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**STATEMENT BY MALAYSIA**

**Review of Turkmenistan**

**16th Session of the UPR Working Group of the**

**Human Rights Council**

**22 April – 3 May 2013**

Thank you Mr. President,

Malaysia welcomes the delegation of Turkmenistan, led by **HE Mr. Wepa Hajiyev** to the 16th Session of the UPR Working Group. We thank the delegation for their detailed presentation of its national report.

2. My delegation commends Turkmenistan for its impressive progress to further promote and protect the human rights of its people. We note the positive engagement and cooperation taken by Turkmenistan in implementing its accepted recommendations. We are particularly pleased that Turkmenistan had accepted Malaysia’s recommendations made in 2009, and that these recommendations have been successfully implemented by the Government of Turkmenistan. This is evident through its many achievements in the areas of education, health, and human and social development, in particular the development of women and the rights of the child. In this regard, we encourage Turkmenistan to continue its endeavour to advance its human rights agenda for the betterment of its people.

3. We are impressed with the introduction of a number of strategic and long-term national programmes and activities by the Government in the areas of economic, social and cultural rights. The implementation of these programmes and activities has undoubtedly led to the steady growth in the country’s economy.

4. To continue these exemplary efforts, my delegation would like to make the following **two** recommendations:

1. To provide adequate financial and human resources to the information centres established to promote and increase awareness on human rights issues; and
2. To continue implementing its national policies and programmes outlined, with the aim of further improving the well-being of its people.

Thank you.

**GENEVA
22 April 2013**