



**Statement of Ireland**  
**45<sup>th</sup> session of the UPR Working Group**

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Review of Central African Republic

**26 January 2024**

Ireland welcomes the delegation of the Central African Republic and thanks it for its presentation today.

Ireland notes the Central African Republic's efforts to address sexual and gender-based violence, including the publication of a national strategy to combat gender-based violence. However, Ireland is concerned about reports of gaps in implementing new legislation, leading to limited provision of assistance to victims of GBV.

Ireland is also concerned at the barriers to justice that many citizens still face, including an absence of judicial authorities and the limited capacity of courts across the country.

Ireland recommends that the Central African Republic:

1. Adopt legislation to provide legal assistance to victims lacking resources for legal representation, including survivors of sexual and gender-based violence;
2. Prevent and combat all forms of violence against women by establishing marital rape, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation as offences;
3. Take all necessary measures to promote and protect access to justice throughout the country, including an independent judiciary.

We wish Central African Republic every success in this UPR cycle. Thank you.