

STATEMENT
of the Ukrainian delegation at the 9th session of the UN Human Rights Council
on withdrawal of the draft resolution "Remembrance of the Holodomor of
1932 and 1933 in Ukraine" (A/HRC/9/L.4)

Mr. President,

While building a future we should always keep in mind the lessons of the past. No doubt that Holodomor which took millions of lives was one of the most tragic events in the history of the Ukrainian nation to be always remembered.

This year we honor the 75th anniversary of Holodomor. We were certain that it would be appropriate for this high international forum to commemorate its victims. Our delegation believes that the tragedy should eternally remain in the past and shall never again happen in any other part of the world. We also believe that the memories of the past horrors and crimes against humanity should redouble efforts of the international community to ensure unconditional observance of fundamental human rights of peoples and individuals throughout the world.

These ideas we have introduced in the draft resolution "Remembrance of the Holodomor of 1932-1933 in Ukraine" submitted to the current session. We hoped to find consensus. As soon as we found out that consensus cannot be reached we did our best to achieve compromise. In this regard we would like to express our gratitude to all delegations for fruitful cooperation, especially to those who decided to become our co-sponsors: Estonia, Georgia, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Monaco and Poland.

Mr. President,

With deep respect to the principles and spirit of the Council, with regard to the fact that the issue of Holodomor is being considered at other international fora the Ukrainian delegation has decided to withdraw this draft from the agenda of the current session in order to avoid the simultaneous duplication of the decisions by different international bodies. But we call on all countries of the world to share with us our sympathy to the people who suffered during Holodomor and to support our initiative within other international organizations.

Thank you, Mr. President