

15

TERLANA HENRY
(SECOND SECRETARY)

**STATEMENT BY THE PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO AT THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW OF THE
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
29th May 2012, 9am**

The delegation of Trinidad and Tobago extends a warm welcome to the delegation of the Philippines, led by Her Excellency De Lima and thanks her for her comprehensive report.

It is noteworthy that the Philippines has made significant efforts to give effect to the recommendations which were accepted out of the first cycle of UPR.

Trinidad and Tobago commends the Philippines for the following initiatives in relation to the UPR recommendations received in the first round of evaluation:

- Main streaming of human rights as a tool in good and effective governance.
- Deeping and broadening the Government's commitment to human rights.
- Aggressive advancement of economic and social rights.
- Sustainability of efforts in promoting sectoral rights, with special attention given to women's and children's rights.
- Establishment of complimentary mechanisms to further the protection of civil and political rights.

Trinidad and Tobago takes this opportunity to recognize that in its efforts to holistically deal with the overwhelming task of human rights protection in a country with many competing interests, the Philippines has encountered some challenges, and as such we make the following recommendation:

- The Philippines should continue to work as a matter of urgency to ensure that there are mechanisms to completely eliminate torture and extrajudicial killings, and to intensify its efforts to carry out investigations and prosecutions on extrajudicial killings and punish those responsible.
- The Philippines should continue its work in relation to the promotion of the protection of the rights of specific vulnerable groups in society such as senior citizens, the poor and those affected by natural disasters.

Thank you Madame President.