

**71st Session of the United Nations General Assembly
Third Committee**

**Interactive Dialogue with the Chair of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial
Discrimination**

**Statement by Ireland
1 November 2016**

Ireland is particularly pleased to welcome Ms. Crickley as the the first Irish person to lead a UN treaty body and welcomes the report of the CERD submitted to the General Assembly. We would like to express our appreciation of and full support to the work of the Chair and members of the Committee.

Ireland wishes to emphasize our opposition to all forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, and related intolerance.

Ireland welcomes the important role played by civil society and non-governmental organisations in their interactions with the work of the Committee and other treaty bodies and believes their role should be encouraged and protected. We would welcome the Chair's assessment of the extent to which "The Guidelines against Intimidation or Reprisals (the "San José Guidelines")" which aim to enhance the protection provided by treaty bodies to those who face reprisals for engaging with the international human rights regime are of assistance to work of the CERD?

Does the Chair believe that the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination has the mandate and resources to address the many dimensions and forms of racial discrimination and associated issues that continue to arise throughout the world?

Finally, Ireland wishes to enquire if Ms. Crickley believes that the current schedule where the Chair of CERD appears before this Committee every two years gives the officeholder adequate opportunity to report on the work of CERD?

Thank you.