**UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW OF QATAR**

**(15 May 2019)**

**STATEMENT BY TURKEY**

Mr. President,

We welcome the Qatari delegation and thank them for their presentation.

Despite the unjust blockade Qatar has been facing since June 2017, Qatar showed progress and strong commitment on human rights issues.

We praise the efforts and peaceful policies pursued by Qatar, based on crisis management and the principles of good governance, international cooperation, mediation and economic development.

We support Qatar in its efforts seeking to protect its citizens’ human rights, which have been violated by the blockade.

We note with satisfaction that Qatar has put into force several important international human rights instruments and has developed its own legislation.

Qatar has achieved progress in the area of human rights as part of the Qatar National Vision 2030.

We encourage the Qatari authorities to take forward this comprehensive reform process and to continue its efforts in the field of human rights.

Thank you Mr. President.