UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW 25TH SESSION IRELAND Intervention by Turkey (11.05.2016)

Mr. President,

Turkey welcomes the delegation of Ireland.

Turkey recognizes the economic difficulties that Ireland has confronted and welcomes the provisions in the most recent budget which have introduced boosts to public resources aiming at among others, improving housing, social security and health care.

Though the education system in Ireland is still to a large extent dominated by the Catholic Church, Turkey notes that steps have been taken in recent years to encourage co-education, diversity and tolerance of other faiths and beliefs. We **recommend** that Ireland steps up efforts towards a more inclusive education system, especially by focusing on special educational needs.

We **recommend** that Ireland introduces measures to improve the living standards of Travellers in society and ensure that the legislation in place does not hinder their nomadic customs and practices.

Turkey shares the concern raised by numerous stakeholders regarding the critical need for social housing. We **recommend** Ireland to the take the necessary steps in order to increase the availability of social housing and emergency housing support and to adopt appropriate measures to solve the long-term needs.

Turkey **recommends** Ireland to amend the article 41 (2) of the Constitution on the role and status of women in order to render its provisions gender-equal.

Turkey welcomes the commitment of Ireland to pass the necessary legislation to enable the ratification of CRPD. Turkey **recommends** Ireland to finalize the ratification process of the Council of Europe's "Istanbul Convention". We also **recommend** Ireland to accede to ICRMW.

Thank you, Mr. President.