*Please check against the delivery*

**35th session of the UPR Working group**

**Consideration of the UPR Report of Turkey**

Statement by Pakistan

(Tuesday, January 28, 2020)

Madam President,

Pakistan warmly welcomes the distinguished delegation of Turkey, led by H.E. Faruk Kaymakci, (Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs) and commend them for a comprehensive presentation of their national report.

We appreciate efforts and strides made by Turkey for promoting human rights inside the country. We also commend Turkey’s efforts to provide protection, free health-care and education services as well as psychological support, vocational training and social activities to refuges living in Turkey. We also appreciate Turkey’s zero tolerance against torture policy (2003), and introduction of a comprehensive set of legislation and other measures to prevent, investigate, prosecute and punish all acts of torture and ill treatment.

Pakistan recommends the Government of Turkey to:

1. Enhance efforts to raise awareness for human rights in the judiciary and organize training courses on the issues that pertain to freedom of expression and the press;
2. Give due consideration to gender equality in the recruitment of judges, prosecutors and other court staff;
3. Take concrete steps to ensure access to justice for people in vulnerable situations, such as women, children, migrants, elderly or persons with disabilities;
4. Consider reviewing the Law on Protection of Family and Prevention of Violence against Women to address the challenges arising its implementation.

We wish Turkey a very successful review.

I thank you Madam President.