UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW 25th Session – 11 May 2016 STATE UNDER REVIEW: THAILAND

(Intervention by Turkey)

Mr. President,

Mr Unut DEMIZ

We welcome the steps taken by Thailand to protect and promote human rights through strategies and legal acts in various fields, such as gender equality, persons with disabilities, birth registration and access to education. We also appreciate the standing invitation extended to the Special Procedures, and encourage the Government to ensure that visits be undertaken regularly.

Turkey expects that the process leading to a new Constitution will be conducive to further protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, upholding the rule of law, restoring civilian institutions and paving the way for democratic elections.

We remain concerned about Thailand's record on the protection of the rights of migrants, especially of women and children at detention facilities.

Our recommendations are as follows:

- 1. Accede to the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR.
- 2. Ratify OP-CAT.
- 3. Sign and ratify ICRMW.
- 4. Instill a human rights-based approach regarding the protection of migrants and asylum-seekers, including the cessation of pushbacks to the sea, while refraining from deportation and formally prohibiting detention of children.
- 5. Multiply efforts to combat child sex tourism, especially by adopting a comprehensive regulatory framework.
- 6. Further strengthen efforts towards birth registration for all, with a view to effectively reaching out to disadvantaged and vulnerable groups.

Thank you, Mr. President.