**UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW**

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**REVIEW OF CAMBODIA**

**INTERVENTION BY TURKEY**

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Mr. President,

We welcome the distinguished delegation of Cambodia and thank them for the comprehensive National Report they have submitted and for their informative presentation.

We commend the Cambodian authorities for their constructive engagement with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Cambodia.

We recognize that Cambodia is in a significant phase of development, with strong economic growth and remarkable progress in poverty reduction.

We are glad to observe that Cambodia has taken important steps towards reaching the UN Sustainable Development Goals. In this context, **we recommend** the Government of Cambodia to continue its considerable efforts to promote and protect human rights, through concrete commitment for good governance, transparency, public participation in decision-making process and access to justice.

In this regard, we welcome, specifically the new instruction issued by the Ministry of Interior, which allows the NGO’s to conduct their activities in accordance with Cambodian laws, with full freedom; forming of the new Supreme Consultative Council established by the Royal Decree, which was created to mitigate the absence of an elected opposition in the National Assembly and the latest amendment on the Law on Political Parties that would create an appeal mechanism for the politicians who were banned from politics to return to their political activities.

I thank you Mr. President.