

**UPR 18th SESSION**  
**COUNTRY UNDER REVIEW: DOMINICAN REPUBLIC**  
**Intervention by Turkey**

Thank you Mr. President,

We would like to welcome the delegation of the Dominican Republic and thank them for this detailed and objective presentation.

We are pleased to observe that the Government of the Dominican Republic has taken the mainstreaming of human rights within the national policy framework as a fundamental principle. In this respect, we commend the adoption of the National Development Strategy until 2030 as a tool for identifying the possible solutions to problems affecting the full enjoyment of human rights.

We also understand that the Dominican Republic, has put disadvantaged groups, namely children and adolescents, women, disabled persons and ageing population into the scope of the National Development Strategy.

Particularly, the developments that have been achieved in the area of women's rights and gender issues are noteworthy. In this respect, we see that the Dominican Republic is considering the elimination of violence against women as an important part of achieving gender equality. We commend the institutional achievements in this field and **recommend** allocating the necessary resources to the campaigns, plans and programs which were launched with the aim of strengthening the strife on preventing violence against women.

Moreover, we see that the Dominican Republic has adopted a policy of investing in youth as a driving force of social development. Specifically, we commend the Dominican Republic's decision to devise a road map, namely "free from child labour by 2020 and from its worst forms by 2015". The all inclusive methodology of cooperating with both the civil society and UNICEF is especially worth mentioning. At this stage, we would like to **recommend** the Government of Dominican Republic to finalize and implement this road map in the near future.

I thank you Mr. President.