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**Human Rights Council**

**44th session of the UPR Working Group**

**Review of Turkmenistan**

*(6 November 2023)*

**Intervention by Ukraine**

*(Speaking time: 1 minute 30 seconds, 209 words)*

**Mr. President,**

We welcome the delegation of Turkmenistan headed by Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs HE Mr. Vepa Hajiyev, and thank it for presenting the national report and for participating in the UPR process.

Ukraine welcomes the work done by Turkmenistan to incorporate international law commitments related to child protection into its domestic legal framework, amendments to the Criminal Code of 2022 that define the concept of torture in accordance with the Convention against Torture, as well as the adoption of the road map on the elimination of violence against women and girls.

We encourage the Government of Turkmenistan to continue its efforts to maintain and strengthen the protection of human rights and, in the spirit of constructive engagement, would like to make the following **recommendations**:

* Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment;
* Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance;
* Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure.

We would also like to encourage Turkmenistan to further consolidate progress in achieving gender parity in social, political and economic spheres of life.

We wish Turkmenistan a successful UPR.

**I thank you.**