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STATEMENT OF VIET NAM

during the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) on the United Kingdom at the 13th session of the UPR Working Group of the Human Rights Council

Madam President,

My delegation would like to welcome the high-level delegation of the United Kingdom, headed by His Excellency Mr. , and thanks him for the presentation of the country's report today. We also commend significant achievements by the UK during its UPR recommendations' implementation.

While taking a positive note of the UK's commitment to reform the benefit system in order to make it fairer and more affordable for all, we remain concerned about the current austerity measures imposed by the UK's Government which not only damage the economic growth but also may impact unfavorably on social vulnerable groups like women, children, people with poverty or disabilities and migrants. We are of the view that the unequal distribution of social welfare is the first and foremost root of all social disorder. And the 2011 riots gave us a bitter but necessary lesson.

Madam President,

Given the principle that all human beings should be treated equally, we would like to make the following recommendations for the UK delegation's consideration:

1/ To provide more resources for reforming the welfare system in order to make it better able to tackle poverty, worklessness and reduce unfavorable impact to social vulnerable groups;

2/ To strengthen national and local policies and measures to protect migrants, especially foreign workers.

I thank you, Madam President.