<u>UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW</u> <u>14th Session</u> 22 October – 5 November 2012

UKRAINE

Madame President,

Cyprus welcomes the Ukraine's participation in 2nd cycle of the UPR and its presentation by [...].

At first, the Delegation of the Republic of Cyprus welcomes the efforts of the Government of Ukraine to address the problems related to the trafficking in persons, especially children, to provide a framework for the implementation of State policies and to adopt and implement policies and comprehensive measures in this area.

As noted in the National Report, Ukraine has made an important step forward to prevent trafficking in persons and protect victims. In the past four years, Ukraine has ratified, among other international instruments, the Council of Europe's Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.

In this regard, Cyprus appreciates the ratification of these instruments as well as the adoption of the Combating Trafficking in Persons Act. We highly appreciate the Government's focus on the implementation aspects concerning the above-mentioned Act, covering the period up to 2015. We also welcome the adopted national social programme to combat trafficking in persons and the various types of monitoring established by the Government aiming at providing assistance to trafficked children.

At this stage, we would like to have more information about specific measures that have been taken to provide guarantees for compensation to victims of trafficking. In the meantime, Cyprus encourage the Government of Ukraine to continue its efforts in establishing additional shelters for rehabilitation and social integration of victims, and to ensure systematic investigation, prosecution and punishment of traffickers.

I thank you Madame President.