



UK Mission to the
United Nations
in Geneva

Ms Teresa Léngne
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United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland National Statement

Universal Periodic Review Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia January 2014

Thank you Mr President,

The UK welcomes the election of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to the Human Rights Council, and looks forward to its constructive contribution to this body.

The Ohrid Framework Agreement (OFA) is an important and effective tool for managing and improving interethnic relations. But the UK is concerned that the necessary review of this Framework is not yet complete and that the recommended improvements therefore are delayed.

The UK is also concerned about the continuing trend in the polarisation and opaque financing of the media. It is vital that the dialogue between the government and media resumes a constructive course as soon as possible.

We have **two recommendations**:

- That the Government completes the review of the Ohrid Framework Agreement and implements its recommendations by mid-2014;
- That the Government, in cooperation with the media, implements the agreed action plan within the dialogue between the Government and the media community on improvement of media freedoms.

Thank you Mr President.