



Coimisiún na hÉireann um Chearta  
an Duine agus Comhionannas  
Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission

His Excellency Noel White,  
Ambassador of the Permanent Mission of Ireland to the United Nations, Geneva  
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19 September 2024

Dear Ambassador,

As you are aware, we are Ireland's National Human Rights Institution (NHRI) and National Equality Body. We are a member of the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI), which represents more than 110 NHRIs and provides leadership in the promotion and protection of human rights around the world. As a member of GANHRI, we are calling for your support in relation to two significant resolutions relating to national human rights institutions, which are being presented for discussion and adoption at the 57<sup>th</sup> session of the Human Rights Council, currently taking place in Geneva.

One resolution initiative is focusing on **national human rights institutions (NHRI) and the rights of persons with disabilities**. The resolution welcomes and recognises the unique role and contributions of NHRIs in promoting and protecting the rights of persons with disabilities, whether designated under article 33 II of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) or not. The resolution also serves to renew the international community's support for the establishment and strengthening of independent, pluralistic and



effective NHRIs in line with the Paris Principles, and their protection, and calls on the United Nation system to increase support to NHRIs and their network activities. As an NHRI that is currently establishing the systems and processes required to effectively execute our mandated functions under Article 33 of the UNCPRD, we are acutely aware of the value of the cooperation, support and exchange of information among NHRIs and International Organisations, and we encourage your support for this continued practice. This initiative is led by Australia and Timor Leste, under item 8 of the Human Rights Council's agenda.

The other resolution initiative is focusing on **national human rights institutions and national monitoring, implementation, review and follow up mechanisms (NMIRF)**. It sets out the complementary roles and contributions of NHRIs and NMIRFs in supporting states implement their human rights obligations, and calls on OHCHR to strengthen its technical capacity building support to both NHRIs and NMIRFs. It also calls on the Human Rights Council to host a panel debate in September 2025 on how NHRIs and NMIRFs promote implementation of human rights by states. In our recent mid-term report on Ireland's progress in implementing the recommendations from the Universal Periodic Review, we called for the State to establish a permanent National Mechanism for Implementation, Reporting and Follow-Up in Ireland. This resolution initiative is led by Thailand, and a core group of Member States: Brazil, Honduras, Indonesia, Morocco, Norway, Qatar, Singapore and Turkey, under item 10 of the Human Rights Council's agenda.

We, along with GANHRI, view these two processes as important opportunities to support NHRIs worldwide and showcase their important contributions to the promotion and protection of human rights, in line with the Paris Principles.

Therefore, I respectfully request you to consider supporting the initiatives and kindly ask you to consider formalising your support to both resolutions through co-sponsorship.

I am grateful for your positive consideration of the above and remain available to discuss this matter at your convenience. We are also writing to the Minister for Foreign Affairs in relation to supporting these important initiatives.



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In line with our publications policy, this email will be published on our website. This policy only pertains to IHREC-issued communications, and not to correspondence received by us.

I look forward to hearing from you and thank you in advance for your consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Deirdre Malone  
Director  
Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission