**UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW**

**27TH SESSION**

**COUNTRY UNDER REVIEW: SOUTH AFRICA**

**Intervention by Turkey**

**(10 May 2017)**

Mr. President,

We thank the delegation of South Africa for their presentation.

We welcome the measures taken by the South African government to ameliorate the overall human rights situation in the country. We also praise the efforts of relevant institutions and civil society towards safeguarding and advancing core principles.

We would like to draw attention to the ongoing challenges such as unemployment, poverty and social inequality, which are directly increasing crime rates and xenophobia.

Welcoming the release of the draft Nation Action Plan to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, we **recommend** South Africa to expedite the legislative process in this regard.

Concerned by the alarming levels of discrimination and xenophobic attacks against non-citizens, we **recommend** South Africa to take all required measures to halt the exploitation of migrants, asylum seekers and refugees and facilitate their integration into society.

As it continues to have the largest HIV epidemic in the world, we **recommend** South Africa to increase its efforts in addressing this scourge.

Noting the existence of various obstacles to obtaining birth registration, we **recommend** South Africa to amend legislation and regulations in order to ensure universal birth registration for children born in its territory.

Thank you, Mr. President.