

**32<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Universal Periodic Review**

**Review of Cyprus**

**Statement of Ireland**

**29 January 2019**

Thank you, Mr. President.

Ireland warmly welcomes the delegation of Cyprus and thanks it for its presentation today. Ireland acknowledges the efforts of Cyprus to advance human rights domestically and commends progress made since the last UPR cycle.

In particular, we welcome the prioritisation of the protection and promotion of women's rights and gender equality via the implementation of the New National Action Plan for Gender Equality 2018-2021.

Ireland also appreciates the work being undertaken to promote the integration of migrants into Cypriot society. However, Ireland is concerned by reports of the application of nationality laws to individuals from particular groups, and that these groups have encountered obstacles in attaining Cypriot citizenship despite meeting the legal requirements.

Ireland makes the following recommendations to the Cypriot authorities:

1. Ireland recommends that adequate measures are taken to ensure that the nationality laws are applied universally on the basis of clearly defined criteria;
2. Ireland recommends the adoption of a comprehensive anti-discrimination law prohibiting all direct, indirect and multiple forms of discrimination on any grounds and that provides for effective remedies for victims of discrimination, including within judicial and administrative proceedings.

We wish Cyprus every success with this UPR cycle

Thank you.