

PHILIPPINE STATEMENT FOR THE  
2<sup>ND</sup> CYCLE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (2UPR)  
22 MAY 2012, 9 am

**TUNISIA**

Madame President,

*SAMIR DILOU*

*Tunisian* The Philippine delegation welcomes H.E. \_\_\_\_\_ and the ~~Tunisian~~ ~~delegation~~ to the 13<sup>th</sup> session of the Universal Periodic Review, and appreciates Tunisia's commitment to the protection and promotion of human rights and its cooperation with the mechanisms of the Human Rights Council.

My delegation congratulates Tunisia for ~~successfully~~ *its successful* holding of a democratic, free and transparent electoral process for the members of the National Constitution Assembly (NCA) on 22 October 2011, and which in turn elected into office the current President and Prime Minister of Tunisia.

The Philippines appreciates the Tunisian Government's demonstrated commitment and solidarity to migrant workers in distress when it relaxed its immigration rules to allow entry into its territory migrant workers evacuating from crisis zones on the region.

The Philippines notes with admiration, that last year, in rapid succession, human rights conventions were ratified by Tunisia and incorporated these conventions to the Tunisian domestic legal system. The Philippines notes in particular that last year, Tunisia ratified, the following:

- International Convention for the Protection of All Persons for Enforced Disappearances
- Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
- Rome Statute
- Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

It was also last year that Tunisia withdrew its reservations on certain provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and on the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women.

The Philippines also notes with approval the actions of the Tunisian Government to quash the judicial convictions of human rights defenders.

Finally, my delegation recognizes the challenges that Tunisia, as a country in transition, is facing as it makes a clean break from the past and builds a solid foundation that will allow its citizens to ~~also~~ enjoy economic and social human rights.

Thank you Madame President

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