

32nd session of the Universal Periodic Review

Review of Eritrea

Statement of Ireland

28 January 2019

Thank you, Mr. (Vice) President.

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

Ireland acknowledges Eritrea's efforts to advance human rights domestically since the last UPR cycle, including the recent peace agreement with Ethiopia and renewed engagement with the international community, which will be essential to improving the lives of Eritrean citizens.

Ireland makes the following recommendations to the Eritrean delegation:

1. Undertake comprehensive reforms, such as repeal of Press Proclamation No. 90/1996, to allow for an independent media and a safe and enabling environment for journalists and human rights defenders, including by ensuring their protection against arbitrary arrest, harassment and intimidation.
2. In line with Human Rights Council membership responsibilities, fully cooperate with international human rights mechanisms, including by responding positively to requests for visits and information from UN special procedures mandate holders.

We wish Eritrea every success in this UPR cycle.

Thank you.