

Statement by Turkmenistan  
19<sup>th</sup> session of the WG on UPR  
Review of the Kingdom of Norway  
(28 April 2014)

Mr. Hemen (45)  
Amannazarov  
First Secretary

Mr. President,

Turkmenistan welcomes the high level delegation of the Kingdom of Norway to the 19<sup>th</sup> session of UPR Working Group.

Turkmenistan notes with appreciation the ratification by Government of Norway two human rights instruments, namely Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

Meanwhile, Turkmenistan is concerned with UNHCR report on asylum and immigration issues in Norway, particularly, with increasing xenophobic tendencies towards immigrants. Turkmenistan **recommends** that the Government of Norway continues its efforts in the prevention and fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance.

While welcoming the different measures taken to combat human trafficking such as the new Plan of Action against Human Trafficking, Turkmenistan notes with regret that trafficking in persons still remains a problem, especially concerning girls. Several NGOs have raised concerns that the number of victims of trafficking have been constantly increasing, especially among minors. Turkmenistan **recommends** that Norway strengthens its efforts to prevent trafficking of minors by allocating sufficient resources to the immigration authorities to investigate every case of missing minors.

Further we **recommend** that Norway develops a national action plan for human rights education that consists of a thorough needs assessment and programmes for human rights education at all levels, with the particular focus on staff of the law enforcement agencies as well as personnel of institutions responsible for care, treatment and custody of persons.

Thank you Mr. President.