**Human Rights Council**

**42nd session of the UPR Working Group**

**Review of Japan**

*(31 January 2023)*

**Intervention by Ukraine**

**Thank you,** **Madame Vice-President,**

Ukraine warmly welcomes the distinguished delegation of Japan and thanks for the presentation of its report. We highly commend country’s strong commitment to the promotion and protection of human rights, both at a national and global level, which was distinctly testified during Japan’s recent active membership in the Human Rights Council and continued role as a member of the UNSC.

We welcome the efforts made by the Government of Japan to further strengthen human rights protection, improve policies and awareness raising in various areas.

We commend the practical steps undertaken by Japan towards achieving gender equality, such as those aimed at narrowing gender wage gap and promoting women’s economic empowerment.

In the spirit of constructive engagement Ukraine would like to offer Japan the following **recommendations**:

* to further strengthen anti-discrimination policies by enacting a comprehensive legislation in the area;
* to increase efforts towards establishing an independent national human rights institution in line with the Paris Principles.

We wish the delegation of Japan a very successful review.

**I thank you.**