**UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW**

**36th SESSION**

**REVIEW OF BELARUS**

**INTERVENTION BY TURKEY**

**(2 November 2020)**

Madame President,

We warmly welcome the distinguished delegation of Belarus.

The preservation of political and economic stability in Belarus should be a major objective for the international community. This approach does not contradict with the support for the democratic process of the country.

In this understanding, we support the steps to be taken by Belarusian authorities to organize dialogue platforms for discussing prospects of the country's development, including the constitutional reform.

We welcome Belarus’s efforts to expand its international obligations in human rights legislation. The entry into force of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, as well as introducing a draft Parliamentary bill on the rights and social inclusion of persons with disabilities are particularly noted.

Establishing a comprehensive system of child justice with specialized courts, procedures, trained judges, lawyers and law enforcement professionals in Belarus is of great importance as well.

Having said that, **we recommend** Belarus to:

1. Continue its efforts to establish a national human rights institution with a view to oversee, coordinate and set standards for the effective implementation of human rights priorities.

2. Continue addressing the challenges posed by urban-rural dichotomy and to combat poverty in rural areas.

I thank you.