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**RECOMMENDATIONS DELIVERED BY THE REPUBLIC OF THE GAMBIA DURING THE 44TH SESSION OF THE UPR WORKING GROUP ON THE REVIEW OF THE STATE REPORT OF TURKMENISTAN- MONDAY6 NOVEMBER 2023**

**Thank you Mr President,**

The Gambia extends a very warm welcome to the distinguished delegation of Turkmenistan and thank them for their presentation on the human rights situation in their country.

We commend Turmenistan for its laudable efforts to upholding fundamental freedoms. The provisions such as Article 152 of the Criminal Code, which gurantees freedom of religion and worship and ensures equality of all religions and beliefs before the law are significant strides in the right direction.

**Mr President,**

While recognizing the efforts and commitments being made by the government of Turkmenistan, my delegation would like to make the following recommendations ;

1. That further efforts be made to ensure the full participation of women in the decision making processes, bridging any existing gaps and promoting gender equality at all levels of governance.

2. That more emphasis be placed on aligning proceedings with international fair trial standards to guarantee independence and impartiality of the judiciary

3. That establish a clear definition for ‘discrimination against women’ in its domestic legislation in alignment with Article 1 of CEDAW to further the cause of gender equality.

**Mr President,**

In conclusion, The Gambia wishes the distinguished delegation of Turkemnistan a successful review and fruitful deliberations.

**Thank you.**