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

**Statement**

**37th Universal Periodic Review – St Lucia**

**20 January 2021**

Thank you.

The United Kingdom welcomes St Lucia’s engagement with the UPR process, and its progress on human rights. Such progress includes its work towards a Domestic Violence Bill, which we encourage St Lucia to pass into legislation as quickly as possible, as well as taking further practical steps to reduce domestic violence against women, men and children.

The UK welcomes St Lucia’s positive approach towards media freedom and we urge the government to ensure its correctional system meets international human rights standards.

We recommend that St Lucia:

1. Increase efforts to eliminate human trafficking, including by improving effectiveness of victim identification and support, and improving efforts to investigate, prosecute and sentence traffickers.
2. Adopt an open, merit-based process when selecting national candidates for UN Treaty Body elections.
3. Enact comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation which will specifically prohibit discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity.

Thank you.