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**United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland  
National Statement**

**Universal Periodic Review – Tunisia**

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Thank you Madam President,

We welcome the establishment of Tunisia's first democratic government and commencement of a new Constitution. The UK welcomes the Government of Tunisia's commitment to human rights and intention to pursue reforms. We welcome its accession to several key international human rights instruments.

The UK submitted a number of advanced questions and we look forward to a response.

We recognise the challenges that remain for the Tunisian authorities, particularly in security sector reform, judicial reform and the need to repeal or amend remaining repressive laws.

We have 2 **recommendations**:

1. To set out how the government intends to guarantee the independence of the judiciary and the transparency of its processes and hierarchy.
2. To quickly create an independent monitoring body in line with OPCAT ratification, that would allow NGOs access to prisons, in addition to UNHCHR and ICRC who already have access, and contribute to preventing torture in places of detention.

Thank you Madam President.