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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  
**14<sup>th</sup> session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review**

**UPR of Republic of KOREA**  
25 October 2012

Madame President, the Philippine delegation welcomes the delegation of Korea and thanks Korea for its comprehensive national report.

The Philippines appreciates the great importance that Korea attaches to the UPR process. Korea has accepted and incorporated a great number of recommendations from the first UPR on its national action plan. It has also established an inter-agency working group to monitor its implementation.

The Philippines welcomes Korea's enactment of several domestic legislations which enhanced the promotion, protection, and fulfilment of human rights of its people. My delegation notes that Korea is pursuing efforts to amend domestic legislations to enable it to ratify a number of international regional human rights conventions. The Philippines notes that Korea has already ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities:

Korea has been a good host to thousands of Filipino and other migrant workers. Its Employment Permit System guarantees equal treatment of local and migrant workers in the application of labor related laws and policies such as minimum wage, and industrial safety and health standards. However, a number of migrant workers' rights are yet to be protected. Thus, the Philippines encourages Korea to enact other legislations that further protect the rights of migrants workers and their families. In the same vein, the Philippines recommends that Korea consider ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Their Families.

The Philippines further recommends that Korea continue to exert utmost efforts to ratify ILO Core Conventions, including the recent ILO Convention 189 on domestic work, as a way to fulfil Korea's voluntary pledge and commitment when it joined the Human Rights Council in 2008.

On the matter of trafficking in persons, the Philippines recommends that Korea consider steps up its efforts towards ratifying the Palermo Protocol.

Madame President, the Philippines wishes Korea well in its continuing journey to achieve the full realization and enjoyment of human rights of people. Thank you, Madame President.