



Statement of Ireland

46th session of the Human Rights Council

Interactive dialogue with the Independent Expert on Mali

19 March 2021

Ireland aligns with the statement of the EU and thanks the Independent Expert for his report.

Ireland welcomes the progress made in establishing the transitional arrangements to ensure a return to constitutional order in Mali. We commend the commitment of ECOWAS and the African Union in addressing the crisis in the country and in supporting the political transition.

Ireland welcomes the commitment by the transitional authorities to implement the Agreement on Peace and Reconciliation in Mali, in particular the increased participation of women in the Agreement Monitoring Committee. However, a concerted effort is required by all sides to make real progress on implementation.

Ireland is deeply concerned by the deteriorating security and humanitarian situation in Mali and increased attacks on civilians. Impunity for human rights violations and abuses perpetrated by numerous actors, including national security forces remains a significant challenge. We call on the Malian authorities to take action, in line with the recommendations of the Independent Expert, to ensure all perpetrators of violations and abuses are held accountable.

The situation of women and girls in Mali is particularly worrying. We call on the Malian authorities to take specific measures to promote and protect the rights of women and girls, including by combating gender-based violence.

Mr. Tine, how can the international community best support the Malian authorities' efforts to end impunity?