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**PHILIPPINES**

**UPR of KINGDOM OF DENMARK**

**24TH Session of the Universal Periodic Review**

**Human Rights Council**

**21 January 2016**

Mister President, the Philippines welcomes the delegation of Denmark to the 2nd cycle of the UPR.

The Philippines acknowledges the progress made by Denmark in strengthening its institutions and improved domestic legal framework for the promotion and protection of human rights.

We note with appreciation the improved policies towards the migrants and asylum seekers. We welcome in particular the longer allowable refection period for victims of trafficking. We also welcome the shift in the selection criteria for refugees, now focusing on the capacity of receiving communities and the needs and expectations of the refugees, instead of the skills and capacity of refugees.

We welcome the new initiatives to protect and promote women’s rights. We are concern, however, that domestic violence persists and remains a challenge.

My delegation recommends that Denmark:

1. Consider ratifying ICRMW and ILO Convention 189;
2. Ensure that changes in the asylum laws and regulations are compliant with international human rights standards; and
3. Ensure that programs and policies to curb domestic violence are fully implemented.

Thank you, Mister President.