



UK Mission to the
United Nations
in Geneva

15

United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland Statement

Universal Periodic Review – Palau January 2016

Thank you, Mr President,

We congratulate the Government on its insightful national report and are pleased to note the consultation of civil society in its preparation.

We welcome the acknowledgement by the Government of Palau of the growing problem of human trafficking, including forced prostitution and labour, and its efforts to tackle the issue. We call for a particular focus on safeguarding Palauan children from being forced into prostitution.

We are concerned by continued reports of abuses committed against foreign nationals working and residing in Palau. The UK calls on the Government of Palau to review policies on foreign nationals, to afford them increased protection and to take credible action to address incidents of discrimination, maltreatment and reported crimes against them.

We have two recommendations:

1. Extend existing legislation to protect the rights of the LGBTI community including the recognition of same sex couples and anti-discrimination employment laws.
2. Become party to the 1954 and 1961 UN Statelessness Conventions, and take all steps necessary to implement their content.

Thank you, Mr President.