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**PHILIPPINES**

UPR of FINLAND

27th Session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review

Human Rights Council

2:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m., 3 May 2017

The Philippines welcomes the delegation of Finland to the 3rd cycle of the UPR and the presentation of its national report.

The Philippines also welcomes the ratification by Finland of several human rights convention, including the ILO Convention 189. We appreciate Finland’s efforts in aligning its domestic legal framework with its human rights obligations under the human rights conventions to which it is a state party. We regret that Finland, despite its progressive laws on migrant workers, will not ratify the ICRMW.

My delegation notes Finland’s concern on hate speech, which sometimes triggers harassment and violence, against migrants. We commend Finland’s efforts to combat hate speech, extremist movements, and violent extremism.

My delegation recommends the following:

1. Strengthen prevention and awareness raising programs to address xenophobia and violent extremism at the national and sub-national levels;
2. Ensure the effective protection of migrants, particular women migrant workers, against discrimination;
3. Continue allocating adequate financial and human resources to effectively implement its national action plan on human rights; and
4. Ratify the ICRMW.

Finally, we wish Finland success in its UPR.

Thank you, Mister President. **END**