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**Human Rights Council**

**29th session of the UPR Working Group**

**Review of the Bahamas**

**January 17, 2018**

**Intervention by the delegation of Ukraine**

**Mr. President,**

Ukraine welcomes the delegation of the Bahamas and thanks for the presentation of the National report.

We acknowledge that positive steps were taken by the Bahamas with respect to the implementation of the recommendations accepted during its second UPR cycle. In particular we would like to commend:

- strengthening legal framework in education, national health insurance, emergency relief assistance, land and estate administration, industrial relations and immigration;

- creating committees and councils tasked with ensuring children’s rights;

- improving access to justice.

We would like to encourage the Government of the Bahamas to maintain a consistent dialogue with the civil society aimed at advancing the provisions of the Constitution to higher human rights standards.

While praising a recognized high score of the Bahamas in human development, Ukraine wishes to offer the following **recommendations**:

- building on the existing *de facto* moratorium on the death penalty, to make this moratorium *official* through ratifying the Second OP to the ICCPR;

-  to implement the plans on the establishment of the Office of an Ombudsman;

- to issue an open standing invitation to the HRC special procedures.

**Thank you.**