*As prepared. Check against delivery*

**39h session of Working Group on Universal Periodic Review**

**Review of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines**

*(3 November 2021)*

**Intervention by Ukraine**

**Madame President,**

Ukraine welcomes the delegation of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and the country’s adherence to the Review process.

We note with appreciation that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines had ratified the majority of the core international human rights treaties.

According to the stakeholders’ information, women in this country continue to face various forms of discrimination, including gender-based violence, sexual harassment in the workplace and daily life. In this regard, we welcome the passing of Domestic Violence Act with all-embracing provisions and **call** for its full implementation.

We r**ecommend** Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to

* ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communication procedure;
* consider ratifying or acceding to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, and the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment;
* pay more attention to the prevention of human trafficking and the prosecution of perpetrators;
* establish a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles;
* extend a standing invitation to special procedures of the Human Rights Council.

We wish Saint Vincent and the Grenadines a successful review.

**I thank you.**