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PHILIPPINES

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Statement by
H.E. Ambassador Denis Y. Lepatan
Charge d' Affaires, a.i., Permanent Mission 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 GERMANY

25 April 2013

Mister President, the Philippines welcomes the delegation of Germany and its comprehensive national report.

My delegation acknowledges the great importance that Germany attaches to human rights and its commitment to implement accepted recommendations to follow up on its first UPR.

Mister President, the Philippines notes the adoption by Germany of a number of new legislation to enhance human rights, particularly those concerning protection of victims of forced marriage and of sexual abuse. Moreover, the Philippines note Germany's ratification of several international human rights instruments during the review period.

My delegation also welcomes the inclusion in the German legal system the right to education, basic health care, and statutory legal protection for all migrants.

My delegation offers the following recommendations:

1. Reconsider its decision to continue imposing criminal sanctions against irregular migration, and
2. Continue to take steps to towards ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Their Families.

Thank you, Mister President.

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