

Human Rights Council

15th session of the UPR Working Group

Review of France

January 21, 2013

Intervention by Ukraine

Mr. President,

Ukraine welcomes the delegation of France at the 15th session of the UPR Working Group and appreciates presentation of the National report that reflects efforts taken by the Government of France to implement recommendations accepted during the first UPR cycle.

Our delegation recognizes France's strong commitments to human rights protection and promotion and welcomes the efforts being made by the French Government to ensure a more coherent approach to fighting all forms of discrimination on grounds of origin, particularly through a national action plan to combat racism and anti-Semitism for 2012-2014.

With regard to equity and non-discrimination we would like to make following recommendations on issues pointed out by the CERD and HRC respectively:

- to promote understanding, tolerance and friendship between nations and racial and ethnic groups;
- to reinforce the legislative framework and institutional mechanisms to exclude all discriminatory practices that prevent equal access to employment for persons belonging to ethnic, national or religious minorities.

Thank you, Mr. President.

Oleksii KOLUBOV