*Сheck against delivery*

**Human Rights Council**

**26th session of the UPR Working Group**

**Review of Iceland**

**1st November 2016**

**Intervention by Permanent Representative of Ukraine,**

**Ambassador Yurii Klymenko**

**Mr. President,**

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

We commend efforts taken to implement the first UPR cycle recommendations. The Government of Iceland`s endeavors aiming at further promotion of gender equality and protection of human rights of women, the active stance in *#HeForShe* and *Barbershop Conference* campaigns could be taken as a roadmap to follow. There is a good progress in the promotion of the rights of persons with disabilities, in particular practical steps to ratify relevant international documents in this regard.

Ukraine also commends Iceland`s tangible contribution to the much-needed humanitarian aid to Syrian refugees, including its support to UN Women`s program in the Za-atari camp in Jordan.

We recommend to the Government of Iceland to:

- strengthen a national human rights institution, fully compliant with the Paris Principles;

- take further steps to protect the rights of the child, prevent child abuse, exploitation and violence;

- step up measures aimed at elimination of violence against women, in particular rape and sexual violence, and ensure appropriate data analyses in this regard;

- ratify the UN Convention for the Protection of all Persons from Enforced Disappearance;

- ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and establish the relevant National Torture Preventive Mechanism.

**Thank you.**