

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW
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COUNTRY UNDER REVIEW: SOMALIA
STATEMENT BY TURKEY

Mr President,

We thank the delegation of Somalia for their informative national report and detailed presentation.

Somalia is going through a critical period in which we should all extend assistance. The Government has to tackle with state- and peace-building processes, as well as to fight against Al Shabaab while lacking necessary financial resources.

We believe that with the ongoing support of the international community, Somali Government will be able to make further progress in normalizing the conditions on the ground. In this regard, the HR Council resolutions on technical assistance to Somalia provide adequate guidance.

Turkey welcomes the commitment and continuing efforts of the Government to improve the human rights situation despite many challenges.

Yet, there are still a number of important issues that need to be addressed.

We encourage Somalia to achieve the essential components of the "Vision 2016" before August, namely, the finalization of the federalism process, the establishment of the Constitutional Court, the completion of the constitution review process and the adoption of fundamental legislations, including the law on political parties.

Turkey **recommends** Somalia to extend a standing invitation to special procedures.

Turkey commends the ratification by Somalia of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and **recommends** Somalia to sign and ratify CEDAW.

Noting with concern the high rate of violence against women, Turkey **recommends** Somalia to implement a zero-tolerance policy on gender-based violence, particularly sexual and domestic violence.

Finally Turkey **recommends** Somalia to develop a birth registration system and ensure the issuance of birth certificates to all children born on its territory.

Turkey will continue to stand in solidarity with Somalia in its endeavours.

Thank you.