***Time allocated: 1 min 10 sec***

**28th UPR**

**SWITZERLAND**

**STATEMENT BY TURKEY**

Mr. President,

We welcome the distinguished delegation of Switzerland and thank them for their comprehensive presentation today. We commend the efforts of Switzerland to promote respect for human rights around the globe.

In light of the increasing far-right populist trends throughout Europe, we recommend the Swiss authorities to continue their efforts to address the concerns especially in the fields of combating racism, discrimination, xenophobia, Islamophobia and the protection of the members of more fragile groups such as migrants.

A recent study of the Federal Statistical Office having focused on negative attitudes towards certain groups shows that people in Switzerland are inclined to be more hostile towards Muslims than other groups. In this respect, we recommend the Swiss Government to take necessary measures against all forms of discrimination and to maintain its efforts to raise awareness on this issue.

We also recommend the Swiss Government to revise the Article 261bis of the Swiss Penal Code, the legal instrument against racism, in line with the decision of the Grand Chamber of European Court of Human Rights regarding the Perinçek case to ensure the freedom of expression on a historical issue which is matter of legitimate scholarly debate.

Thank you.