**Universal Periodic Review, 30th session**

**Human Rights Council**

**UPR of Turkmenistan, 7 May 2018**

**Intervention by Denmark**

*[Check against delivery]*

Mr. President,

Denmark welcomes the delegation of Turkmenistan and thanks it for its presentation today.

During its last UPR, Turkmenistan accepted recommendations to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture. The Optional Protocol establishes a set of practical tools on how to prevent torture and ill-treatment. It has proven to be of real worth both to those working in the custodial systems and those in detention. Furthermore, the dialogue with the Subcommittee on the Prevention of Torture is highly valuable to all states working to prevent torture and ill-treatment.

*Denmark recommends the Government to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.*

Allow me in this context to highlight that the Convention against Torture Initiative, which works through government-to-government exchange and cooperation, stands ready to explore avenues to assist the Government in advancing on this issue if deemed helpful.

Indigenous peoples are amongst the most marginalised populations around the world often facing discrimination and exploitative labour conditions violating their human rights. ILO convention 169 is an important tool in securing and strengthening international norms concerning the rights of indigenous peoples.

*Denmark recommends the Government to ratify the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples convention No. 169 of the International Labour Organisation.*

I thank you.