



54

**Statement by Mr. Zahid Rastam, Deputy Permanent Representative,  
Permanent Mission of Malaysia to the United Nations, Geneva**

**Review of Greece  
25<sup>th</sup> Session of the UPR Working Group of the Human Rights Council  
2-13 May 2016**

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Thank you Mr. President,

Malaysia congratulates the delegation of Greece for their presentation of the report.

2. Malaysia is cognizant of the economic challenges facing Greece and the adverse impacts of resource constraints towards the enjoyment of human rights in the country. Despite this situation, we recognize that Greece continued to undertake efforts to protect its vulnerable people from being further disadvantaged. Malaysia acknowledges the good efforts made to provide assistance for the irregular migrants arriving on its shores. We also note the considerable improvements in the promotion and protection of the rights of persons with disabilities, following Greece's ratification of the CRPD.

3. While progress has been made, challenges remain as highlighted in the report. Additional attention could be given in areas such as access to education and combatting racism and discrimination.

4. In the spirit of constructive engagement, we wish to propose the following **four recommendations** for the consideration of Greece:

- 4.1. **One:** step up measures to mitigate the negative impacts of economic measures, with an emphasis on improving social protection systems and eradicating poverty;
- 4.2. **Two:** take further actions to combat incitement to hatred and racist crimes against foreign nationals, including by promoting a positive narration on international migration and pursuing the National Action Plan against Racism and Intolerance;
- 4.3. **Three:** continue to provide assistance and protect the rights of irregular migrants fleeing from conflict through partnerships at the regional and international level; and
- 4.4. **Four:** ensure sustainable and universal access to education for children, including children with disabilities and children living in remote areas.

I thank you.

**GENEVA  
3 May 2016**