

PHILIPPINES

Statement by
H.E. Amb. Evan P. Garcia
Permanent Representative of the Philippines
to the United Nations and other International Organizations in Geneva

Human Rights Council
14th session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review

UPR of the CZECH REPUBLIC
22 October 2012

Madame President,

The Philippine delegation welcomes the delegation of the Czech Republic, headed by the Honorable Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Vladimir Galuska, to the 14th session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review. The Philippines appreciates the Czech Republic's constructive engagement in the UPR process.

The Philippines notes the on-going efforts of the Czech Republic to improve and revise its domestic legislations consistent with its international human rights obligations and commitments.

The Philippines also notes the Czech Republic's strong commitment to combat human trafficking. With the Czech Republic's adoption of significant legislation on criminal liabilities. The Philippines looks forward to the Czech Republic's ratification of international conventions on the fight against organized crime. In particular, the Philippines recommends that the Czech Republic consider ratifying the Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its Protocol.

The Philippines appreciates the Czech Republic's recognition of the importance of social integration of foreigners and that successful integration is crucial to the positive and effective contribution of migrants to the Czech society. It is in this vein that the Philippines recommends that the Czech Republic considers ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and their Families and ILO Convention 189.

The Philippines commends the Czech Republic for accepting almost all of the recommendations during its first Universal Periodic Review. My delegation hopes that the Czech Republic will continue to strengthen institutional structures to promote and protect human rights, especially the rights of the most vulnerable sectors, such as women, children, persons with disability and the elderly.

Mme. President, the Philippines wishes the Government of the Czech Republic success in the continued implementation of its accepted recommendations. Thank you.