*Please check against the Delivery*

**Remarks by Mr. Qazi Saleem, Second Secretary during the Review of United Kingdom’s Third National Report on UPR**

**(4 May 2017)**

Mr. President,

We welcome the delegation of United Kingdom for the presentation of its UPR report and note with appreciation its active engagement at the HRC and its participation in all human rights mechanisms. We hope that UK would continue to make efforts to implement recommendations received.

We commend adoption of a number of laws, including Modern Slavery Act 2015, The Children and Families Act 2014 and the Welfare Reform and Work Act 2016. We also appreciate UK’s continued efforts to promote rights of women, children, disabled and the elderly.

Can the UK Government share its plans regarding implementation of Bill of Rights for Northern Ireland recommended by various UN Human Rights Committees.

We note with concern that racial discrimination and religious profiling and hate crimes against vulnerable groups, including minorities and migrants are on the rise in UK and in this regard welcome the launch of a new Hate Crime Action Plan in 2016. We encourage UK to tackle hate crime in communities, increase reporting and improve the service to victims and witnesses. We would like to recommend the following:

1. Withdraw reservations from International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR); and

2. Prosecute perpetrators of hate crimes against vulnerable groups.

I thank you.