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PHILIPPINE STATEMENT FOR THE
2ND CYCLE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (2UPR)
21 MAY 2012, 9 am

BAHRAIN

Madame President,

My delegation welcomes H.E. Dr. Abdulrahman and the Bahraini delegation to the 13th session of the Universal Periodic Review, and appreciates Bahrain's commitment to the protection and promotion of human rights and its cooperation with the mechanisms of the Human Rights Council.

The Philippines congratulates Bahrain for the constructive approach that it has taken in preparing its national report. In particular, Bahrain, in the spirit of transparency, inclusion and responsiveness, incorporated on its national report inputs not only from relevant official agencies, but also those from the civil society organization.

The Philippines commends Bahrain for drafting a new labor law, currently being considered for adoption by Bahrain legislative authority, which contains a special chapter that mandates that minimum standards of work are included in the employment contract for domestic workers.

Amidst recent dynamic socio-political situations in the country, the need for steadfast and committed action in for human rights is all the more emphasized, and these institutional frameworks would serve as good foundation for the establishment and integration of human-rights based approaches to development.

The Philippines ^{recommends} ~~hopes~~ that Bahrain, as it progressively marches towards institutionalizing protective mechanisms for migrant workers, ~~will~~ consider joining other states in ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families and the ILO Convention 189 on Decent Work for Domestic Workers.

As we begin another cycle of the review, the Philippines is reassured that the Bahrain will continue to pursue its goals of achieving the highest standards of human rights protection for its people. We wish the Bahrain success in its efforts to create a more just and rights-based society.

Thank you, Madame President.