

**Statement by Turkmenistan during the review of the Republic of Uzbekistan
(24 April 2013)**

Thank you Mister President,

First of all we would like to extend a warm welcome to the distinguished delegation of Uzbekistan to this session of the UPR Working Group and thank H.E. De Akmal Saidov, Director of NHRC for presenting a comprehensive update on the efforts undertaken by the Government of Uzbekistan to improve the human rights situation on the ground.

We welcome that the Government of Uzbekistan has made a number of amendments to the Constitution and adopted several laws with a view to further strengthening democratic reforms and the formation of civil society, democratizing State and administrative bodies, ensuring a better balance of power between the three branches of government and strengthening the role and influence of political parties in implementing socioeconomic, public and political reforms and renewing and modernizing the country.

We are pleased to note that according to the assessment of IMF mission to Uzbekistan, country has achieved robust growth and has withstood the global financial crisis well. At 8.5 per cent on average over the last five years, Uzbekistan's growth is higher than the average growth in Central Asia. In terms of stable growth of GDP, Uzbekistan has one of the world's most dynamic economies.

Mister President,

To further accelerate the progress in areas of promotion and protection of human rights, we would like to propose the following recommendations:

- Continue the practice of implementing programs aimed at further improving the welfare of the population
- Take further measures to protect the environment and human health in the context of ensuring effective ways of sustainable development.

Thank you Mister President.