

PHILIPPINE STATEMENT FOR THE
2ND CYCLE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (2UPR)
23 MAY 2012, 230 PM

FINLAND

~~Madame~~
Madame President,

The Philippines welcomes H.E. Heidi Hautala and the ~~Finnish delegation~~ *delegation of Finland* to the 13th session of the Universal Periodic Review, and appreciates Finland's commitment to the protection and promotion of human rights and its cooperation with the mechanisms of the Human Rights Council.

The Philippines also welcomes the broad participatory process, which Finland underwent in the preparation of its UPR 2nd Cycle national report as well as in the formulation of its First National Action Plan for human rights promotion and implementation.

The Philippines commends Finland its frank acknowledgement that women are paid 17 percent less than men for doing the same or equivalent work. The Philippines recommends that Finland hasten implementation of programs on its National Action Plan towards the realization of the principle of equal pay for equal work to root out this discriminatory practice.

My delegation notes the assertion of Finland that migrants are treated similarly with its people and both enjoy the protection of domestic labor and social laws. As a way forward, however, the Philippines recommends on the Finland consider ratifying the International Convention for the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and their Families and the ILO Convention 189 on decent work of domestic workers.

As we begin another cycle of the review, the Philippines is reassured that Finland will continue to pursue its goals of achieving the highest standards of human rights protection for its people.

We wish the Finland success in its efforts to create a more just and rights-based society.

Thank you Madame President.