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**Human Rights Council**

**28th session of the UPR Working Group**

**Review of Benin**

**November 10, 2017**

**Intervention by Ukraine**

**Mr. President,**

Ukraine welcomes the delegation of Benin and commends the efforts of the Government of Benin in preparing its National report in accordance with the Human Rights Council’s general guidelines through inclusive national consultations and cooperation between state authorities and civil society actors with assistance of the OHCHR and the Organisation internationale de la Francophonie.

We are pleased to note certain progress achieved by the Government of Benin in improving its national legislation in respect of human rights, in particular the adoption of Children’s Code, Information and Communication Code and a number of other laws and regulations including the law on the establishment of the Human Rights Commission.

We recognize Benin’s commitments to eliminate torture and steps taken in this regard, including the adoption of new laws and organizing training programs on the prevention of torture.

Our **recommendations**:

to continue building up the national human rights institutional framework, in particular the Human Rights Commission, and to ensure its effective functioning;

to take further proper legislative measures to abolish the death penalty;

to launch the human rights educational programs for law enforcement officers on issues of combating torture and respect for human rights.

**Thank you.**