Mr. President,

Ireland would like to warmly welcome both Special Rapporteurs and thank them for their reports and their presentations here today.

Firstly, turning to the Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women; your report is a very helpful overview of the important role regional mechanisms play in the promotion and protection of human rights and more specifically, in efforts to eliminate violence against women, particularly in relation to protection, prevention and accountability.

Violence against women remains a deeply disturbing global problem, affecting an estimated one in three women. It is rooted in gender inequality, both reflecting and reinforcing inequities between women and men. Ireland is particularly proud that the President of Ireland, Michael D. Higgins accepted the invitation UN Women to be one of 10 Champion World Leaders for UN Women’s HeForShe Campaign. The campaign focuses on engaging men and boys as ‘agents of change’ for achieving progress on gender equality and women’s rights.

Madam Special Rapporteur, you note in your report previous calls for a dedicated international instrument on violence against women and girls. How do you envisage such an instrument would assist States in fulfilling their existing international human rights obligations?

Turning now to the Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons,
Dr. Beyani,

Your report analysing the human rights of IDPs in the context of the post-2015 development agenda is a valuable and timely contribution. As you have outlined, the displacement experience is one of trauma, dependency and survival. With the average conflict-induced displacement lasting a shocking 17 years, ensuring a life of dignity for all must lie at the heart of durable solutions and sustainable development.

You highlight the need to improve methodologies and capacity of national statistical offices to ensure disaggregated data to inform appropriate programmes and solutions, and monitor progress over time. Could you outline any good examples at national or regional level of disaggregated data collection on, and profiling and needs assessments of, IDPs?