*As prepared. Check against delivery*

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

**Review of Trinidad and Tobago**

*(9 November 2021)*

**Intervention by Ukraine**

**Madame President,**

Ukraine welcomes the delegation of Trinidad and Tobago and the country’s adherence to the Review process.

We note advancements to human rights protection through legislative and systemic changes since the Trinidad and Tobago’s last review in 2016.

At the same time, it is a matter of serious concern that Trinidad and Tobago remains a source, transit and destination country for trafficking in persons especially in women and girls for purposes of labour and sexual exploitation.

We **encourage** Trinidad and Tobago to continue dedicated efforts aimed at addressing the root causes of trafficking in women and girls and ensuring the rehabilitation and social integration of victims as well as enforcing anti-trafficking legislation by thoroughly investigating, prosecuting and punishing perpetrators.

We note that countering gender-based violence has been an important priority for Trinidad and Tobago. We **call it upon** to enforce relevant legislation that would be instrumental for further progress.

Ukraine also **recommends** Trinidad and Tobago to:

- establish a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles; and

- extend a standing invitation to special procedures of the Human Rights Council.

We wish Trinidad and Tobago a very successful review.

**I thank you.**