



UK Mission to the  
United Nations  
in Geneva

## United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland Statement

### Universal Periodic Review – Somalia January 2016

---

Thank you, Mr President,

We welcome action taken to improve the human rights situation since Somalia's last UPR, including the establishment of the Ministry of Women and Human Rights and the adoption of the National Human Rights Road Map.

However, given the security environment, Somalia's wider human rights situation remains of grave concern.

Attacks against civilians and endemic sexual violence must end in order for all Somalis to realise their human rights. The UK stands ready to help Somalia achieve this reality.

Also of concern is the targeting of journalists with complete impunity. Freedom of expression is vital for active and inclusive participation in this year's electoral process.

We have two recommendations:

1. Ensure effective implementation of the National Action Plan to End Sexual Violence in Conflict, including through frequent meetings of the Steering Committee;
2. Implement legislative instruments in a manner that ensures full freedom of expression, leading to active and genuine civil society participation in the electoral and state building processes.

Thank you, Mr President