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

**National Statement**

**Universal Periodic Review – Burkina Faso**

The United Kingdom thanks the delegation of Burkina Faso for the presentation of their national report.

We note Burkina Faso has maintained its moratorium on the death penalty since the last review and taken steps to repeal the death penalty. We call on the government of Burkina Faso to abolish use of the death penalty in all circumstances, without exception.

We welcome adoption of legislation to promote and protect human rights. However, we would like to see greater focus on tackling violence against women, combatting modern slavery and human trafficking, ensuring equal access to education for all girls and boys, and efforts to counter radicalisation.

We also reiterate our desire to see further progress to ensure independence of the judiciary.

We recommend:

* Ratification the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR, with the aim of abolishing the death penalty in all circumstances.
* Development and implementation of an anti-trafficking strategy.
* Adopting an open, merit-based process when selecting national candidates for UN Treaty Body elections.

Thank you