

**Human Rights Council – 30<sup>th</sup> session**  
**(14 September – 2 October 2015)**

**Clustered interactive dialogue with the HRC Advisory Committee and**  
**Report of the IGWG on rights of peasants**

**22 September 2015**

**Statement by Ireland**

Mr. President

Ireland welcomes the Chair of the Advisory Committee and thanks him for his presentation today. Our comments in today's debate will be addressed to the Advisory Committee.

Mr President

Ireland considers that the Advisory Committee has the potential to play a very constructive role, as envisaged in its creation pursuant to HRC resolution 5/1 both as a think-tank and also working at the direction of the Council by way of studies, research-based advice and so on. The make-up of the Advisory Committee, including experts from different professional backgrounds as well as representing the various regions of the world, is well suited to this role. We are grateful to the current and former members for the commitment and expertise which they have brought to their roles to date.

However for this relationship between this Council and the Advisory Committee to work at its best, a number of points must be borne in mind.

First, it is important for the various *reports* of the Advisory Committee to be made available in good time for Council sessions. We regret that the report on the work of the 15<sup>th</sup> session was not available prior to [today], although we do recognise this is likely due to the timing of the Advisory Committee's sessions and in particular the August session. Nonetheless release even of an advance unedited text would facilitate this dialogue.

Second, it is important for the work of the Advisory Committee to be *relevant* to the work of the Council. We feel that there is an obligation on both the Advisory Committee and the Council in this respect and that there is room for improvement on both sides. For example, we recognise that the Committee does not always have the benefit of high levels of responses from States to questionnaires and other enquiries. Equally, we feel the track record of the Advisory Committee demonstrates that it is at its best and most constructive to the work of the HRC when providing studies and research on legal and technical issues.

Our questions to the Committee today build on these general points and are intended to assist in further enhancing the relationship between the Council and the Committee.

*Looking ahead to the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the HRC next year, we would be interested to hear any suggestions you may have on how the interaction between the Advisory Committee and the Council might be developed and enhanced.*

- *What measures would you like the Council to take to better support you?*
- *The same question goes for the role of individual States- how, if at all, would you like*

*us to better interact with you?*

- *And are there aspects of the Advisory Committee's methods of work which you would like to adjust?*

We look forward to continuing this dialogue and to cooperating with the Committee in the years ahead.

Thank you