



UK Mission to the  
United Nations  
in Geneva

JAMES AYRE  
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**United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland  
Statement**

**Universal Periodic Review – Plurinational State of Bolivia  
October 2014**

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Mr President,

The United Kingdom welcomes the progress made by the Plurinational State of Bolivia since its UPR in 2010, including the ratification of key international human rights treaties. We recognise the continued emphasis given by the Government of Bolivia to addressing poverty and inequality, as well as the rights enshrined in the 2009 Constitution. Whilst we are aware of the action taken as a result of the recommendations made at the 2010 Universal Periodic Review and the ambitious programme of legislation which Bolivia has enacted over this period, the United Kingdom urges that further progress on implementation of these laws and adherence to international human rights norms be made.

The United Kingdom welcomes the creation of the Torture Prevention Service (SEPRET) as a national preventative mechanism, but we urge Bolivia to ensure that it is fully independent of the Ministry of Justice, and that the definition of torture in national legislation is consistent with international law.

We have two recommendations to Bolivia:

1. To take steps, including allocating adequate resources, to strengthen the capacity and independence of the judiciary to improve the fair and timely administration of justice.
2. To take steps to improve prison conditions, by reducing overcrowding in line with UN Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners; implement alternatives to detention; ensure access to a timely trial for those on remand; and address the issue of children living with parents in prison.

Thank you Mr. President.