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PHILIPPINES

Statement delivered by

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Permanent Representative of the Philippines to the United Nations
and other International Organizations in Geneva

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Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review

Human Rights Council

UPR of EGYPT

05 November 2014

Thank you, Mr. President.

The Philippines welcomes the delegation of Egypt and appreciates its engagement with the UPR mechanism. My delegation also thanks Egypt for the presentation of its national report. We note that its national report is a product of inter-agency consultation and national dialogue among key stakeholders conducted since December 2013.

Mister President, my delegation recognizes that Egypt is in the process of transition after the peaceful revolution of the Egyptian people under the banner of freedom, dignity, and social justice to end the previous regime, and for the respect of human rights and basic liberties. Egypt has made significant progress with the promulgation of its new constitution that codified guarantees for basic political, social, economic and civil rights and with the peaceful conduct of presidential elections. Despite these, however, we urge Egypt to take into consideration the concerns raised by civil society organizations, especially in the area of protection and promotion of civil and political rights.

Mister President, my delegation also acknowledges Egypt's sustained efforts to enhance the promotion and protection of the rights of trafficked persons and migrants. We take particular note of Egypt's ratification of the ICRMW and the Palermo Protocol on trafficking in persons and the aligning of its trafficking laws with international human rights standards. We are concerned, however, that protection of the rights of domestic workers remains problematic.

My delegation submits the following recommendations for the consideration of Egypt:

1. Continue to ensure its compliance with its human rights obligations especially those enshrined in ICCPR and other human rights agreements to which it is a state party;
2. Consider amendments to its Labor Code to cover and protect domestic workers and prohibit exploitative form of domestic work;
3. Consider ratifying ILO Convention 189; and
4. Ensure the establishment of a nationally integrated database on trafficking in persons.

Thank you, Mr. President. END