

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW
15TH SESSION
COUNTRY UNDER REVIEW: BURUNDI
Intervention by Turkey

Thank you Mr. President,

We would like to welcome the Honorable Minister.....and the members of the delegation of Burundi

We thank the distinguished delegation of Burundi for their substantive presentation. Turkey appreciates the active involvement of the civil society and the National Independent Human Rights Commission in preparation of the national report of Burundi.

Turkey welcomes the promulgation of the Penal Code which abolished the death penalty. We gladly observed that the age of criminal responsibility was increased from 13 to 15 years old and we appreciate the upward trend to reach the international standards in this field. We praise the efforts to draw up a national plan of action and a draft code for the protection of children.

Turkey acknowledges the national plans to control HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria. We are particularly pleased to note the programme to guarantee free maternity and health care for children under 5 years of age.

We would like to urge Burundi to address previous recommendations related to monitoring mechanisms, birth registration and juvenile justice. Turkey appreciates the grace period up to September 2012 granted by the Government to obtain a birth certificate free of charge. In the same vein, we **recommend** Burundi ensure access of all children to free birth registration.

speaking time: 1.40 min.

Turkey **recommends** Burundi to sign and ratify the International Covenant on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). Turkey also **recommends** that the Protocol to the Convention against Torture be ratified and incorporated into domestic legislation.

Thank you Mr. President.