



UK Mission to the  
United Nations  
in Geneva

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

**Universal Periodic Review – Kuwait  
January 2015**

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Thank you, Mr President,

We recognise progress since the last review, notably the new child and family laws that have been implemented, as well as the focus on disability law reform.

Kuwait has repeatedly and successfully held free and fair elections. However, we remain concerned about the continued lack of gender equality.

We have two recommendations:

1. Enact as a matter of priority a new media law guaranteeing freedom of expression, particularly on social media, allowing people to express views without fear of retribution and with defamation covered under a civil rather than criminal code.
2. Swiftly implement its strategic plan to resolve the issue of stateless individuals in Kuwait, by providing a transparent system in which individuals whose nationality and status is unresolved can either rightfully attain Kuwaiti nationality or otherwise regularise their situation.

Thank you, Mr President.