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**Human Rights Council
22nd session of the UPR Working Group
- Review of Panama
6 May 2015
Intervention by Ukraine**

Mr. President,

Ukraine welcomes the delegation of Panama and thanks for the presentation of the National report.

Positively noting establishment in 2012 of the national standing committee, comprising several ministries and open to civil society, to ensure compliance with and follow-up to the national and international human rights commitments of Panama, we would encourage it to take measures in order to further strengthen this mechanism.

While commending efforts undertaken by the Government of Panama to implement the outcomes of the first UPR cycle, Ukraine offers the following recommendations:

- to continue efforts aimed at promoting rights of children, in particular children belonging to indigenous groups and children with disabilities and HIV/AIDS;

- to take further measures to combat gender-based violence, trafficking in women and girls and sexual exploitation.

Recognizing crucial importance of prevention of human rights violations, we would also like to encourage the Government of Panama to reinforce its efforts in providing the Ombudsman's Office that chairs the National Commission against Discrimination with adequate human resources and funding.

Thank you, Mr. President.