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**Human Rights Council**

**45th session of the UPR Working Group**

**Review of Belize**

**29 January 2024**

**Intervention by the delegation of Ukraine**

*Speaking time: 1 min 50 sec*

**Mr. President,**

Ukraine welcomes the delegation of Belize and thanks for the presentation of the national report.

Ukraine acknowledges the progress of Belize in fulfilling the recommendations accepted during its third UPR.

We positively note legislative and policy measures taken by the country since its last report to strengthen promotion of human rights and protection of the most vulnerable groups of population, especially towards ensuring children’s rights, rights of minorities and indigenous communities.

We share Belize's concern about the adverse impact of the Russian aggression against Ukraine on the economies of small island states like Belize and urge Russia to stop hurting the popultations in the developing countries.

In the spirit of constructive dialogue Ukraine would like to recommend to the Government of Belize:

* to strengthen, in line with the Paris Principles, the institute of the Ombudsman of Belize;
* to adopt comprehensive legislation against discrimination to provide effective assistance and ensure affordable access to remedies for all victims;
* to continue its efforts to achieve the equal representation of women in political and public life, including through the introduction of temporary special measures such as quotas;
* to take policy measures to strengthen the inclusion of persons with disabilities and their access to education, health services, work and protection during humanitarian or security emergencies.

Ukraine wishes Belize a successful review and further progress in the promotion and protection of human rights.

**Thank you.**