DRAFT PHILIPPINE STATEMENT FOR THE 2ND CYCLE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (2UPR) 31 MAY 2012, 230 pm

SOUTH AFRICA

Madame President,

The Philippines welcomes H.E._____ and the South African delegation to the 13th session of the Universal Periodic Review. The delegation notes South Africa's commitment to the protection and promotion of human rights and its cooperation with the mechanisms of the Human Rights Council.

The Philippines welcomes the frank acknowledgement of South Africa of what ails and impedes its society, development and societal cohesion.

The Philippines commends South Africa for selecting as its national priorities job creation, health, education, rural development and land reform, and food security. These priorities dovetails with the promotion and protection of the rights work, health, education, and adequate food.

As South Africa moves toward fulfilling its international obligations, especially in the field of human rights, the Philippines recommends South Africa consider setting the standards of protection for rights of migrant workers with minimum standards enshrined in the International Convention for the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and ILO Convention 189 on decent work for domestic workers.

As a new review cycle begins, Philippines is encouraged by the past performance of South Africa. The Philippines wishes South Africa more success in delivering the highest standards of protection of human rights to its people and those who sojourn in South African's land.

Thank you Madame President.