

PHILIPPINES

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

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**UPR of the Republic of Rwanda
23rd Session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review
Human Rights Council
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Mister President, the Philippines welcomes the delegation of Rwanda and thanks the delegation for its report, which highlighted advances made in implementing Rwanda's accepted recommendations and efforts to fulfill its people's right to adequate standards of living.

The Philippines appreciates the reaffirmation of the independence and autonomy of Rwanda's national human rights institution, as well as the expansion of powers of the Ombudsman to cover investigation of human rights violations.

My delegation lauds the establishment of the Gender Monitoring Office with the mandate to monitor gender mainstreaming in all public, private, civil society and faith-based institutions and organizations in Rwanda.

My delegation submits the following recommendations to Rwanda:

1. Continue with its efforts to address remaining gaps in migrant workers' rights protection;
2. Take steps to ratify the ILO Convention 189; and
3. Continue to engage its regional and bilateral partners with the view of building capacity and mobilizing resources in support of efforts to fulfill its human rights obligations.

We wish Rwanda a successful review. Thank you, Mister President. END