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

**Statement**

**46th Universal Periodic Review – Comoros**

**Thursday 2 May 2024**

Thank you, Mr. Vice President,

The UK welcomes continued efforts to improve Comoros’ human rights situation, particularly efforts to improve maternal and child mortality rates, women’s rights and combating violence against women.

However, we note the allegations of fraud in relation to Comoros’ recent elections, which has damaged public confidence. We also remain concerned about continued restrictions to civic space and media freedom.  
  
We welcome positive provisions in Comoros’ Family Code but remain concerned by the continued lack of rights and protections for the LGBT+ community; and the continued practice of child marriage.

**We recommend that Comoros:**

1. Take concrete steps based on open and inclusive public consultations to improve confidence in its electoral institutions, ahead of elections in 2025.
2. Remove restrictions on civic space, including the requirement for prior approval of peaceful demonstrations.
3. Repeal legislation criminalising homosexuality and ensure equal rights and protections for members of the LGBT+ community in Comoros.

Thank you.