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

**Statement**

**Universal Periodic Review – Chad**

 **November 2018**

Thank you, Mr President,

We acknowledge the difficult security situation in northern Chad, especially along the border with Libya, in the Tibesti region, and in the Lake Chad basin.  However, Chad must ensure that all human rights are upheld, including in regions affected by conflict.

Independent and impartial investigations must be undertaken into human rights violations allegedly committed by its armed forces.

The UK also reiterates the importance of delivering on President Deby’s commitment to hold the repeatedly delayed national legislative elections in 2018.

Furthermore, Chad remains a challenging place for journalists to operate.  Whilst the Chadian constitution provides for freedom of opinion, expression, and the press, reporters continue to face harassment and arrest by authorities for publishing articles critical of the government.

We recommend that Chad:

1.   ~~I~~nvestigate and prosecute security forces involved in human rights violations.

2.   Fully enforce Presidential Ordinance 006/18, including through the investigation and prosecution of suspected human trafficking offenders.

3.   Ensure that national candidates to UN Human Rights Treaty Body elections are selected through an open and merit-based process.

Thank you.