

**UK Statement on the adoption of
Colombia's UPR report**

19.09.2013

Human Rights Council 24th session

Thank you Mr President

The United Kingdom thanks the Colombian delegation for engaging with the UPR process. We are pleased that the government of Colombia has accepted both of our recommendations made in April.

We welcome the work the Colombian government has undertaken to address human rights concerns. However, we remain concerned about the situation facing human rights defenders, particularly reports showing an increase in the number of human rights defenders killed in the first half of 2013, compared to 2012.

We welcome Colombia's assurances that its military justice system is fully compliant with international human rights law. We had asked the Colombian government to publish regular information and statistics on investigations into alleged human rights abuses by military personnel, but unfortunately this was not recorded in April. We would welcome a commitment by the Colombian government that they will do this.

We hope that the government of Colombia will continue to work to improve the human rights situation for its citizens. We will remain a constructive partner committed to supporting reform moves.

Thank you