*As prepared. Check against delivery*

38th session of Working Group on Universal Periodic Review

Review of Paraguay

*(5 May 2021)*

Intervention by Ukraine

Mme President,

Ukraine welcomes Paraguay’s delegation and the country’s adherence to the Review process.

We note with appreciation that Paraguay makes positive steps towards combatting gender violence and trafficking in women, implementing the recommendations on the matter, received during the second UPR cycle, including from the Ukrainian delegation.

At the same time further efforts are needed to prevent, combat and punish trafficking in persons, including by providing training for judges, prosecutors, law enforcement officers and immigration agents.

We are especially concerned about reported facts of the increase in domestic violence against women and girls, child abuse and mistreatment in the circumstances of COVID-19, and about reports of an alarming number of femicides.

Ukraine recommends to Paraguay to:

- step up efforts to prevent, combat and punish femicides and all acts of violence against women, girls and adolescents;

- ensure that human trafficking offences are investigated promptly, thoroughly and impartially, that the persons responsible are prosecuted and punished, and the victims have access to adequate protection and assistance measures, including legal assistance;

- step up efforts to prevent, combat and punish child labour;

- take necessary steps, including at the constitutional level, to ensure that the Ombudsman’s Office is fully compliant with the Paris Principles.

Le deseamos a Paraguay una revisión exitosa.

Thank you.