

**Statement by Turkmenistan
18th session of the WG on UPR
Review of Costa Rica
(5 May 2014)**

3

Mr. President,

Turkmenistan welcomes the high level delegation of the Republic of Costa Rica to this session of UPR Working Group and thanks H.E. _____ for the summary of the human rights situation in the country.

Turkmenistan welcomes the success of Costa Rica in replanting forests in its territory, increasing coverage from 26 per cent to the current figure of more than 52 per cent, giving current and future generations the security of a healthier environment.

Turkmenistan identifies as good practice the establishment of the Inter-agency Commission for the Follow-up and Implementation of International Human Rights Obligations, which had provided areas of exchange for civil society.

However Turkmenistan shares concerns of the Committee on the Rights of the Child about continued discriminatory attitudes and prejudices against minority children, growing disparities affecting minority children with regard to access to health care and to education, especially in rural and coastal areas. Turkmenistan recommends that Costa Rica strengthen its efforts to improve the socioeconomic situation of minority children.

Further Turkmenistan recommends that the Government of Costa Rica designs awareness-raising campaigns on cultural diversity, on countering racial discrimination, xenophobia and all other forms of intolerance and promoting inclusiveness, social cohesion and respect for the values of diversity.

Thank you Mr. President.