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Statement of Ireland

54th Session of the Human Rights Council

Interactive Dialogue with the International Commission of Human Rights Experts on Ethiopia

21 September 2023

Ireland aligns with the statement of the EU and thanks the Commissioners for their work and their detailed report.

Ireland welcomes the steps taken by Ethiopia, and the progress made in implementing the Permanent Cessation of Hostilities Agreement. Nevertheless, as reported by the High Commissioner and detailed in the Commission's report, persistent and grave human rights violations and abuses continue in many parts of Ethiopia including killings, displacement, and sexual and gender based violence. It is imperative that these violations and abuses are independently and impartially investigated and perpetrators held to account.

We fully support the strong commitment and work of the Government of Ethiopia to establish a transitional justice process. The development and implementation of a fair and effective transitional justice process, in line with international standards, is vital to achieving peace and stability and to addressing the root causes of conflict and violence in Ethiopia.

We commend the work of the Office of the High Commissioner, and pledge our continued support to the Office in the exercise of their vital mandate, including through close collaboration and partnership with the Ethiopian Human Rights Commission.

Commissioners, how can we most effectively support the development of a transitional justice process for the people of Ethiopia that fully embodies the four pillars of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence?