



PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA
GENEVA

The 14th Session of the UPR Working Group
Review of Ukraine
Geneva, 24 October, 2012

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Statement of the Republic of Korea

Thank you Madam President,

The Republic of Korea welcomes the efforts by the Government of Ukraine to implement the recommendations made during the previous cycle of the UPR.

We especially welcome its endeavors to ensure the independent functioning of the Ombudsman system, as well as the steps that have been taken since 2010 to ensure comprehensive judicial reform. We also note with satisfaction the amendments made to some laws on the right of the persons with disabilities, which provide for further harmonization of those laws with CRPD. We further expect the general election of October 28 to be held in a free, transparent and fair environment, which will be yet another opportunity for affirming and enhancing the pillars of democracy and rule of law as well as human rights in Ukraine.

Considering, however, that room for further improvement exists, my delegation would like to make the following recommendations:

First, the ROK notes with concern certain allegations of torture, ill-treatment and the widespread practice of using forced confession in criminal proceedings. We therefore recommend that the Government of Ukraine continue to make effort with regard to reform in criminal procedures, including enhancing the independence and impartiality of the Prosecutor's Office as well as the updating of pre-trial investigating procedures.

Second, the ROK notes the concern put forward by some human rights bodies that there are no current measures available to solve problems faced by ethnic minorities, including ethnic Koreans and would therefore like to recommend that the Government of Ukraine exert all efforts to redress discriminatory treatment imposed upon them. Thank you. /END/