



UK Mission to the
United Nations
in Geneva

Ms Teresa Lévine

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

**Universal Periodic Review – Nepal
November 2015**

Thank you, Mr President,

The UK welcomes Nepal to the UPR. The adoption of the new Constitution marks a milestone for Nepal. We were pleased to see the adoption of 31 rights, including on the rights of women and Dalits and look forward to seeing these implemented. However, we have concerns about discrimination against women in the citizenship provisions. We note with concern violence and deaths during protests following the adoption of the Constitution, and urge the Government to ensure independent investigations.

We note some progress on the UK's previous recommendations including on Transitional Justice Mechanisms. However, serious concerns remain about amnesty provisions, and time limits that could inhibit the filing of complaints. No legislation has been adopted to criminalise torture, and the draft Bill is not in line with international standards.

We recognise the steps taken to address violence and discrimination against women and girls but encourage further implementation of the National Action Plans and increased action to reduce the high numbers of child, early or forced marriages.

We recommend:

1. Remove, or at least extend, the 35-day statute of limitations for reporting rape cases.
2. Strengthen the rule of law by establishing an independent complaints commission capable of investigating and prosecuting complaints against the security forces.

Thank you, Mr President.