

**28th session of the Universal Periodic Review**

**November 2017**

**Review of Switzerland**

**Statement by Ireland**

**9 November 2017**

Thank you, Mr President

Ireland welcomes the delegation of Switzerland and thanks it for its national report and presentation today.

Ireland commends Switzerland on its progress in implementation of recommendations accepted in connection with its UPR examination in 2012.

In particular, we welcome the follow up to the recommendation at that time that Switzerland pursue efforts to combat xenophobia and to train police officers, prosecutors, judges and future legal professionals in the scope and application of the relevant legal framework.

We further commend Switzerland for its longstanding support for UN human rights mechanisms.

Ireland is pleased to note that Swiss law prevents discrimination on the basis of racial, ethnic or religious belonging. Ireland **recommends** that Switzerland introduces legislation, uniformly across the Confederation that explicitly protects LGBTI persons from discrimination. In preparing this Act, the issues faced by LGBTI persons should be taken into account.

Ireland also **recommends** establishment of an independent National Human Rights Institute which would be in full compliance with the Paris Principles.

Thank you