adult same-sex relations by amending sections 56 and 57 of the Offences against the Person Act.
2. Enact comprehensive legislation to prohibit discrimination on the grounds of gender identity and sexual orientation.
3. Accede to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. Relevant technical assistance should be requested if necessary.

We wish Saint Kitts and Nevis every success with this UPR cycle.

Thank you.