**UNIVERSIAL PERIODIC REVIEW**

**32nd SESSION**

**REVIEW OF MACEDONIA**

**Intervention by Turkey**

**24 January 2019**

Mr. President,

Turkey warmly welcomes the Macedonian delegation and thank them for their comprehensive National Report as well as their detailed presentation today.

Turkey welcomes the comprehensive steps taken by the Republic of Macedonia in further developing the normative and institutional framework for the protection and promotion of human rights following its second UPR cycle despite the many challenges it faced.

We appreciate the efforts of the Government regarding the full implementation of the Ohrid Framework Agreement.

We welcome the ratification by the Republic of Macedonia of the Council of Europe Istanbul Convention (Convention on Preventing and Combatting Violence against Women and Domestic Violence) and the recent adoption of the Action Plan for its implementation. As envisaged by the Action Plan, we **recommend** Macedonia to carry out and complete a review of its national legislation as to harmonize it with the provisions of the said Convention.

We praise the steps taken by the Macedonian authorities to improve the conditions of persons with disabilities. In this context, we welcome the establishment of a National Coordination Body on the implementation of the CRPD (Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities). We encourage Macedonia to continue its multi-faceted efforts towards ensuring the active participation of persons with disabilities in all spheres of life.

Mr. President,

Turkey, recognizing the Republic of Macedonia by its constitutional name since its independence, will continue to support the prosperity and security of the Republic of Macedonia as well as its membership to the EU and NATO.

We wish Macedonia a successful UPR review.

Thank you.

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