**Statement by Nepal during the UPR of Philippines**

**27th session of the UPR Working Group**

**8 May 2017**

Mr. President,

Nepal warmly welcomes the delegation of Philippines.

We appreciate various initiatives taken by the Government of Philippines to promote human rights in line with the recommendations and pledges made during its previous UPR. We welcome its initiatives to further promote the right to health and education. The adoption of the Responsible Parenthood and Reproductive Health Act of 2012 to guarantee the universal access to reproductive health and the introduction of the Enhanced Basic Education Act of 2013 to ensure the continuity of education up to higher secondary level are commendable. Achievements in gender equality and women empowerment are also well-noted.

It's encouraging to note that the efforts of Philippines in eliminating the worst forms of child labour and combating trafficking in persons have received wide recognition. We commend the significant efforts of the Philippines Government in promoting and protecting the rights of the migrant workforce, and in curbing human trafficking, illegal recruitment and labour exploitation.

While wishing Philippines a successful UPR, my delegation would like to make following recommendations:

1. Continue formulation and implementation of National Human Rights Action Plan.

2. Continue concerted efforts to protect the right of overseas migrant workers.

I thank you.