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

**Statement**

**Universal Periodic Review – Yemen**

**January 2019**

Thank you, Mr President,

The UK is encouraged by the positive outcomes of the Stockholm peace talks in December 2018, and hopes progress will continue.

However, human rights abuses and violations, carried out by all parties to the conflict, are deeply concerning, leading to civilian casualties, persecution on the grounds of religion or belief, and restrictions on freedom of speech and association. Women’s rights have been affected, as has access to education for girls, and children continue to be recruited to fight.

**We recommend:**

1. To fulfil obligations under international human rights and humanitarian law, particularly taking precautions to protect civilians and ensuring delivery of humanitarian assistance.
2. To continue engaging with the UN Special Envoy to implement the Stockholm agreement and work towards a lasting political solution, creating conditions to improve the Government’s capacity to protect the human rights of its citizens.
3. To immediately cease arbitrary arrests and detention, enforced disappearance, torture and ill-treatment, and ensure detainees are treated in accordance with international law and norms.

Thank you.