**UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW**

**32nd SESSION**

**REVIEW OF URUGUAY**

**INTERVENTION BY TURKEY**

**(23 January 2019)**

Mr. President,

We welcome the distinguished delegation of Uruguay.

Turkey appreciates the commitment of Uruguay to human rights and commends the Government for the process of implementing the recommendations that were made during the previous reviews.

In this respect, we welcome the ratification of Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child. We are pleased to note the efforts of Uruguay to strengthen the role and capacity of the National Human Rights Institution and Ombudsman Offices. We also appreciate Uruguay’s work on combatting racism, xenophobia and all forms of discrimination.

Overcrowding and poor conditions of the detention centers remain as challenges affecting the prison system. **We recommend** Uruguay to strengthen its efforts to establish improved standards and allocate sufficient resources to address these challenges.

As to concerns regarding adolescents in conflict with the law, **we recommend** Uruguay to intensify its efforts to improve the conditions of detention centers with a view to encouraging these adolescents’ reintegration into society.

Uruguay’s efforts to prevent and combat trafficking in persons are praiseworthy. In this context, we welcome the adoption of an act on this subject in the Parliament. We commend Uruguay for increasing public resources invested in education to 5 percent in 2017. We hope these investments and other projects initiated by Uruguay will help addressing the problem of dropout rates.

I thank you Mr. President.