Check against delivery

Statement of Ireland

57th session of the Human Rights Council

Item 10: Interactive Dialogue with the Independent Expert on Somalia, Ms Isha Dyfan

07 October 2024

Ireland aligns with the statement of the EU and thanks the Independent Expert for her report. We appreciate the cooperation extended by the Federal Government of Somalia, including the facilitation of two country visits by the Independent Expert.

Ireland welcomes the news that the National Disability Bill has moved to the Senate stage and that a new process has been launched around the national reconciliation framework.

We are concerned, however, at the potential regression in the progress seen in recent years on gender equality. Women's political participation—including the 30% quota and at all levels of government, including the cabinet—is vital for Somalia's future. We also urge Somalia to uphold its commitments to addressing sexual and gender based violence including through its planned legislative programme.

Compliance of the security sector with human rights law is a prerequisite for stability and security. Ireland welcomes agreement on the human rights due diligence policy mechanism, and urges consideration of the Independent Expert's recommendations on the establishment of a civilian casualty tracking system and the removal of policing functions from the mandate of the National Intelligence and Security Agency, in line with international law.

How we can better support Somalia to fulfil its commitments to strengthen institutional structures for the protection of women's rights?