

Human Rights Council
17th session of the UPR Working Group
Review of Saudi Arabia
October 21, 2013
Intervention by Ukraine

Mr. President,

Ukraine welcomes the delegation of The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the 17th session of the UPR Working Group and thanks for presentation of the National report prepared in consultations with civil society representatives and active members of the human rights community.

We commend Saudi Arabia's acceding to a number of international human rights conventions since 2009 and signing of a Memorandum of Understanding for Technical Cooperation between the OHCHR and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in 2012 aiming at developing capacity-building projects and activities to enhance national capabilities for the promotion and protection of human rights.

We wish to also welcome Saudi Arabia's continuous financial contribution to OHCHR significantly increased in 2012.

Ukraine positively notes progress achieved in Saudi Arabia in promoting women's advancement in the labor market, access to education and political participation in parliament.

Ukraine wishes to make following recommendation: **to continue efforts to promote gender equality and strengthen the role of women in society.**

I thank you, Mr. President.