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**Human Rights Council**

**42nd session of Working Group on Universal Periodic Review**

**Review of Sri Lanka**

*(1 February 2023)*

**Intervention by Ukraine**

*(Speaking time: 1 min. 5 sec.)*

**Mr President,**

Ukraine welcomes the delegation of Sri Lanka and thanks for the presentation of its national report.

We welcome the positive steps taken by the Government of Sri Lanka to implement the recommendations it committed to at the previous UPR session and cooperation with HR mechanisms.

Ukraine encourages Sri Lanka to continue its efforts and **recommends** the following:

* to consider participating in core human rights treaties;
* to ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty;
* to strengthen and ensure the independence of the National Human Rights Commission.

**I thank you.**