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**16th Session of the Working Group
on the Universal Periodic Review**

Geneva, 22 April – 05 May 2013

**Statement of the Algerian Delegation
on the UPR of Turkmenistan**

Mr. President,

My delegation warmly welcomes the distinguished delegation of Turkmenistan and thanks H.E.M. Wepa Hajiyeu, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs for his thorough presentation.

We appreciate the engagement of the Government of Turkmenistan in the UPR process as reflected especially by the efforts exerted in the implementation of the accepted recommendations.

We are encouraged by the ongoing constitutional and legal reforms aiming at further consolidating democracy in Turkmenistan.

We note with interest the measures undertaken to incorporate provisions of international human rights agreements in the national legislation, the submission of the delayed reports to the Treaty Bodies as well as the efforts to promote human rights education and training, as recommended by my delegation.

We congratulate Turkmenistan for the economic growth which has resulted in a steady increase in per capita GDP. We also note with appreciation the increase of expenditure on salaries, pensions and State assistance and scholarships.

While noting underlining the steps undertaken by Turkmenistan in view with establishing a NHRI, **we recommend that Turkmenistan pursue its efforts aiming at establishing a National Human Rights Institution.**

My delegation noted the concern expressed by the CEDAW regarding the underrepresentation of women at all levels of political and public life. **It recommends that Turkmenistan continue its efforts aiming at increasing women participation in political and public life.**

Finally, we wish the Government of Turkmenistan all the success in the UPR process and the implementation of the accepted recommendations.

Thank you.