



UK Mission to the  
United Nations  
in Geneva

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The Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland presents its compliments to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and has the honour to submit its response to communication OL 18 2025 further to the letter dated 16 January 2026 from the Special from the Special Rapporteur on the rights of Indigenous Peoples; the Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises; the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights in the context of climate change; the Special Rapporteur on the human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment; the Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health; the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders and the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons.

The Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland avails itself of this opportunity to renew to Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights the assurances of its highest consideration.



Special Procedures Branch

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights



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## **United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland**

**Response to Special Procedure communication AL/GBR 21/2025 from the Special Rapporteur on the rights of Indigenous Peoples; the Working group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises; the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights in the context of climate change; the Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health; the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders and the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons.**

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Thank you for your letter of 16 January 2025 and for bringing this case to the attention of the UK Government.

The UK's longstanding position is that all UK businesses should respect human rights and the environment throughout their operations and supply chain relationships in line with the OECD Guidelines on Responsible Business Conduct and UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.

The UK Government is committed to the implementation of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs), which are widely regarded as the authoritative international framework to steer practical action by Governments and businesses worldwide on this important agenda. The UK has a range of measures in place to promote human rights across the economy.

Eradicating all forms of business-related human rights abuses forms a core part of our work on human rights and rule of law and goes hand in hand with inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment, and decent work for all. The UK Government supports voluntary due diligence approaches taken by UK businesses to identify and prevent human rights abuses and environmental harms across their operations and supply chains, in line with the UNGPs and the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises. In addition to the legislation and guidance set out above, businesses can also access the overseas business risk pages, managed by the UK's trade and diplomatic network, which include information on human rights risks when trading overseas. The Overseas Business Risk service is intended to support and guide businesses and should

be viewed alongside other sources of information. The UK government does not advise on or undertake due diligence for individual companies.

The UK Government is currently reviewing its approach to responsible business conduct. This review is a neutral and objective appraisal of the UK's current RBC policy approach and alternative options. The review will aim to understand the effectiveness of the UK's current regime and alternative means of supporting responsible business practices. The Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office is also carrying out a National Baseline Assessment (NBA) on the implementation of the UNGPs. The NBA will contribute to the evidence base to inform the UK's approach to tackling business-related human rights abuses, including in global supply chains.

We note that you have also written to Tullow Oil and Gulf Energy Ltd on this issue.