

United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland National Statement

Universal Periodic Review - ARGENTINA

Thank you Madam President,

The UK welcomes the Argentine delegation to the Human Rights Council and thanks them for presenting their national report.

The British government welcomes the progress Argentina has made towards implementing a number of earlier UPR recommendations.

New laws for guaranteeing access for people with disabilities, and migration law 25.871, are a welcome step forward. However, further efforts are needed to ensure their full implementation.

Following the signature of the Optional Protocol on the Convention Against Torture in 2004, the British government welcomes the approval in 2011 by the lower house of congress for the implementation of a national mechanism, and calls for the act to be fully approved in the Senate.

Reports also suggest that violence against women continues to be a concern. The lack of official statistics to measure all complaints of domestic violence, makes it difficult to assess the situation. We believe that Argentina's efforts in this area, and in promoting human rights more generally, would benefit from increased provision, and access to, information for civil society and the general public.

We would like to make the following two recommendations:

- To establish or give a mandate to a Government body to collect and publish credible official data measuring all incidences of violence against women;

- To establish a national mechanism for implementation of OPCAT, including through securing Senate approval in 2012;

Thank you Madam President.