**UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW OF PORTUGAL**

**(8 May 2019)**

**STATEMENT BY TURKEY**

Mr. President;

Turkey welcomes the Portuguese delegation and thanks them for their presentation.

We note with appreciation the efforts of Portugal in the field of protection and promotion of human rights and recognize its support for international human rights mechanisms.

Also, Portugal’s efforts in combatting racism and tackling the root causes of intolerance are noteworthy.

However, noting the need for additional measures, we **recommend** that Portugal takes further steps so as to ensure that acts of hate speech are properly investigated and as appropriate, prosecuted and punished.

Acknowledging the efforts of Portugal for an open approach to refugees, Turkey **recommends** Portugal to ensure the establishment of more effective mechanisms which would strengthen the quality of integration of refugees.

We **recommend** Portugal to make available adequate resources, which would improve the housing conditions in the country.

Finally, we would like to learn more about the measures taken by the government in the efforts to combat gender based violence.

Thank you.