 **PHILIPPINES**

**HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL**

**45th Session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review**

23 January 2024, Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland

**REVIEW OF NIGERIA**

*To be delivered by*

**Ms. LUNINGNING CAMOYING VALDEZ**

First Secretary

*Speaking time: 55 seconds*

Thank you, Mr. President.

The Philippines warmly welcomes the delegation of Nigeria.

We positively note Nigeria’s initiatives to combat human trafficking, including the adoption of a national action plan for 2022-2026 and capacity-building programs for public officials on the investigation and prosecution of cases.

We also acknowledge Nigeria’s efforts to incorporate the Child Rights Act and Violence against Persons Act in the laws of all federal States.

To build on the progress achieved during the review period, we recommend the following:

1. Step up efforts to effectively implement laws on combatting gender-based violence, particularly female genital mutilation, by enhancing access to justice and providing adequate legal and psychosocial assistance to victims; and
2. Intensify education and awareness raising campaigns, especially among religious and traditional leaders, on harmful gender stereotypes and practices.

 My delegation wishes Nigeria a successful review. Thank you. END.