

30th Session of the Human Rights Council (14 September-2 October 2015)

**Panel Discussion on a Human Rights Based Approach to Good Governance in the
Public Service**

Statement of Ireland

24 September 2015

Ireland aligns itself with the remarks made on our behalf by the European Union and would like to add the following.

Mr President, distinguished panellists,

We welcome the holding of this valuable discussion today as the management of public service is a critical link between duty bearers and rights-holders. The delivery of education, health, energy and other essential public services are crucial to the implementation of human rights. Therefore, human rights principles and standards must be promoted and instilled into the public service through human rights education and training.

Ireland is committed to continuing to provide support for human rights education and training domestically in order to enhance awareness and respect for human rights. Human rights issues are addressed at both primary and post-primary levels of the education system and there are human rights programmes in a number of third-level education institutions. Human rights also feature prominently in Police and Defence Forces training at all levels. The Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission provides training to civil and public servants on their human rights obligations.

Ireland is committed to ensuring public services are delivered in an effective and efficient manner within structures that are transparent, inclusive and accountable.

We note the conclusion of the Report by the High Commissioner on the role of the public service as an essential component of good governance that international efforts relating to public service improvement are fragmented across a number of international treaty regimes and organisations. There is a need for human rights-based policy coherence and coordination to support public service improvements globally.

We would like to ask the panellists their views on how the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development can enhance efforts to foster a human rights based approach to the delivery of public service and support public service improvements globally? This has already been touched on in the discussion, but perhaps the panellists could elaborate further.

Thank you.