



UK Mission to the
United Nations
in Geneva

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United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland National Statement

Universal Periodic Review – Vietnam

Thank you Mr President,

The UK welcomes Vietnam's recent signature of the Convention against Torture and its election to the UN Human Rights Council. This is an important opportunity to demonstrate Vietnam's sincere commitment to championing human rights at home and abroad. The establishment this year of an independent national human rights institution in accordance with Paris Principles would be a signal of this sincerity.

The UK is concerned about restrictions on freedom of expression and notes recent trends to control the internet. We encourage Vietnam to meet its ICCPR obligations, ensuring all citizens have the right to freedom of expression and assembly without fear of harassment or imprisonment.

The UK is also concerned that Vietnam resumed executions in 2013. We urge an official moratorium on the use of the death penalty.

We have 2 recommendations:

- Issue a standing invite to all Special Procedures,

AND

- Reduce the number of crimes punishable by death by December 2014.

Thank you Mr President.