



**UN Human Rights Council  
UPR 25<sup>th</sup> Session  
Statement made by the United Arab Emirates in the Interactive  
Dialogue with GREECE**

*Delivered by H.E. Obaid Salem AL ZAABI,  
Ambassador/Permanent Representative of UAE  
Geneva, 3 May 2016*

Mr. President,

We would like to express our appreciation to the delegation of Greece for its presentation.

We recognize Greece's commitment to human rights and its many achievements, particularly in spite of the grave economic crisis afflicting the country. In particular, we welcome the preparation of the first National Action Plan on Human Rights, covering the period 2014-2016, and the elaboration of a National Action Plan on the Rights of the Child.

We welcome the recent law providing for the establishment of a "National Board against Racism and Intolerance", an inter-ministerial body with the participation of independent bodies and civil society stakeholders, tasked, inter alia, with the drafting of a National Action Plan against Racism and Intolerance.

We praise Greece's efforts to rescue and provide assistance to refugees, particularly in light of the economic constraints facing the country. The UAE recommends that Greece:

1. Continue to strengthen measures to promote tolerance and respect for cultural diversity and to counter prejudice, stereotypes, discrimination, racism, and Islamophobia; and
2. Continue to strengthen measures to promote the economic empowerment of women particularly in time of financial crisis.

**Thank you Mr. President.**

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