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Human Rights Council
25th session of the UPR Working Group

Review of Samoa

May 3, 2016

Intervention by Ukraine

Mr. President,

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

Our delegation would like to commend the achievements of the Government of Samoa since the first UPR cycle, in particular:

- the signature of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities; and ratification, with some exceptions, of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance;
- the expansion of the mandate of the Office of the Ombudsman which thus become the National Human Rights Institution, and the corresponding amendment of the Constitution;
- the improving of cooperation with special procedures by issuing the standing invitation;
- the increasing in human rights awareness programmes delivered by both governmental structures and civil society organizations;
- the decision to introduce a 10% quota to reserve five seats for women in the Parliament.

The Ukrainian delegation wishes to encourage the Government of Samoa to take further measures in order to continue improving the human rights situations in the country, including in such spheres as women's and children's rights, health, criminal justice system and freedom of religion.

We would like to recommend to the Government of Samoa:

- to harmonize national laws with the international regulations on the rights of women and children;
- to submit overdue reports to the Human Rights Committee and to the Committee on Enforced Disappearances;
- to ratify CRPD and to consider ratifying other key international human rights treaties including ICESCR, ICERD, CAT as well as Optional Protocols to CAT and CRC.

Thank you, Mr. President.