

**Universal Periodic Review– 24<sup>th</sup> session**  
**Statement by Ireland on the review of Mozambique**  
**19 January 2016**

Ireland welcomes the delegation of Mozambique and thanks it for its presentation.

Ireland welcomes progress made by Mozambique since its first UPR review. During its previous review, Mozambique accepted Ireland's recommendation to repeal legislation requiring the transfer of pregnant girls to night-time schools. We would be grateful if the delegation could elaborate on steps taken to implement this recommendation.

We welcome Mozambique's achievement of MDG Goal 4. However, we share Mozambique's concern that the current levels of child mortality remains high. Ireland **recommends** Mozambique continue to take action at all levels to address the interlinked root causes of preventable mortality and morbidity of children under 5 and consider applying the "*Technical guidance on the application of a human rights-based approach to the implementation of policies and programmes to reduce and eliminate preventable mortality and morbidity of children under 5 years of age*", A/HRC/27/31.

We note with concern that defamation is a criminal offence with a potential prison term of up to two years. Ireland **recommends** Mozambique decriminalise defamation and place it under the Civil Code in accordance with international standards.