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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

**21st session of the
Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review
Human Rights Council**

**UPR of KUWAIT
28 January 2015**

Thank you, Mister President.

The Philippines welcomes the delegation of Kuwait to this UPR session.

My delegation welcomes the enactment of laws and promulgation of several decrees in Kuwait that are intended to protect the human rights of migrant workers, especially migrant household service workers. We are encouraged by the enactment of its anti-trafficking and anti-migrant smuggling laws in line with the Palermo protocols.

We are encouraged by Kuwait's acceptance of the chairmanship of the Abu Dhabi Dialogue and view this as Kuwait's readiness in positively contributing to the advancement of migrant workers' human rights. We **recommend** that Kuwait consider ratifying the ICRMW and the ILO Convention 189.

My delegation lauds the progress made by Kuwait with regard to women's rights. We welcome the move to criminalize all acts of violence against women. However, we remain concerned about persistent allegations of discrimination against women. We wish to know if Kuwait has plans to review and amend its nationality laws to allow Kuwaiti women to pass on their nationality to their children and foreign husbands similar to that being allowed for Kuwaiti men.

We wish Kuwait success in its 2nd UPR. Thank you, Mister President.

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