



**STATEMENT BY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF TURKEY,  
AMBASSADOR TACAN ILDEM, ON THE RATIFICATION BY MONGOLIA  
OF THE SECOND OPTIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE ICCPR  
898<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE PERMANENT COUNCIL  
19 JANUARY 2012**

Mr Chairman,

Turkey welcomes the ratification by the Mongolian Parliament on 5 January 2012 of the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty.

Turkey believes that death penalty is a cruel and inhuman punishment which does not serve its purpose, let aside the irreversible negative consequences it is conducive to introduce due to its very nature. Abolition of the death penalty will definitely contribute to enhancement of human dignity and progressive development of human rights.

We believe that the Mongolian authorities will incorporate the Second Optional Protocol into their domestic criminal legislation in good time so as to ensure that the death penalty will legally be eradicated as a logical sequence of the moratorium exercised since January 2010.

We congratulate Mongolia for taking up another step that is fully in line with the spirit of the OSCE values.

Taking this opportunity I would like to express our expectation that the Chairmanship will take the application of Mongolia to become a participating State of the OSCE forward in due time, without delay.

Thank you.