

UPR Republic of Korea

Statement by Ireland

Thank you, Mr Vice President

Ireland welcomes the delegation of the Republic of Korea and thanks it for its presentation. Ireland commends the Republic of Korea on the progress made in implementing recommendations made during the second Universal Periodic Review held in 2012.

We regret however that members of the LGBTI community continue to face discrimination in the Republic of Korea, including those serving in the military. Ireland **recommends** that the Republic of Korea establish a timeline to present anti-discrimination legislation to the National Assembly, and repeal Article 92(6) of the Military Criminal Act to end restrictions on consensual same sex relations.

We welcome the *de facto* moratorium on the application of the death penalty which has now been in place since 1997. We express concern however that there remain 61 individuals on death row, and that efforts in the National Assembly to pass legislation on abolition of the death penalty have stalled. Ireland **recommends** that the Government issue an executive order to make the moratorium on the application of the death penalty official, and that the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights be ratified at early as possible.

Thank you.