

Universal Periodic Review – 23rd Session

Statement by Ireland on the review of Oman

5 November 2015

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

Ireland notes that during its 2011 Universal Periodic Review, Oman pledged to “review its relevant legal framework to safeguard the legitimate exercise of freedom of expression”. Ireland is concerned about recent reports of arrests of human rights defenders and journalists and calls on Oman to take further steps to protect and support civil society organisations in line with its 2011 pledge.

Ireland is concerned by reports of discrimination against women in law and practice, in relation to divorce, inheritance, child custody and legal guardianship of children, and in particular the Omani Citizenship law which imposes strict conditions for Omani women who are married to non-Omani men to confer citizenship on their children.

Ireland recommends that Oman take measures to protect rights activists and remove any impediments to the work of political opposition parties, human rights groups, and other independent civil society organizations.

Ireland recommends that Oman ends discrimination in law and practice against women and girls, including by allowing women to pass their nationality onto their children in an equal manner with men.

