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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
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UPR of Republic of PAKISTAN
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Madame President, the Philippine delegation welcomes the delegation of Pakistan and thanks Pakistan for its comprehensive national report.

The Philippines appreciates the great importance that Pakistan attaches to the UPR process. Pakistan has accepted and earnestly implemented a number of recommendations from its first UPR.

The Philippines acknowledges Pakistan's enactment of key domestic legislations which have enhanced the human rights of its people. My delegation welcomes, in particular, the establishment of the Ministry of Human Rights (in 2008) and the National Commission on Human Rights (in May 2012) in accordance with the Paris Principles.

Madame President, Pakistan continues to host millions of foreign refugees. As a developing country, this presents a huge challenge. The Philippines calls on the international community to extend the utmost support to Pakistan in shouldering this burden.

Madame President, Pakistan, like the Philippines, is country of origin of migrant workers. It is in this light that the Philippines recommends that Pakistan considers ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Their Families as well as the ILO Convention 189.

On the matter of trafficking in persons, the Philippines recommends that Pakistan considers ratifying the Palermo Protocol on human trafficking.

Finally, Madame President, the Philippines wishes Pakistan well in as confronts the challenges in promoting, protecting and implementing human rights. Thank you, Madame President.