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**PHILIPPINES**

**UPR of SOMALIA**

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

**Human Rights Council**

**22 January 2016**

Mister President, the Philippines warmly welcomes the delegation of Somalia to the 2nd cycle of the UPR and the presentation of its national report.

My delegation understands the security and other challenges faced by Somali as a society and government in transition. It is highly commendable that despite these challenges and constraints, Somalia remains steadfast in promoting and protecting human rights of its people. We **recommend** that Somalia enhance its work on human rights education and training its people.

My delegation commends Somalia for the incremental steps it has taken to ratify international human right conventions during the review period. We welcome Somalia’s ratification of the CRC and three (3) fundamental ILO conventions. We **recommend** that Somalia step up its efforts towards ratifying the ICRMW, CEDAW, CAT, and CRPD.

My delegation acknowledges the significant efforts of Somalia to promote and protect women’s rights, including the prohibition of female genital mutilation (FGM) under the Somali Provisional Constitution. We **recommend** that Somalia enact laws to implement the constitutional prohibition on FGM.

The Philippines remains concern over the reported recurring incidents of piracy and human smuggling off the coast of Somalia. We encourage Somalia to address this concern.

Finally, we wish Somalia a successful review. Thank you, Mister President.