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Universal Periodic Review 13 – The Philippines

Intervention by the Netherlands

Vice-

Madame President,

Secretary De Lima

The Netherlands would like to thank the Honourable ~~Mr.~~ _____, for his introduction of the national report of the Philippines. It would like to acknowledge the continued commitment of the Philippines to improving the human rights situation of its citizens and to commend the Philippines with its accession to the Statute on the International Criminal Court. It is grateful for the answers to its written questions on sexual and reproductive rights, on impunity and on trafficking in human beings.

Vice-

Madame President,

The Netherlands would like to recommend the Government of the Philippines the following:

First: To provide complete and accurate information and access to all methods of family planning irrespective of sex or religion and to embed this policy in a legal framework with the adoption of the pending Reproductive Health Bill.

Second: To address concerns about impunity, through reforms in the criminal justice system, as well as by ensuring the speedy investigation, arrest, prosecution, trial and conviction of perpetrators, and by revoking executive order 546 which has been used as a basis for arming civilian volunteer units.

Third: To keep up the fight against human trafficking, illegal recruitment and laborexploitation, including the exploitation of domestic workers, especially of women.

Vice

Thank you, Madame President.