

69

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PHILIPPINES

Human Rights Council
17th session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review

UPR of CHAD
29 October 2013

Mister President, the Philippines is pleased to welcome the delegation of Chad. We note the participatory process in the preparation of its national report.

We commend Chad's determination to strengthen its national human rights institutions. My delegation **recommends** that Chad steps up efforts in strengthening its National Human Rights Commission in line with the Paris Principles. We call on the international community to continue assisting Chad's efforts in strengthening its human rights institutions.

Mister President, it is noteworthy that since its last UPR review in 2009, Chad has ratified a number of core human rights instruments. We welcome Chad's ratification of the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Palermo Protocol on trafficking in persons, the two Optional Protocols of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and the Kampala Convention on internally displaced persons. The Philippines **recommends** that Chad considers pursuing ratification of more international human rights conventions.

We laud Chad in deciding to make the protection of the rights of women and girls, especially from harmful traditional practices such as female genitalia mutilation (FGM), a national priority. We acknowledge that despite FGM being banned in Chad, concerns are still being raised that a large percentage of women in Chad have been subjected to FGM. It is in this light that the Philippines **recommends** that Chad intensify the implementation of its laws, policies and programs aimed at combating violence against women.

In closing, Mister President, the Philippines joins other members of this Council in acknowledging the great importance that Chad attaches to its commitment to promote, protect and fulfil human rights. We wish Chad well as it implements the recommendations received during this UPR cycle. Thank you. **END**