

Selcuk Ozcar

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UPR 15th SESSION
COUNTRY UNDER REVIEW: COMMONWEALTH OF THE
BAHAMAS

Intervention by Turkey

Thank you Mr. President,

We would like to welcome _____ and his/her delegation and thank the Bahamian Government for this detailed and objective presentation.

We appreciate that the Government of the Bahamas is considering human rights as an integral part of the society's development. In this regard, we would like to commend the Bahamas' education system having highest percentage in the national budget. Hence, the ranking of the Bahamas in the indexes of Human Development and Gender Equality are worth mentioning as a success story.

Moreover, domestic legislative work aiming to harmonize key areas of education, judiciary, and criminal execution with international standards is commendable. In this sense, we would like to recommend the Government of the Bahamas to continue with the policies to tackle gender based violence and the program of "swift justice".

In addition to the ongoing domestic legislative work, we see that Bahamas has acceded to key international conventions on Civil and Political Rights and on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, since its last universal periodic review.

We also commend that the Government of the Bahamas has withdrawn its reservation to the Article 16(1) of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.

In this framework, we would like to recommend the Government of the Bahamas to consider ratifying the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and its Optional Protocol, which are already signed.

I thank you Mr. President.