

**UPR WORKING GROUP –SIXTEENTH SESSION  
(22 April - 3 May 2013)**

**UPR OF TURKMENISTAN– INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE**

**22 April 2013: 0900-1230 hrs.**

**INTERVENTION BY INDIA**

President,

India warmly welcomes the delegation of Turkmenistan led by H.E. Vepa Hajiev, First Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and thanks the delegation for its National report and presentation. We commend Turkmenistan for presenting a comprehensive overview of action being undertaken to implement recommendations received during the first cycle of the UPR.

2. We welcome the action taken by Turkmenistan to ensure human rights protection, particularly in the framework of its legal reform carried out from 2008 to 2012 to bring its domestic legislation in line with its international treaty obligations. We also take positive note of its 2010-2015 National Programme on Early Development of Children which is an important step in realising the rights of Turkmen children.

3. We note with interest the inclusion of special features governing employment of persons under 18 years in the Labour Code adopted in 2009. We would request the delegation to further elaborate on this, particularly with respect to working standards for young employees.

4. We note that Turkmenistan has taken steps towards developing a national human rights action plan, starting with a workshop in June 2012 and that OHCHR is one of the implementation partners of the joint project “Strengthening the capacity of Turkmenistan to promote and protect human rights”. We encourage them to continue such collaborative efforts to enhance the promotion and protection of human rights.

5. We wish the delegation of Turkmenistan the very best in their endeavour to further promote and protect of human rights in their country.

Thank you.

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