

## Seventh session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention

Geneva, 18-20 October 2021

### Statements by Ireland

Item 3 (c) / 7 (c) - *Draft decision VII/9 on a rapid response mechanism to deal with cases related to article 3 (8) of the Convention*

“ We look forward to the Meeting of the Parties adopting the draft decision on a Rapid Response Mechanism to deal with cases related to article 3(8) of the Aarhus Convention and the protection of environmental defenders. Ireland is pleased to join our Austrian friends as joint lead country and we are committing to the funding of 50% of the running costs of the proposed Rapid Response Mechanism, over the next 4 years.”

Item 3 (f) - *Draft decision VII/8 (i) on compliance by Ireland*

“Ireland wishes to thank the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee for their work over the past intersessional period, we would like to take this opportunity to thank the chair and the outgoing members of the Committee for their dedication and commitment. We acknowledge the findings of the Committee and note that we are committed to bringing Ireland fully into compliance. Work is on-going on these measures and we look forward to communicating their progress to the Compliance Committee at the earliest possible date.”