

**UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW**  
**24TH SESSION**  
**COUNTRY UNDER REVIEW: PARAGUAY**  
**STATEMENT BY TURKEY**

Mr President,

We would like to welcome the delegation of Paraguay and thank them for their presentation today.

Turkey welcomes the continuing efforts of Paraguay to establish new institutions and strengthen existing ones for the promotion and protection of human rights.

In this context, we take note of the commitment of Paraguay to establish a Ministry of Justice and Human Rights and to complete the process of the appointment of an Ombudsman and expect these to occur in due time.

We call on Paraguay to prioritize the adoption of a law to combat all forms of discrimination.

While concerned by gender violence, Turkey **recommends** Paraguay to take further measures and strengthen its legislation to prevent and punish all violence against women and girls, particularly sexual abuse and domestic violence.

We also note with concern the high rate of teenage pregnancy and the high mortality rate for young mothers.

In line with the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, we **recommend** the establishment of an independent mechanism for the monitoring of the situation of these persons.

Bearing in mind the importance of the right of everyone to recognition before the law, Turkey **recommends** Paraguay to further improve its birth registration system and ensure the issuance of birth certificates to all children born on its territory.

Finally, we **recommend** Paraguay to establish an effective investigation mechanism concerning allegations of torture and ill-treatment that would ensure the conviction of perpetrators.

I thank you Mr. President.