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Italian intervention

**UPR – Turkmenistan
(22/04/2013)**

Thank you, Mister President.

We welcome the distinguished members of the delegation of Turkmenistan.

Italy took note with appreciation of the occasions when Turkmenistan engaged constructively with International Organizations in the protection of human rights. In this regard, Italy **recommends** that Turkmenistan allow the UN Special Procedures - especially the Working Group on arbitrary detention and the Special Rapporteur on torture - to visit the country.

Moreover, Italy would like to propose the following **recommendations**:

- To ensure that the procedure of granting legal registrations for NGOs and religious groups be fair, prompt and no-discriminatory;
- To remove criminalization of religious activities merely on the basis of lack of legal registration required for religious group.

We would be pleased to know whether, when and how the Government intends to put into practise the recommendations submitted by the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion, which reportedly are still under its consideration.

Italy remains concerned about the concrete restrictions for some categories of Turkmen citizens in the application of the 2012 Migration Act. Italy would like to know whether obstacles hinder the full respect of the right for everyone to be free to leave their own country in conformity with article 12 of ICCPR.

I thank you, Mr. President

