



UK Mission to the  
United Nations  
in Geneva

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## United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland Statement

### Universal Periodic Review – Costa Rica April 2014

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Thank you Mr President,

The UK welcomes the Costa Rican delegation and thanks them for their continuing commitment to human rights.

We welcome Costa Rica's ongoing emphasis on protecting children from abuse through the new legislation on child pornography and urge Costa Rica to ensure that all offenders are prosecuted to the full extent of the law without impunity.

We encourage Costa Rica to further develop the work undertaken to date on strengthening women's rights and safeguarding them against domestic violence, particularly in rural areas.

We encourage Costa Rica to embed LGBT rights in Costa Rican law and to further reduce discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender individuals.

We have **two recommendations**:

- First, that Costa Rica ensure the full prosecution of all forms of trafficking and modern slavery of children so as to deliver on its commitment to eliminate the worst forms of child labour by 2015 and all forms of child labour by 2020, paying particular attention to persons from minority groups and in vulnerable situations.
- Second, that Costa Rica introduce legislation to create a legal and permanent basis for the 'Defensoria de los Habitantes' set up to protect human rights defenders, including providing it with an adequate budget and financial autonomy.

Thank you Mr President.