

Jane, McLaughlin

HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN URUGUAY – UK STATEMENT

Mr President, I would like to welcome the delegation of Uruguay to its UPR.

The UK welcomes the ongoing emphasis given by the Uruguayan Government to human rights issues, which is underlined by their considerable efforts to ensure their Treaty Body reporting is up to date. ~~We also welcome the answers to our advance questions just supplied by the delegation of Uruguay.~~

We are pleased to note that since Uruguay's last review a number of the recommendations have been reflected in Uruguay's legislation and human rights structures. We particularly welcome the fact that a National Human Rights Institute has now been established. We hope that this body will have sufficient autonomy and authority to advance the respect for human rights in Uruguay.

have 2 recommendations for Uruguay

We recommend that:

firstly, that

1. Uruguay make a priority of passing a revised penal code.

This will make the justice system more democratic, transparent and efficient, bringing it in line with international standards. It will also help reduce the high rates of preventive and pre-trial detention and prison overcrowding.

secondly, that

2. Uruguay take all necessary policing and other measures to prevent and provide protection against all forms of discrimination, violence and harassment related to sexual and gender identity, and, to ensure that perpetration of such violence is vigorously investigated and that perpetrators are held accountable.

Thank you.