

*20<sup>th</sup> Session of the Universal Periodic Review*

*Review of Kazakhstan*

*Statement by Armenia*

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Armenia welcomes the delegation of Kazakhstan and thanks for the presentation of the national report. We appreciate the efforts directed towards strengthening the human rights situation in the country since its First UPR Cycle.

Armenia particularly welcomes the initiatives to protect and promote the rights of the national minorities in Kazakhstan. We have decades long relations with Kazakhstan, and there are many Armenians living there. We note with appreciation that Armenians are full citizens of Kazakhstan, able to exercise freely their cultural and religious rights and to preserve their national identity.

Armenia welcomes the steps undertaken to fight against trafficking of persons, which include the 2012 National Action Plan for the fight against trafficking, the rehabilitation programs and compensation for the victims. We also welcome the human rights education and awareness raising programs, inter alia, the ones aimed at raising awareness about their rights among children.

We appreciate the steps undertaken to promote the right to health through financing of free medical care, and introducing a single national health care system, which aims at ensuring equal access and quality health care, as well as introduction of new diagnostic tools.

We recommend to Kazakhstan:

- 1) To continue the efforts directed towards the promotion of the right to health in the country,
- 2) To further promote and protect the rights of the national minorities.