

**Universal Periodic Review – 23<sup>rd</sup> session**

**Statement by Ireland on the review of Nauru**

**3 November 2015**

Ireland welcomes the delegation of Nauru and thanks it for presentation of its report.

Ireland welcomes Nauru's positive steps in relation to certain international instruments since its last Universal Periodic Review, particularly the ratification of the Convention against Torture in 2012 and the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture in 2013.

Ireland commends Nauru on making addressing domestic violence a national priority. However, Ireland is concerned by reports that domestic violence against women is increasing and that very few cases of domestic violence make it to court. It is important that violence against women is adequately covered in domestic law and that laws around domestic violence and rape ensure protection and redress for survivors and the prosecution of perpetrators. Ireland **recommends** that Nauru enact domestic violence legislation to ensure that women survivors of violence have legal protection from domestic violence.

With regard to the situation of detainees in Nauru, Ireland is concerned that minors kept in closed detention do not have access to adequate facilities or education. Furthermore, reports of physical and verbal assaults against unaccompanied refugee minors who are released into the Nauruan community are very worrying. Ireland **recommends** that Nauru ensure that minors have access to education in a safe environment in line with its obligations under the Convention on the Rights of the Child and other international human rights instruments.