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**Human Rights Council**

**46th session of the UPR Working Group**

**Review of Vanuatu**

*(02 May 2024)*

**Intervention by Ukraine**

*(Speaking time: 1 min 45 sec, 208 words)*

**Thank you, Mr. President,**

Ukraine warmly welcomes the delegation of Vanuatu and expresses gratitude for the presentation of its national report.

We commend the progress achieved by the Government of Vanuatu in implementing previous recommendations and the practical measures taken in the areas of public health, education and gender equality. In this context, we appreciate the steps taken to improve national legislation aimed at preventing any form of abuse and at increasing participation of women in public and political life.

We also acknowledge the efforts to address climate change, natural disaster and environmental challenges with particular focus on the protection of vulnerable groups, including women, children, and persons with disabilities.

In the spirit of constructive dialogue, we encourage Vanuatu to further its progress and recommend:

* Ratifying and implementing the core human rights treaties, including International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights, Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture;
* Accelerating the adoption of the Juvenile Justice Bill to protect children's rights and prohibit all forms of ill-treatment;
* stepping up efforts towards establishing a national human rights institution in line with the Paris Principles.

We wish the delegation of Vanuatu a successful review.

**I thank you.**