

**Human Rights Council
18th session of the UPR Working Group
Review of the Dominican Republic
February 5, 2014
Intervention by Ukraine**

Mme. Vice-President,
Mr. President,

We welcome the delegation of the Dominican Republic to the 18th session of the UPR Working Group and thank for the presentation of the National report reflecting efforts taken to implement recommendations accepted during the first cycle of the Review.

Ukraine recognizes progress achieved in the Dominican Republic in human rights sphere since the last review. We commend ratification of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment in 2012 and recommend that the Government of the Dominican Republic considers accession to the Optional Protocol to the Convention.

We also take positive note of the Ombudsman appointment in 2013 and would like to recommend that the Dominican Republic:

- ensures the independence of the Office of the Ombudsman in accordance with the Paris Principles;
- takes measures to provide the Office of the Ombudsman with adequate resources.

Besides, Ukraine shares concerns expressed with regard to conformity of the constitutional framework of the Dominican Republic on migration with international standards regarding nationality, and wishes to encourage the Dominican Government to abstain from applying the 2004 General Migration Act retroactively and to maintain Dominican nationality for persons who acquired it at birth.

Mme. Vice-President
To conclude, ~~Mr. President~~, we wish the delegation of the Dominican Republic a successful review session and further progress in promotion and protection of human rights.

Mme. Vice-President
Thank you, Mr. President.