**Philippines**

**UPR of Swaziland**

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

**Human Rights Council**

**10 May 2016**

Thank you Mr. Vice President.

The Philippines warmly welcomes the delegation of the Kingdom of Swaziland to the 2nd cycle of the Universal Periodic Review Process and thanks Swaziland for the presentation of its national report.

The Philippines commends Swaziland for the establishment of its Human Rights Commission which helps improve its human rights record. We note that the Commission also doubles as an Integrity Commission which contributes to the fulfilment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms as provided for under the Bill of Rights of the Constitution of Swaziland.

Our delegation recognises the improved electoral process in the country through the participation of political parties during elections. We also note that there is an active civil society that continues to make contributions towards the promotion of the rights of every individual.

We also recognise the ratification of various international human rights treaties which Swaziland undertook in 2012, including the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol on the Rights of the Child, on the involvement of children in armed conflict.

Our delegation is concerned with the continued lack of potable water and the persistent poverty despite the Kingdom’s abundant natural resources. We urge Swaziland to continue to address concerns on the lack of access education for both boys and girls.

The Philippines recommends the following for Swaziland’s consideration:

1. Consider ratifying the International Convention on the Rights of Migrant Workers and their Families; and
2. Consider ratifying the Optional Protocols to the Convention Against Torture, Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

We wish the Kingdom of Swaziland a successful review. Thank you, Mr. Vice President