

  **EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS & PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS**

 **AMBASSADE DE LA REPUBLIQUE DE MAURICE ET MISSION PERMANENTE AUPRES DES NATIONS UNIES**

 **ET DES AUTRES ORGANISATIONS INTERNATIONALES**

**UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NOTHERN IRELAND, 4 MAY 2017**

**STATEMENT BY THE REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS**

Mr President,

Mauritius welcomes the UK delegation and the UK’s engagement in the UPR process.

We take note of the UK’s strong commitment to human rights. In that regard, we expect the UK to comply fully with its human rights obligations.

As regards paragraph 98 of the UK’s UPR Report, we wish to point out that the UK’s denial of the right of Mauritians, particularly those of Chagossian origin to resettle in the Chagos Archipelago, from where they were forcibly removed is in breach of international law and constitutes a blatant violation of human rights.

On the said paragraph, we also reiterate that the Chagos Archipelago, including Diego Garcia, forms an integral part of the territory of Mauritius under both Mauritian law and international law.  Mauritius does not recognise the so-called "British Indian Ocean Territory".

As a recommendation, we urge the UK to take appropriate measures, including completion of the decolonisation process of Mauritius and respect the legitimate right of resettlement of the Chagossians, aimed at bringing the UK into full compliance with its human rights obligations.

We wish the UK a successful UPR.

Thank you, Mr. President.