

Universal Periodic Review working group – 19th session

Statement by Ireland on the review of Nicaragua

7 May 2014

Irlanda da la bienvenida a la delegación de Nicaragua y le agradece su presentación.
[Ireland welcomes the delegation of Nicaragua and thanks it for its presentation.]

Ireland commends Nicaragua for the adoption in 2012 of the Comprehensive Act against Violence towards Women (Act № 779), which represents notable progress for the protection of women. However, we are concerned about several amendments to the Act which were adopted in September 2013, including the introduction, in cases of violence against women, of the possibility of mediation between assaulted women and their aggressors. Ireland **recommends** that Nicaragua monitor the implementation of Act № 779 and provide instruction on the dynamics of violence against women to all persons participating in the mediation processes envisaged under the Act, in order to ensure the full protection of the rights of women.

We are concerned by reports of threats and harassment against journalists in relation to their work. For the full realisation of the right to freedom of expression it is essential for journalists and media workers to be able to work in a safe and enabling environment. Ireland **recommends** that Nicaragua investigate all allegations of threats and harassment against journalists and bring the perpetrators to justice.