



Statement of Ireland
36th session of the UPR Working Group

Review of Maldives

4 November 2020

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

Ireland acknowledges efforts to advance human rights domestically and commends progress made since the last UPR cycle.

However, Ireland remains concerned about reports of impunity for acts of violence against non-Muslims and non-believers and the criminalisation of apostasy and blasphemy and encourages the Maldives to ensure full respect for freedom of religion or belief for all.

Ireland makes the following recommendations:

1. Adopt a formal moratorium on the death penalty while moving towards abolition of the death penalty for all crimes. While Ireland welcomes the Maldives' de-facto 65-year moratorium, we are gravely concerned at the continued sentencing of juveniles to the death penalty
2. Provide adequate gender-sensitive training to all judges to ensure effective implementation of gender equality legislation and the Domestic Violence Prevention Act, and ensure all judicial proceedings conform to international fair trial standards.

We wish the Maldives every success with this UPR cycle.

Thank you.