

61

Please check against the delivery

**Statement made by Pakistan during the review of the United Kingdom  
during the 13<sup>th</sup> session of the UPR Working Group, 24 May 2012, Geneva**

Madam President,

Pakistan welcomes the delegation of the UK to its UPR and wishes to congratulate ..... for providing a comprehensive update on the situation of human rights in the country.

The frank manner in which the UK has welcomed this opportunity to scrutinize its human rights record through open dialogue is in line with the true spirit of the UPR mechanism.

The Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief, during her last country mission to the UK, had noticed that school children in Northern Ireland were often targets of abuse or physical attacks owing to their religious affiliation. We would like to know the measures taken by the government to improve the situation on the ground in this regard.

Madam President,

The UK hosts diverse communities with a wide range of national, cultural, racial and religious backgrounds. But these diverse communities are facing challenges in maintaining their identity and culture. We note with concern that the report fails to comment on the efforts of the government for the promotion and protection of cultural rights in the country. We are of the view that in a diverse society like the UK, the government must be more proactive in promoting State multiculturalism. We recommend that the UK intensify its efforts to promote multiculturalism at all levels.

With regard to human rights and counter-terrorism, we recommend that the law enforcement authorities put an end to stop and search practices based on religious and ethnic profiling.

We recognize the long-standing commitment of the British government for promoting development and the reduction of poverty in several developing countries. However, as indicated in report, the UK associates the right to development simply with ODA. We recommend that the UK play an effective role to operationalize the right to development at the international level.

We agree with the observation made in the UK's national report that the targeted and proportionate use of containment is required as a key police tactic to manage risks of violence and disorder at peaceful protests. We would appreciate it if the UK could share its experience in taking those measures that could be helpful in minimizing the risk to incite violence during peaceful protests.

I thank you.

\* \* \* \* \*

Speaking Time: 1:53

Speaking Slot: 64