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

**Statement**

**45th Universal Periodic Review – Cyprus**

**Tuesday 30 April 2024**

Thank you, Mr Vice-President,

The UK recognises progress made by Cyprus on human rights, including in the area of women’s rights through approval of the 2024-2026 Strategy on Equality between Women and Men.

The UK also commends the steps taken by Cyprus to tackle corruption, including the 2022 adoption of an updated legal framework to fight corruption and the establishment of the Independent Authority Against Corruption.

**We recommend that Cyprus:**

1. Strengthen cooperation with key international and non-government institutionsto provide protection and assistance to refugees and asylum seekers.
2. Take further steps to tackle the rise of domestic violence, violence against women and sexual assault including through consistent and adequate investigation of sexual harassment complaints.
3. Ensure fair and full consideration to requests by its Muslim community to renovate and repair functioning Mosques, and to requests for temporary use of alternative Mosques during festivals.

Thank you.