



Statement of Ireland

40th session of the Human Rights Council

Dialogue with Amina Mohamed, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations

7 March 2019

Thank you, Mr President.

Building on the statement of the European Union, we warmly welcome Deputy Secretary-General Mohamed to Geneva today and thank her for her inspiring statement.

These opportunities to ensure a single perspective, be it expressed in New York or Geneva, are invaluable—especially on the centrality of human rights to the 2030 Agenda.

Ireland shares her view that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development provides the essential foundations for the future of our global community, and that accelerated delivery on our commitments must be rooted in a human rights-based approach.

The Agenda provides the over-arching framework for Ireland's new Development Policy—A Better World—published last week. It maps out Ireland's commitment to people-centred development cooperation, in line with the Government's commitment to reaching the UN target of allocating 0.7% of GNI to official development assistance by 2030.

Further, it outlines Ireland's global vision of a more equal, peaceful and sustainable world. It charts a clear way forward to achieve this vision, shaping and protecting our stability, our prosperity, our shared interests and our common future.

Implementation of the transformative agenda represented by the Sustainable Development Goals presents unprecedented challenges, but they must be embraced, and a human-rights based approach must be a central part of how we as States step up to those challenges.

The 2030 Agenda demands a wholly integrated approach to all our work: development and trade, peace and security, humanitarian action, climate, disarmament, based on our commitment to human rights and to gender equality. In the area of human rights, therefore, it is clear that we must spare no effort in integrating all the strands of our work both in Geneva and New York.

We would be interested in the views of the Deputy Secretary-General on how we can ensure that a human rights approach supports the effort of the system overall, including the wider reform agenda.

Thank you.