**UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW**

**30th SESSION**

**COUNTRY UNDER REVIEW: TUVALU**

**Statement by Turkey**

Thank you Mr. President.

- We warmly welcome the delegation of Tuvalu and we would like to thank the head of delegation for their comprehensive national report and detailed presentation today.

- Turkey commends Tuvalu on its ongoing constructive cooperation with the UPR and its cordial efforts to implement recommendations of the Human Rights Council.

- Turkey is aware of the constraints in human and financial resources that obstruct the full implementation of Tuvalu’s human rights obligations; therefore, we would like to draw the attention of the international and regional partners to the importance of technical assistance and financial support to the Government of Tuvalu in its efforts.

- We welcome the adoption of the Tuvalu Human Rights National Action Plan 2016-2020. We believe that the first guideline in the Pacific region adopted by Tuvalu for the Government’s actions will pave the way for a systematic and coordinated approach in the promotion of human rights.

- We would like to underline the importance of having strong coordination mechanisms contributing the promotion and protection of human rights. Turkey praises that Tuvalu had passed a bill to form a national human rights institution and recommends to expedite the establishment of the institution.

- We encourage the Government of Tuvalu to continue its efforts to ratify the remaining major international human rights treaties which will strengthen the domestic legislation with regard to the promotion and protection of human rights, including freedom of religion and belief.

- We would like to recommend the Government of Tuvalu to develop a comprehensive strategy to reduce violence against women, including domestic violence particularly on outer islands by enhancing women’s awareness of their rights and identifying ways to combat such violence.

Thank you Mr. President.