

## **Joint Statement on Adoption of UN Security Council Resolution 2642**

We welcome the adoption of Resolution 2642, which will extend the critical UN cross border humanitarian assistance operation between Türkiye and North West Syria for six months, until January 2023, with a further extension of an additional six months subject to another Resolution by the Council.

Since joining the Security Council in 2021, Ireland and Norway have worked closely together as co-leads on the Syria humanitarian file. In this role, we have led very challenging negotiations on the extension of the mandate for the cross border operation. We have consulted broadly and been frank and open when engaging with a number of stakeholders and humanitarian actors. When we visited the operation at Bab al-Hawa in June, we saw first-hand the fantastic work being done by the UN and other humanitarian actors. This operation, with around 800 trucks of supplies each month, provides a crucial lifeline for over 4 million people in need in North West Syria. We are pleased that, thanks to this Resolution, this vital work can continue, although we had wished for a longer extension of this important mandate.

Ultimately, we all want to reach a point in Syria where humanitarian assistance is no longer necessary. We continue to strongly support the efforts of the UN, led by Special Envoy Pedersen, to bring a sustainable end and political solution to this terrible conflict, and we urge all parties to engage urgently and seriously with his effort.