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

**Statement**

**37th Universal Periodic Review – São Tomé and Príncipe**

**27 January 2021**

Thank you,

The United Kingdom recognises São Tomé and Príncipe’s efforts to protect human rights through the ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and its Optional Protocol aiming at the abolition of the death penalty.

The UK commends São Tomé and Príncipe for the delivery of peaceful elections in 2018 and encourages a free and transparent electoral process in accordance with international human rights standards for the Presidential elections this year.

We recommend that São Tomé and Príncipe:

1. Eliminate all forms of child labour as set out under the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention (C182) through the implementation of the National Action Plan.
2. Implement the commitment made at the Nairobi Summit on ICPD25 to achieve zero unmet needs for family planning by 2030 and increase the prevalence of contraception from 41% to 50% as stated in the National Family Planning Strategic Plan.
3. Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Thank you.