**UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW**

**27th SESSION**

**COUNTRY UNDER REVIEW: THE NETHERLANDS**

**10 MAY 2017**

**STATEMENT BY TURKEY**

Mr. President,

We thank the delegation of the Netherlands for its presentation.

Turkey observes the deterioration of human rights situation in the country over the past years, especially resulting from policies leading to an increase in xenophobic and Islamophobic trends.

In fact, the entire Dutch election campaign was tainted by hate language employed against the Muslims by all the political parties.  Moreover, flagrant examples of human rights violations by Dutch authorities were witnessed on 11 March 2017 in Rotterdam towards a high-level foreign dignitary causing a serious infringement of the right to liberty and freedom of movement.

Turkey recommends the following:

1. Fully implement international commitments stemming from UN human rights conventions such as prohibition of torture, inhuman or degrading treatment, right to liberty of movement, freedom of expression, freedom of assembly and association, to which the Netherlands is a party including with respect to the rights of foreigners, in particular senior government officials present in their territory.

2. Fully respect diplomatic courtesy and abide by the provisions of Vienna Conventions on the Diplomatic Relations and the Consular Relations.

3. Take all necessary measures to combat xenophobia, Islamophobia and eliminate all forms of discrimination and violence against all migrants, Muslims and people of African origin.

4. Reinstitute Turkish mother tongue lessons as part of the primary and secondary school curricula.

I thank you, Mr. President.