**31th SESSION OF THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW**

**STATE UNDER REVIEW: PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF CHINA (PRC)**

**6 November 2018**

**(Statement by Turkey)**

Mr. President,

Turkey welcomes the recent progress made by the People’s Republic of China (PRC) in the field of human rights, as indicated in PRC’s National Report submitted to the UN Human Rights Council.

Notably, the efforts to alleviate poverty in society, including among ethnic communities, improved conditions to access healthcare services, which has increased the average life expectancy, and reduced infant mortality.

That said, China should continue its efforts to improve overall conditions in all parts of the country, especially among ethnic groups who are concerned to protect their distinct identity, religion and language. While Chinese government’s alert against extremism could be plausible, there are concerns raised regarding some administrative practices, which involve restrictions on basic rights and liberties, like confinement of individuals without any legal ground and their separation from families and society.

In this respect, we encourage the Government of the PRC to work closely with international community, and to ensure recognition of universal human rights for all the population.