



Statement of Ireland
37th session of the UPR Working Group

Review of Mauritania

19 January 2021

Ireland warmly welcomes the delegation of Mauritania and thanks it for its presentation.

Ireland acknowledges progress made since the last UPR cycle, particularly efforts towards drafting legislation against sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV).

Ireland calls on Mauritania to take all measures to eradicate the harmful practice of Female Genital Mutilation and abolish the death penalty.

Ireland is concerned about reports of arbitrary detention, harassment and intimidation of human rights defenders, particularly anti-slavery activists.

Ireland makes the following recommendations to the authorities of Mauritania:

1. Adopt a comprehensive legislative framework on SGBV which includes a definition of rape that is consistent with international human rights standards;
2. Take concrete steps to prevent the arbitrary arrest and detention of human rights defenders,
3. Release all human rights defenders currently arbitrarily detained.

We wish Mauritania every success with this UPR cycle.

Thank you.