

**UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW EIGHTEENTH SESSION**  
**COUNTRY UNDER REVIEW: Viet Nam**  
**Intervention by Turkey**

Thank you Mr. President,

We welcome the Vietnamese delegation and thank them for their comprehensive national report and informative presentation today.

We are glad to observe that Vietnam has been exerting steady efforts to further advance and protect human rights in the country. The inclusive consultations with different segments of the society during the amendment of the Constitution, as well as the signature of the UN Convention against Torture, are both commendable steps in this direction. In this vein, we look forward to receiving more information on what kind of new human rights safeguards the amended Constitution introduces.

We are also pleased that Vietnam has announced their intention to ratify the UN Convention on Rights of Persons with Disabilities and would like to **recommend** them to complete the ratification process of the said Convention.

We commend the concrete steps to enhance and protect the rights of vulnerable groups, such as women, children and people with disabilities. In this respect, the adoption of the National Action Programs, strategies and laws as well as the ratification of the Hague Convention on the Protection of Children and Cooperation in Respect of Inter-Country Adoption have been commendable achievements.

Despite Vietnam's great success in reducing poverty, thus attaining a significant part of the Millennium Development Goals, and in sustaining considerable economic growth for more than a decade, the growing income gap between the poor and the rich is a source of concern that needs close attention. We **recommend** Vietnam to focus on mitigating income inequalities, providing equal opportunities in education and employment, and improving the social security and health services for all segments of her population.

Thank you Mr. President.