



Statement of Ireland
33rd session of the UPR Working Group

Review of Dominica

9 May 2019

Thank you, Mr. (Vice) President.

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

Ireland recognises that Dominica is particularly vulnerable to climate-related disasters and the serious challenges that ensue. We welcome the Government's commitment to become a "climate resilient nation", including through the adoption of the Climate Resilience Act in 2018 and the establishment of a climate resilience executive agency for Dominica.

We commend measures taken to combat gender-based violence, such as the amendment of the Sexual Offences Act, 2016, and urge the Government to continue progress in this area.

Ireland makes the following recommendations to Dominica:

1. Decriminalise defamation and place it under the Civil Code, in accordance with international standards, particularly regarding freedom of opinion and expression.
2. Adopt concrete measures to combat discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity, including by repealing Article 16 of the Sexual Offences Act 1998, to decriminalise consensual same-sex relations.

We wish Dominica every success with this UPR cycle.

Thank you.