



UK Mission to the
United Nations
in Geneva

33

Delivered by: Bob Last

United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland National Statement

Universal Periodic Review – Algeria

Thank you Madam President

The United Kingdom welcomes the improvements on human rights in Algeria and its willingness to discuss ongoing challenges.

We note positive steps towards safeguarding human rights in several areas including treatment of prisoners, legislation and the removal of the state of emergency.

We are encouraged by the law to improve participation of women in public life and the Algerian Government's interaction with religious groups to listen to their grievances and take action where necessary. However, we note concerns about the implementation of religious laws at a local government level, including delays in the judicial process.

A number of challenges also remain including in the areas of freedom of association and freedom of expression, where domestic legislation is not in conformity with Algeria's international human rights obligations.



UK Mission to the
United Nations
in Geneva

We note that several UN Special Rapporteurs have requested visits
Algeria. When will the government facilitate these visits?

We welcome the Algerian Government's ongoing moratorium on the
death penalty since 1993 and encourage them to abolish it.

We have 2 recommendations

1. Prior to the next elections in 2014, review legislation in the areas of
freedom of expression, association, assembly and religion to ensure full
compatibility with Algeria's international obligations.
2. Respond favourably to UN Special Rapporteurs' outstanding visit
requests and facilitate them where necessary.

Thank you Madam President