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

**Statement**

**41st Universal Periodic Review – Tunisia**

**Tuesday 8th November 2022**

Thank you, Mr President,

The 2011 revolution secured unprecedented fundamental rights and freedoms for Tunisians. These gains must be protected.

Many rights enshrined in the post-revolution constitution remain in the Constitution that was adopted this year. However, we note with concern an increasing trend of human rights violations. We urge the government to ensure accountability and transparency in investigating excessive use of force by State agents. We encourage diverse representative participation in political life, including women and youth.

A transparent, independent and efficient judiciary and the separation of powers are essential for a functioning democracy that serves its people. We note with concern the recent weakening of judicial independence and integrity.

We recommend that Tunisia:

1. Establish an independent National Human Rights Institution, in line with the Paris Principles.
2. Expedite the amendment of the Penal Code and Criminal Procedural Code, in line with international standards.
3. Commit to ending the trial of civilians in military courts.

Thank you.