



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 – El Salvador October 2014

Thank you Mr President,

The United Kingdom thanks the Government of El Salvador for its detailed national report and commitment to the UPR process. We applaud El Salvador's decision to ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming to the abolition of the death penalty; and ask that it consider changing national legislation to allow it to withdraw its reservation.

The UK welcomes El Salvador's progress on health, children and women's rights; including the enactment of the 2011 Act on equality, fairness and elimination of discrimination against women. We encourage El Salvador to ensure consistent implementation, funding and enforcement of this Act and of International Covenants. We suggest that El Salvador continues to improve the treatment of women who have abortions or miscarriages.

El Salvador has made considerable progress protecting the human rights of its people since the end of the civil war in 1992. We urge the Government to put in place measures to protect files that contain evidence of human rights abuses and violations during the civil war.

The UK has **two recommendations**:

1. That El Salvador ensures that all women, especially the young, have access to contraception and an anonymous, non-discriminatory and confidential sexual and reproductive health service.
2. That the Government improves the transparency and efficiency of its judicial system; ensuring a fair, open and prompt process for all sectors of society.