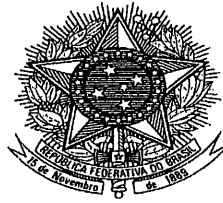


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**Human Rights Council
Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review
13th session
PHILIPPINES
29 May 2012**

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Madam President,

Brazil warmly welcomes the distinguished delegation of the Philippines to the UPR. We are thankful for the national report, as well as for the presentation this morning.

The Philippines – a multicultural nation and vibrant democracy – has taken important steps towards the promotion and protection of human rights.

The Philippines is pursuing, among others, the anti-poverty program Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program, 4Ps, now known as CCT, which provides direct cash transfers to the poor.

We take note with interest of the launch of (i) a Human Rights Plan, setting the track for mainstreaming human rights; and (ii) a Development Plan, with

a view to achieve inclusive growth, reduction of mass poverty and creation of jobs.

We encourage the Government of Philippines to pursue strategies for integrating development and human rights..

My country welcomes the initiative in broadening the mandate of the Commission on Human Rights of the Philippines to include economic, social and cultural rights.

It is to be noted that the Philippines ratified last year the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.

We would like to recommend to the Philippines to consider ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and enact domestic legislation to penalize enforced disappearance as defined in that Convention.

Thank you.