

Statement
by H.E. Mr. Mykola Maimeskul,
Head of delegation of Ukraine to the 2011 Substantive session of ECOSOC,
Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations Office
and other International Organizations in Geneva
on agenda item 2 (c) Thematic discussion: current global and national trends and
challenges and their impact on education

Geneva, 6 July 2011

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Thank you, Mr. President

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

As mentioned in the "Education for All Global Monitoring Report 2010", the international community is still a long way from attaining the goal of universal primary education, despite falling numbers for non-school-attending children worldwide.

Speaking about challenges in achieving internationally agreed goals related to education, Ukraine is concerned that gender-based violence, discrimination and sexual harassment still hinder girls' and women's access to education in many countries.

Being a Member of the Executive Board of the UN-Women, my country acknowledges the strong linkage between education and all six priorities of UN-Women Strategic Plan for 2011-2013.

As the current Chair of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, Ukraine is actively involved in the standardization process, in particular, in the field of education.

In this regard, we welcome the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence, recently opened for signature, which, in particular, refers to the importance of education.

Last year Ukraine ratified the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings, which also underlines the importance of education. The relevant Law of Ukraine was adopted to adjust national legislation to the norms of the Convention.

With regard to the increasing role of information and communication technologies in providing access to education for all, we believe it's important to take strong measures to protect children and adolescents from Internet content, which could be inappropriate.

In this context, we welcome respective discussions held in the framework of the 2011 World Summit on the Information Society' Forum which took place in Geneva last May.