

Mme. President,

I would like to thank the delegation of the Republic of Philippines, led by H.E. Ms. Leila M. De Lima, Minister of Justice, for the presentation of the national report and for its participation in the review process.

Since its first review, Slovakia acknowledges Philippines's ratification of CRPD, the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court as well as the 1954 Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons. We recognise the important role played by the Philippines as an active promoter of human rights agenda within the Southeast Asian region, particularly ASEAN. Slovakia welcomes the broad national consultation process prior to the UPR as well as the declared commitment to involve civil society in the follow-up to the review.

Slovakia would like to present Philippines the following recommendations:

- 1. to intensify its efforts to combat, in particular, the worst forms of child labour in line with Philippines's obligations under the ILO Conventions No. 182 on the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour as well as No. 138 on Minimum Age for Admission to Employment,**
- 2. to ratify ILO Convention No. 189 on domestic workers as well as to enact the Domestic Workers' Bill,**
- 3. to increase its efforts, as a matter of urgency, in addressing high infant and maternal mortality rates, including providing an access to sexual and reproductive health information,**
- 4. to fully align the national legislation with all obligations arising out of the Rome Statute of the ICC,**
- 5. Last, but not least, Slovakia recommends Philippines to consider an early ratification of the newest international HR instrument – the third OP to CRC on a communication procedure.**

I thank you, Mme. President.