

45
/

Please Check Against Delivery

PHILIPPINES

Statement by
H.E. Ambassador Cecilia B. Rebong
Permanent Representative of the Philippines
to the United Nations and other International Organizations in Geneva

Human Rights Council
18th Session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review

UPR of ERITREA

03 February 2014

Mister President, the Philippines welcomes the delegation of Eritrea to the 18th session of the UPR Working Group, and thanks it for the presentation of its national report.

We note the efforts made by Eritrea to implement the recommendations it has accepted in its first UPR and to meet its Millennium Development Goals.

The Philippines acknowledges the commitment of the Government of Eritrea to improve the condition of women and children in the country, and notes that the Government has taken steps to address gender inequality issues and female genital mutilation.

We wish to **recommend** the following for the consideration of Eritrea:

1. Continue to implement programs aimed at improving the quality of and access to education, giving particular attention to the needs of children from underprivileged families, including those in the rural or underserved areas;
2. Intensify efforts to combat child labor and trafficking in persons, especially women and children; and
3. Enhance and implement domestic laws to further promote and protect the civil and political rights of the Eritrean people.

Finally, Mister President, we wish Eritrea success as it endeavors to rebuild a peaceful and just society. Thank you Mister President. END