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Statement by Turkmenistan during the review of Pakistan's UPR

(30 October 2012)

Thank you madam President,

First of all we would like to extend a warm welcome to the distinguished delegation of Pakistan to this session of the UPR Working Group and thank H.E. Ms.Hina Rabbani Khar, Minister for Foreign Affairs for presenting a comprehensive update on the efforts undertaken by the Government of Pakistan to improve the human rights situation on the ground, particularly during the last 4 years.

We note with appreciation that the Pakistan ratified the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, Convention against Torture, Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography.

It should be noted that Pakistan has strengthened National Commission on Status on Women, National Commission on Child Welfare and Development, National Commission on Minorities and Commission of Inquiry on Enforced Disappearances.

We are pleased to note that UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and a number of special procedures visited Pakistan at the invitation of the Government of Pakistan.

We welcome the efforts by the government of Pakistan for creating an enabling environment for the promotion and protection of human rights, i.e. independent judiciary, free media, vibrant civil society.

Madam President

To further accelerate the progress in areas of promotion and protection of human rights, we would like to propose the following recommendations:

- i. Concentrate on the implementation of the international human rights instruments that have been ratified by Pakistan.
- ii. Continue its ongoing review of national laws to ensure that they are in line with its international human rights law obligations.
- iii. Continue its efforts to accelerate the achievement of the MDGs targets, particularly those related to health.

Thank you madam President.