**UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW**

**37th SESSION**

**REVIEW OF AUSTRALIA**

**INTERVENTION BY TURKEY**

**(20 January 2021)**

Madame President,

We welcome the distinguished delegation of Australia and thank for the comprehensive presentation today.

Turkey welcomes the commitment of the Australian Government to recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders People in the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia.

In this regard, we hope that decade long recognition process of aforementioned indigenous peoples in the Australian Constitution would be accomplished as soon as possible for the benefit of the people of Australia.

Turkey applauds accession of Australia to Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture as of 21 December 2017.

The protection of asylum seekers and refugees requires collective action at the international level.

Within this context, Turkey **recommends** the Commonwealth of Australia to become party to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Family.

I thank you.