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**Human Rights Council**

**33rd session of the UPR Working Group**

**Review of Bhutan**

**Intervention by Ukraine**

*(May 8, 2019)*

**Mr.President,**

Ukraine thanks Bhutan for the presentation of its National Report.

Ukraine compliments Bhutan for democratic reforms, including in the field of human rights, undertaken since transition to constitutional monarchy in 2008. Particularly noteworthy are establishment of strong institutional and legislative frameworks on gender equality, rights of children and persons with disabilities, adoption of legislation on domestic violence, implementation of important anti-corruption, poverty reduction and education promotion measures.

Continued implementation of international human rights standards and cooperation with relevant UN institutions are important for further progress.

We present the following **recommendations**:

- to intensify the process of ratification of core international human rights instruments;

- to respond constructively to pending requests for country visits by HRC special procedures and consider extending a standing invitation to all of them;

- to take steps to set up a national human rights institution compliant with the Paris Principles;

- to consolidate human rights policies within the framework of a comprehensive national strategy.