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**PHILIPPINES**

**UPR of the REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE**

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

**Human Rights Council**

**19 January 2016**

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

The Philippines welcomes the recent ratification of Mozambique of the ICMRW, OPCAT, and CRPD. We **recommend** that Mozambique pursue its commitment to ratify other international human rights treaties that it is not yet a state party, including ILO Convention 189.

The Philippines notes, with appreciation, Mozambique’s remarkable progress in terms of women participation in political life. We are however concern with the reported high maternal mortality rate and the relatively low access to education of girls. We encourage Mozambique to address these concerns.

We also acknowledge the recognition of Mozambique on its national report that gender discrimination in many areas is still a challenge despite laws and policies against it. We **recommend** that Mozambique ensures that its anti discrimination laws and policies are fully implemented.

We are cognizant that Mozambique faces enormous economic challenges hampering the fulfillment of its human rights obligations. We **recommend** that Mozambique continue to actively engage its international partners with the view to seek technical and other assistance to build and strengthen institutional and operational capacities for human rights.

Finally, the Philippines remains supportive of Mozambique’s efforts to improve and promote human rights. We wish Mozambique a successful UPR.

Thank you, Mister President.