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**44TH SESSION OF THE UPR WORKING GROUP**

**REVIEW OF TURKMENISTAN**

**6 November 2023**

**Statement by the Republic of Croatia**

Mr. President,

Croatia welcomes the delegation of Turkmenistan and thanks them for the presentation of their report.

We welcome the 2016 Constitution that guarantees equal rights and opportunities for women and men as well as the relevant legislation, which prohibits discrimination based on sex. In order to fully comply with the provisions of CEDAW, we encourage Turkmenistan to use definition of discrimination against women as set out in the Convention.

We also command the Government for the release of the first-ever national sample survey entitled Health and Status of a Woman in the Family, providing reliable and accessible data and statistics on gender equality.

We have following recommendations:

1. Allocate adequate human, technical and financial resources for the implementation of the Gender Equality Action Plan and establish a mechanism to effectively monitor its implementation.
2. Expedite the adoption of a comprehensive law specifically defining and criminalizing all forms of gender-based violence against women, in particular domestic violence, marital rape and sexual assault within and outside marriage.
3. Abolish arbitrary restrictions and interference with the right to freedom of movement and ensure foreign and domestic travel for all who wish to travel.

Thank you.