

Intervention by Turkey

3 November 2014

Mr. President,

We cordially welcome the Iraqi delegation and thank them for their comprehensive presentation.

Turkey acknowledges the gravity of the challenges in Iraq due to the dire security situation stemming from the ISIS terror. Nonetheless, it is very heartening to see that the Iraqi government is working hard to achieve higher human rights standards. We have favorably noted the efforts exerted by Iraq to address the recommendations made at the First UPR Cycle.

We also commend the efforts to politically revert the mistakes of the previous government by establishing a representative, inclusive, and cross-sectarian government based on national consensus, under the Premiership of H.E. El Abadi. Turkey stands beside Iraq and its brotherly people in this struggle.

We would like to make three recommendations:

Firstly, we **recommend** Iraq to take necessary measures to ensure an improved representation of the members of minority groups not only among political ranks but in all social, cultural and economic fields, inter alia, civil services.

Secondly, Turkey **recommends** Iraq to rapidly launch the reform process of its security forces, especially to embed the extra-legal militia into the Iraqi security structure. This will help to become accountable and eliminate impunity of the aforementioned militia as well as claims of arbitrary arrests, enforced disappearances, torture, and extra-judicial execution of civilians.

Sharing the concerns of UN Bodies we **recommend** that Iraq considers to establish as a first step a moratorium with a view to abolish the death penalty.

Thank you, Mr. President.