Interactive Dialogue with the Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender parity, Mr. Victor Madrigal-Borloz.

25 October 2018

Chair

Ireland aligns itself with the statement delivered on behalf of the EU. We wish to extend our appreciation to the Independent Expert for his presence here today and congratulate him on his appointment to work on this important mandate and assure him of our full support.

Ireland welcomes your appointment by the United Nations Human Rights Council as the second Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity. The creation of this role sent an important message of solidarity to the members of the LGBTI community and your appointment to continue the work of the mandate clearly indicates the importance of the role.

We thank the Independent Expert for his recent report which addresses the specific issue of recognition of gender identity by States. In 2015, the Irish Government passed the Gender Recognition Act. This gender recognition legislation provides a
process enabling trans people to achieve full legal recognition of their preferred gender and allows for the acquisition of a new birth certificate that reflects this change. This is an important step in ensuring that the human rights of all of our citizens are fully respected.

Your report recommends that States adopt laws and policies to address violence and discrimination based on gender identity, and that relevant communities and civil society organizations are involved in their design and implementation. Do you have any examples of best practice in this regard that you can share with this Committee?

Thank you