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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
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UPR of QATAR
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Thank you, Mister President.

The Philippines welcomes the delegation of Qatar and the presentation of its comprehensive national report. We appreciate its constructive engagement with the UPR mechanism.

My delegation is pleased to note the progress made by Qatar in its legislative and institutional framework since its first UPR. We wish to highlight the assistance provided by Qatar to developing countries to help them in achieving their Millennium Development Goals. We encourage Qatar to remain actively engaged in supporting international and regional partners to combat trafficking in persons, especially women and children.

We urge Qatar to continue to address concerns regarding working conditions of migrant workers and step up implementation of policies and programs aimed at promotion of workers' rights in accordance with international standards.

We submit to Qatar the following recommendations for its consideration:

1. Accede to core human rights treaties that it is not yet a party to, including the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of Migrant Workers and Members of their Families;
2. Accede to ILO Convention 189; and
3. Continue improving women empowerment programs and address issues of discrimination and domestic violence by intensifying awareness-raising campaigns and providing better access to remedy for all victims of domestic violence, irrespective of legal status.

Thank you, Mister President. **END**