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**PHILIPPINES**

**Statement by H.E. Cecilia B. Rebong**

**Ambassador and Permanent Representative**

**to the United Nations and other International Organizations in Geneva**

**UPR of ANDORRA**

**22nd Session of the Universal Periodic Review**

**Human Rights Council**

**07 May 2015**

Mister President, the Philippines welcomes the delegation of the Principality of Andorra and the presentation of its national report. The Philippines appreciates Andorra’s demonstrated commitment to the UPR process.

Mister President, during the 1st cycle of the UPR, Andorra accepted the recommendation to establish an independent national human rights commission. My delegation **recommends** that Andorra further its effort towards the establishment its national human rights institution that is compliant with the Paris Principle.

My delegation lauds the establishment of the National Commission for the Prevention of Gender-based Violence and Domestic Violence (Commission). We **recommend** that Andorra continue to engage its international partners with the view of strengthening the capacity and enlarging the resource base of the Commission.

My delegation notes that legislations were adopted in Andorra that introduced standards and mechanisms that improved equality between men and women, particularly with regard to working conditions and remuneration. We remain concern, however, about the wage gap in the private sector and unequal access to managerial post, with women at the disadvantaged situation. We **recommend** that Andorra pursue measures in law and in practice that address these concerns.

My delegation is pleased with the amendments on Andorra’s Criminal Code, particularly the inclusion of the crime of trafficking for the purpose of organ harvesting and for sexual or labor exploitation. We **recommend** that Andorra continue to provide adequate human and other resources to its anti human trafficking programs.

Finally Mister President, my delegation **recommends** that Andorra consider ratifying ICRMW and ILO Convention 189. Thank you, Mister President.