



(Please check against delivery)

RAJA INTAN
NOR ZAREEN

STATEMENT BY MALAYSIA
Review of Ukraine
14th Session of the UPR Working Group of the Human Rights Council
22 October – 5 November 2012

Thank you Madam President,

We welcome H.E. MR. NAZAR KULCHYTSKYI and the delegation of Ukraine to the 14th Session of the UPR Working Group. We also thank the Ukrainian delegation for their comprehensive and detailed presentation of its national report.

Madam President,

2. My delegation welcomes the achievements and progress that the Government of Ukraine has made since its first review in 2008 to improve the human rights situation in the country, particularly in the areas of education, health and human and social development. From the report, we are encouraged with the cooperation of the Government of Ukraine with the international human rights mechanisms, including the UN Treaty Bodies and Special Procedures. We also note the active work being done by the Ukrainian government to ratify a number of international instruments which is indeed a testament to the Government's commitment to better serve the particular needs and protect the rights of its people.

3. My delegation commends the efforts made by Ukraine in promoting and protecting the rights of children in the country and acknowledge the efforts made by the Government to ensure that its system for the protection of children's rights functions optimally. In this regard, we encourage Ukraine to continue implementing its 2009-2016 National Plan of Action towards achieving this endeavour. We laud the Government's efforts in introducing elements of human rights education in the subjects of its mandatory core curriculum as early as in primary education.

4. My delegation also acknowledges the serious attention given by the Government of Ukraine in combating trafficking in persons and domestic violence, among others.

5. As acknowledged in its national report, the Government of Ukraine admits that it is confronted with various challenges in the field of human rights. We appreciate this sincere admission by Ukraine in this regard and believe that the Government will do its utmost to address those challenges.

Madam President,

6. To assist Ukraine in further improving the promotion and protection of human rights, my delegation would like to make the following recommendations:

6.1. to step up efforts to strengthen the national mechanism for the advancement of women and to provide such mechanism with adequate resources; and

6.2. to continue its efforts to combat discrimination and to ensure that manifestations of racial, ethnic and religious hatred are promptly investigated and acted upon accordingly. In this regard, we encourage the Ukrainian Government to intensify its efforts in enacting anti-discrimination laws.

I thank you, Madam President.

GENEVA

24 October 2012