



**Statement of Ireland**  
**42nd session of the Human Rights Council**

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

**25 September 2019**

Ireland aligns with the statement of the European Union and adds the following:

Ireland welcomes the report and presentation of the Independent Expert, Ms. Keita Bocoum. Ireland deeply values the work of the Independent Expert in monitoring and reporting on the evolving situation in Central African Republic and commends the Central African authorities for their cooperation in allowing the Independent Expert and her team full access to a broad range of interlocutors, enabling this important work to be carried out.

Ireland welcomes the findings of the Independent Expert's report that the human rights situation has improved during the reporting period. However, we remain concerned by reports of continued human rights violations in particular, of gender-based violence and violations against children. Ireland calls on the authorities to ensure justice is pursued for those responsible for such heinous crimes.

Ireland notes the efforts of the Government to strive towards the effective implementation of the agreement signed in February 2019, including through the implementation of an inclusive and comprehensive approach to the transitional justice process. Ireland calls on all signatories to the agreement to work in good faith towards implementation, to achieve lasting and durable peace.

Ireland remains concerned about the humanitarian situation in the Central African Republic, particularly in relation to internally displaced persons and supports the Independent Expert's call on the Central African authorities to ensure all returns of such persons are voluntary and conducted in a safe and dignified manner.

*Ms. Bocoum, how best can the international community support the implementation of the agreement, particularly in relation to the report's recommendations to promote labour intensive work projects (prioritising young people and women) and to strengthen youth reintegration initiatives?*

Thank you.