Working Group 60

23rd Session of the UPR Working Group

Review of Georgia

Statement by Armenia

10 November 2015

Armenia warmly welcomes the delegation of Georgia and thanks for the presentation of the National report. We also congratulate Georgia for the recent election to the Human Rights Council and wish all the success during their tenure.

In past years Georgia has carried out a wide range of reforms aimed at strengthening the national framework for the protection of human rights including the reforms of the judicial and penitentiary system. The establishment of new institutional set-up within the government such as, Ambassador at Large on Human Rights issues at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is noteworthy.

We commend Georgia for the adoption of the comprehensive Human Rights Strategy and the National Action Plan for its implementation.

We welcome the steps taken by the Georgian Government towards preservation and promotion of the cultural and ethnic diversity in the country.

Armenia highly appreciates the support that the Georgian authorities rendered for the restoration of recently re-consecrated medieval Armenian Cathedral of St George in Tbilisi's old town which is a commendable demonstration of caring attitude towards each other's cultural and spiritual heritage.

We have the following recommendations:

- 1. To continue steps towards the recovery of physical and moral damage to the religious denominations suffered during the Soviet era.
- 2. To take steps aimed at ensuring the implementation of joint educational programs and training of teachers, in collaboration with the relevant Armenian educational authorities.
- To ensure the availability of textbooks in their mother tongue for the national minorities.

Thank you.