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**PHILIPPINES**

**UPR of St. Vincent and the Grenadines**

**25th Session of the Universal Periodic Review**

**Human Rights Council**

**2 May 2016**

Mr. President, the Philippines warmly welcomes Ambassador King and her delegation from St. Vincent and the Grenadines to the 2nd cycle of the UPR and the presentation of its national report.

We acknowledge the progress made by St. Vincent and the Grenadines since its last Universal Periodic Review (UPR). We appreciate the enactment into law of the Domestic Violence Act of 2015 and the Children Care and Adoption Act of 2011. We welcome the crafting of the country’s National Action Plan to end gender-based violence.

The Philippines notes the challenges and constraints being faced by the country as a small island developing state that is particularly vulnerable to various global economic shocks. It is in this regard that we call on the international community to extend the needed assistance for the country to support its initiatives and programmes.

The Philippines recommends the following:

1. Consider ratifying international human rights treaties that it not yet a state party; and
2. Allocate sufficient technical, human and financial resources for the effective implementation of the National Action Plan on Gender-based Violence.

We wish St. Vincent and the Grenadines a successful review. Thank you, Mr. President.