Thank you, Mr. President

Ireland warmly welcomes the delegation of Tuvalu and thanks it for its presentation today.

Ireland welcomes the adoption in 2016 of the Tuvalu Human Rights National Action Plan 2016-2020. We also welcome the recent progress made in relation to the creation of a National Human Rights Institution and we would encourage the Government of Tuvalu to expedite its establishment in full compliance with the Paris Principles.

Ireland recognises positive recent developments in relation to corporal punishment, however we recommend that the Tuvalu government continue to work towards its abolition in all settings, and that awareness raising campaigns about the negative impact of corporal punishment on the development of children are undertaken.

Ireland notes that Tuvalu has not become a party to several of the core human rights treaties. Ireland recommends that the Government accelerate efforts to ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

Thank you.