



Statement of Ireland

42nd session of the UPR Working Group

Review of Zambia

30 January 2023

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

Ireland recognises Zambia's efforts to advance human rights domestically and commends the progress made since the last UPR cycle.

We particularly welcome the removal of the death penalty and the offence of criminal defamation of the President from Zambia's penal code.

Ireland remains concerned by ongoing restrictions on civil society in Zambia, as well as the prevalence of sexual and gender-based violence and harmful practices such as child and forced marriage.

Ireland recommends Zambia:

1. Amend the Cyber Security and Cyber Crimes Act and proceed with ongoing reforms of the Public Order Act to ensure the legislative framework does not impede fundamental rights and freedoms, such as freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and association.
2. Strengthen measures to prevent and combat sexual and gender-based violence including by implementing in full the provisions of the Anti-Gender Based Violence Act (2011) and the Gender Equity and Equality Act (2015).

We wish Zambia every success in this UPR cycle.

