



Statement of Ireland

44th session of the Human Rights Council

Item 3: ID with the Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises

9 July 2020

Madam President, *[Mr/Madam Vice-President,]*

Ireland aligns with the statement of the European Union and thanks the Working Group for its continued and committed engagement in the implementation of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.

Ireland wishes to compliment the Working Group on its successful Forum on Business and Human Rights in November 2019.

We welcome the comprehensive report to the Human Rights Council connecting the business and human rights and anti-corruption agendas [A/HRC/44/43]. Recalling the many Human Rights Defenders who have been silenced for highlighting business related human rights violations, we note the Report's sobering conclusion that "lives may be lost when bribes are paid".

As we approach the 10th Anniversary of the Guiding Principles we welcome the Working Group's project entitled "Business and human rights: towards a decade of global implementation". We note the milestones and outputs of the project and reflect on how these will inform the upgrading and renewing of existing National Action Plans.

Madam Chair,

We note that the Working Group report calls on States to "introduce regulations that require human rights due diligence by business enterprises in line with the Guiding Principles, and provide guidance clarifying the connection between corruption and human rights risks and impact." Could the Working Group elaborate further on this recommendation?

Thank you.

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