

Oral Statement at the 57th Session of the Human Rights Council

Item 6: UPR Outcomes of Uruguay

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Mr. President

Edmund Rice International welcomes the response of the Government of Uruguay in the outcomes document of its 4th cycle UPR. We share concerns raised by many states in their recommendations and subsequently supported by Uruguay. We recommend that Uruguay:

- 1. Step up efforts to combat child marriage, working on the bill raising the minimum age for marriage to 18 years old and end child poverty (recommendations 125.116 and 138).
- 2. Continue its efforts to promote inclusive education for all children focusing on integrating human rights education and ensuring equitable access for all. Adopt measures to combat school dropout, especially among girls (recommendations 125.155 to 160)
- 3. Strengthen institutional and legislative frameworks aimed at protecting children against violence, the elimination of child labour and the prohibition of corporal punishment and humiliation of children in schools and educational institutions (recommendations 125.231 to 237).
- 4. Adopt a comprehensive, child-centred, rights-based and gender-sensitive strategy to combat the sale and trafficking, sexual exploitation and abuse of children (recommendation 125.227)
- 5. Allocate the necessary financial and human resources to implement Act No. 19.580 in order to intensify efforts to prevent, combat and eradicate all forms of violence against women and girls including domestic violence and sexual violence. Conduct human rights awareness programmes for law enforcement, with a view to providing appropriate support to victims of gender-based violence, in partnership with OHCHR or relevant partners (recommendations 125.183 to 207)
- **6.** Undertake full, effective and timely implementation of the 2018 Mental Health Law nationwide, to expand mental health services. The Notional Mental Health Plan 2020-2027 emphasizes the need to promote healthy life habits and strengthen the main psychosocial resources in the population with emphasis on children and adolescents (recommendations 125.141 to 144).

Thank you.