



Statement of Ireland
42nd session of the UPR Working Group

Review of the Republic of Ghana

24 January 2023

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

Ireland notes Ghana's efforts to advance human rights and commends progress made in relation to sexual and reproductive health and rights.

Ireland is concerned regarding legislation that targets and discriminates against LGBTI+ persons, specifically legislation that criminalises 'unnatural carnal knowledge'. Ireland is also concerned about the *Promotion of Proper Human Sexual Rights and Ghanaian Family Values Bill, 2021* currently under discussion, which if adopted, would further marginalise LGBTI+ persons. We urge Ghana to take into account its international human rights obligations when considering this Bill.

Ireland recommends Ghana:

1. Repeal section 104(1)(b) of the Criminal and Other Offences Act 1960.
2. Prioritise development of the National Human Rights Action Plan within the next reporting cycle, and continue efforts to strengthen existing structures to coordinate, develop, implement, and monitor the NHRAP.

We wish Ghana every success in this UPR cycle.