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

Human Rights Council
15th session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review

UPR of LIECHTENSTEIN 30 January 2013

Mister President, the Philippines thanks the delegation of Liechtenstein for its constructive engagement with the Human Rights Council UPR mechanism and for the presentation of its second national report.

The Philippines commends Liechtenstein for its achievements in the advancement of the socio-economic rights of its people. The high level of human rights protection offered by Liechtenstein is indeed remarkable. The Philippines is pleased to note the recent reforms that Liechtenstein has introduced to further improve the human rights situation in the country, particularly with regard to gender equality, rights of children and other vulnerable groups such as older persons, persons with disabilities, and foreign resident population.

The Philippines recommends that Liechtenstein continues to study how it could further improve the integration of migrants in its society, with a view to providing them equal access to all basic social services and just conditions of work. In the same vein, the Philippines echoes the recommendations made by various treaty bodies for Liechtenstein to consider acceding to human rights conventions that it has yet to ratify, particularly the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (ICRMW) and ILO Convention 189.

The Philippines also notes with appreciation Liechtenstein's efforts to combat racial discrimination and trafficking in persons. The Philippines recommends that Liechtenstein continue to strengthen its programs to enhance tolerance and multiculturalism, with an aim to eliminate negative perceptions that could lead to discrimination or violence, particularly for women and children.

The Philippines appreciates the efforts being undertaken by Liechtenstein to meet its international humanitarian obligations. The Philippines wishes Liechtenstein success as it endeavors to contribute to the full realization of the human rights of all peoples.

Thank you, Mister President. END