 **PHILIPPINES**

**HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL**

**44th Session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review**

06 November 2023, Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland

**REVIEW OF BURKINA FASO**

Thank you, Mr. Chair.

The Philippines welcomes the esteemed delegation of Burkina Faso and the presentation of the national report.

The Philippines positively notes the significant steps taken to strengthen Burkina Faso’s normative and institutional frameworks for rights promotion and protection, particularly the abolition of the death penalty, justice sector reforms, and adoption of an action plan to implement the World Programme for Human Rights Education for the period 2020-2024.

To build on the progress made during the review period, the Philippines, in a constructive spirit, *recommends* that Burkina Faso:

1. Step up training and other capacity-building programmes for the military and security forces, including the volunteer defence force, to ensure the protection of human rights of all persons during operations;
2. Accelerate the revision of the Personal and Family Code and strictly enforce laws prohibiting early and forced marriage; and
3. Strengthen and ensure the effective implementation of frameworks aimed at combatting gender-based violence, including improving access to justice and provision of necessary support to victims and survivors.

The Philippines wishes Burkina Faso a successful review.

Thank you, Mr. Chair. END