Ukraine sees great importance of the work of the UN human rights treaty bodies (TBs) as a key component of monitoring compliance of State Parties with their international human rights obligations, and supports every effort to increase TBs’ efficiency, effectiveness and accessibility.

Ukraine would like to point out that resolution 68/268 has already contributed to strengthening and enhancing the effective functioning of the human rights TBs system. We positively note the introduction by some TBs of the simplified reporting procedure, which can be considered as a step forward to increasing their efficiency, as well as an important tool for more constructive cooperation with States Parties. The treaty bodies, with the OHCHR assistance, should establish a common practice of simplified reporting procedure.

The progress in reducing backlogs of reports processed by the TBs, use the of electronic tools, in particular access to database and webcasting, can also be considered as a positive development.

Nevertheless, while recognizing the efforts of the Secretary-General, OHCHR and TBs themselves to implement the 68/268 resolution, in our point of view, there is still a room for improvement to implement fully the resolution’s provisions.

In this regard, Ukraine notes the lack of harmonization and coherence between working methods and rules of procedures of each TB. The OHCHR, as the TBs’ Secretariat, within its capacity and responsibility should address issues such as assisting the TBs with identifying ways and modalities to a better coordination and harmonization of their work, scheduling reviews, as well as assisting States Parties in preparation for the reviews, particularly through timely notification of reviews and their modalities.

One of the main difficulties for states is the complexity of managing their schedules for the submission of reports and reviews to different TBs. Quite a long period of time between the submission of reports and the later reviews often obligates States Parties to submit written replies to the List of Issues, which covers all the relevant and recent developments that occurred after the submission of the reports before their reviewing. We believe that dialogue between State Party and the respective TB should take place shortly after the national report has been submitted.

Another problem which many states faced is scheduling reviews to different TBs for one state during one given year. The lack of guidance based on the principles of predictability, transparency, flexibility and coordination between the TBs resulted in reviewing one state by different (3-4) TBs within a short time frame.

Therefore, we believe, in order to ensure the predictability and better coordinated review cycles, it is important to establish a multi-year calendar for all the TBs. The OHCHR should guide the TBs in creating the review cycles system, within which States Parties could be reviewed according to above multi-annual calendar specifying the deadline of the national reports submissions and the TB’s sessions. In our point of view, the UPR system provides a decent model to follow.

According to working methods of relevant committees after the constructive dialogue committee may ask the State party to provide supplementary information within 48 hours. In order to facilitate collection and effective provision of supplementary information we would like to propose to enlarge the timeline dedicated for submission of such supplementary information from current 48 hours up to at least 72 hours (it is deemed desirable to consider proposed 72 hours exclusively during the working days), taking into consideration that preparation of such information and its translation into committee`s working languages, as a rule, takes considerable amount of time, including searching statistical data or requesting specific information from local authorities or territorial offices.