

**CCM 11MSP, 11 -14 September 2023**

**Geneva**

Transparency measures

Thank you Mr. President,

First I would like to thank the coordinator, The Gambia, for their update on Article 7 transparency reports and your continued efforts throughout the intersessional period.

Article 7 reporting is a legal obligation for all States Parties. Progress in the implementation of the Lausanne Action Plan can only be adequately assessed when Article 7 reports are updated annually. As other colleagues have highlighted, the persistent low annual reporting rate is lamentable, including this year where only 58 of the expected 102 annual reports have been submitted.

Article 7 reporting should not be seen as a burden but a tool for effectively implementing the Convention. Further concerted effort must be made to ensure all States Parties are submitting their initial reports, and to ensure that affected countries report annually on progress.

Perhaps one of the most effective measures for ensuring that affected states report annually, as mentioned in Action 46 of the LAP, is for States Parties to seek assistance from relevant partners such as other States Parties, the ISU, UN agencies and civil society. Those in a position to do so should also consider to proactively share best practices in gathering information nationally.

Ireland believes that the LAP goes a long way in mainstreaming gender and diverse needs throughout the convention, and these associated commitments should be adequately reflected in the Article 7 reporting forms. To this end, we welcome the amendments made to the reporting template, in particular through the inclusion of Form J on gender and diversity of populations, as well as the additions found in form G and H. These amendments will help measure our progress towards ensuring that activities carried out under the Convention are commensurate with the commitments collectively undertaken through the Lausanne Action Plan.

We further welcome the other additional amendments to the reporting template, and look forward to their adoption by the conference, and once again thank the efforts of the Gambia on this important work.

Thank you Mr. President