

UPR 14 – Ukraine – 24 October 2012

STATEMENT by BULGARIA

Thank you, Madame President,

Bulgaria warmly welcomes the distinguished delegation of Ukraine, headed by

We would like to thank Ukraine for the comprehensive presentation today of the second UPR report and for the information provided on the implementation of the recommendations accepted during the first cycle.

Furthermore, we congratulate Ukraine for the way the report was prepared at the national level, involving broad public discussion, as well as the holding of round tables and thematic working groups.

We take positive note Ukraine's ratification in the last four years of a number of substantive international human rights instruments - among which are some key Conventions of the Council of Europe.

Bulgaria commends Ukraine for the establishment in 2008 of an Office of a Parliamentary Human Rights Commissioner (Ombudsman), who received A status in 2009, and the election of a new Ombudsperson in April this year. We note that work is still under way in Ukraine on the preparation of a comprehensive antidiscrimination legislation, identifying the entities to be assigned powers in preventing and combating discrimination, including the Ombudsman (the Parliamentary Human Rights Commissioner), who will assume additional functions in that area.

Bulgaria seizes this opportunity to support the recommendation made to Ukraine by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination to accelerate the adoption of an anti-discrimination act, stipulating the definition of direct/indirect and de facto/de jure discrimination.

Thank you, Madame President.